

French Visitors Give Impressions Of Area

By CORINNE ABATT

SOUTHFIELD

For the past three weeks, several French young people have been sampling the American way of life. It is part of a project sponsored by Experiment for International Living.

Mrs. Rudolph Africh of Southfield is the local chairman for Experiment and she and her husband are also serving as host family for Gerard Delvies, leader of the 10 young people who are scattered about the metropolitan Detroit area.

Delvies, now studying in Paris, is the only one permitted by the Experiment to drive a car in the United States. American drivers are a favorite topic of conversation among the French young people along with music, food, attitudes and the general impressions of American life.

A good portion of their sightseeing in this area is revolved around business and industry because all of the visitors are either studying business and finance or al-

ready are involved in related careers. But the cultural and light side of life haven't been neglected.

One of the first trips was to the Wayne County courthouse to watch several court cases and visit a judge.

"Here," says 18 year old Henry Allard of Bordeaux, France, "the judge acts more as an arbitrator. In France, the judge is more authoritarian."

The drive down and back on the Lodge Freeway produced many comments on American drivers - mostly, that they drive more slowly than in France.

"In fact," says Allard, "many accidents happen in France when a French driver hits an American driving slowly in the back."

The visitors admit that there is a higher accident rate in France than here.

"The manner of driving is different in France," says Michael Gerard, who is studying in this area with the family of Mrs. R. Marie Shipce, of Farmington. "In the United States the car is a means of transportation; in France, it is more for entertainment."

Delvies, who with a map has been driving about south-

eastern Michigan, says it has been easy for him to find his way.

"My most important impression of your country is that everything is made, by man in a logical manner. In Europe everything happens like it happens. Here, there is the mark of human will or design. The best example is the streets and roads, which are very easy to follow. It is very different in France."

"But sometimes it is monotonous because everything is so standardized," says Yves Lerallier, houseguest of Mr. and Mrs. Richard Schwartz of Southfield.

Lerallier comments that American life is also planned and structured, and that parents, while giving their young people more freedom than French parents, also plan life for their sons and daughters.

All note that young people are allowed to travel more freely in the United States. In many parts of Europe, particularly the Latin countries, girls would never travel alone.

In the Latin countries, Spain, southern France, Italy

and particularly in the smaller communities, the family is all important and the father is a strong authoritarian, although in parts of France this is changing.

They all miss both French wine and cooking and the variety of the cuisine. Yet in almost the same breath comes a compliment about American hospitality and friendliness. They are surprised to go to the home of an acquaintance and hear the words called out, "Come on in."

The Frenchman, whose home is very important and traditional to him, would not be so open or casual in his invitation to come inside.

Allard was surprised at the yards in residential areas which run uninterrupted one into another. He says that each home in his native Bordeaux is different and each is separated from the neighboring ones by what he calls a "barrier."

A French family would

take a great deal more time and thought to sell its home, as opposed to Americans who do it quickly and easily.

"In France we are very attached to our house," says Allard.

In Bordeaux' his father works from 8:30 a.m. until noon, comes home for lunch, leaves at 2 p.m. and works until 8 p.m.

The noon break and lunch with the family is very common.

Delvies says one difference between the French and Americans is the fact that Americans are trained from the time they are very young to speak out in public. Gerard agreed, commenting:

"The French complain also, but only to their neighbors, not in a public meeting. Americans are taught to speak up, the French are not." Allard makes a final comparison.

"The United States is one nation with many religious creeds - this is not so in France."



RUSSELL DONBAR, 29232 Wellington, Farmington, won a second place award in the oil or water based media category for his painting entitled "Homage to Palladio." The entries in the Michigan State Fair fine arts competition are now on display at the Community Arts Building at the State Fairgrounds.

Letter To The Editor Planners Called 'Reactionary'

EDITOR:

I note with interest and some satisfaction that in Farmington Hills Planning Commission is unhappy that the city council is not a rubber stamp for their considered lethargy and inaction in so to say reaction.

Being for the most part appointees of the Curtis Hall administration, they demonstrate a slavish adherence to a so called "master plan" that arbitrarily zones areas other than single family residential to meet the aesthetic sensitivities of the planner, and the planning commission while looking at a map and not at the property in question.

WILLIAM HATTON,
Farmington

Calendar

OAKWAY SYMPHONY
Thursday, Sept. 6, at 7:30 p.m., the Women's Assn. for the Oakway Symphony Orchestra will meet in the home of Mrs. Philip Murray, 16393 Fairfield, Livonia, south of Six Mile, between Merriman and Farmington Roads. All ladies interested in the new orchestra are invited.

BLUE STAR MOTHERS
Friday and Saturday, Sept. 7 and 8, the Blue Star Mothers of America Chapter 49 of Farmington will sell "blue daisies" in the cities of Farmington and Farmington Hills. This is the chapter's annual fund raising event.

WELCOME WAGON
Tuesday, Sept. 11, at 7:45 p.m., the Farmington Welcome Wagon Club will hold its first meeting at the senior center at the new Farmington Library, 3237 W. 12 Mile Road. New residents who have lived in Farmington one year or less are welcome.

BRIAR HILL BOOKS
Tuesday, Sept. 11, at 8:30 p.m., the Briar Hill Book Club will meet in the home of Mrs. H. Hagkell, 22796 Frederick. The review will be given by Mrs. J. Gahagan. If you are unable to attend the meeting, please call the hostess.

GOLDEN AGE CLUB
Wednesday, Sept. 12, the Pioneer Golden Age Club will hold its monthly business meeting in St. Alexander's Church social hall on Shiawassee, between Middle Belt and Inkster. Card players are welcome, bring a sandwich, coffee is served.

STORY HOUR
Tuesday, Sept. 18, the story hour program for pre-schoolers will resume at the Farmington Public Library. The series consists of six weekly half-hour programs, and is open to four- and five-year-olds not enrolled in kindergarten. Fingerplays, songs and games as well as stories will be featured. Registration begins Sept. 4, in person or by phone.

FARMINGTON HILLS CITY COUNCIL PUBLIC HEARING
8:00 P.M.
Monday, September 24, 1973
31555 Eleven Mile Road
Farmington Hills, Michigan

The Farmington Hills City Council will give formal consideration to a proposed amendment (Rezoning Request No. 35-73) which would amend Ordinance No. 29 by Ordinance No. 35-73 and the same would rezone the following area from R-1 to R-2 Multiple:

Lot 10, Section 25, T1N, R3E, Farmington Hills, Michigan, described as Lot number 8 of Assessor's Grand River Estates Subdivision.

Any person who is interested is invited to participate in the discussion of the proposed zoning change.

FLOYD A. CAIRNS, Clerk
City of Farmington Hills

TEACHERS care about KIDS



THAT'S WHY FARMINGTON TEACHERS WANT A CAP PLACE ON THE NUMBER OF STUDENTS PLACED IN INDIVIDUAL CLASSROOMS.

THAT'S WHY FARMINGTON TEACHERS REJECT THE NOTION THAT A CHILD'S EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY SHOULD BE CONDITIONED BY A FORTUNATE CLASSROOM DRAW.

"CLASS SIZE" IS NOT AN IDLE EDUCATIONAL PHASE

JOIN WITH US IN OUR STRUGGLE TO PREVENT A REPEAT IN THESE CLASS SIZES:

• BEACH VIEW		• FAIRVIEW		• GILE	
1st Grade	33	1st Grade	30	2nd Grade	30
2nd Grade	31	• FLANDERS		3rd Grade	31
3 & 4th Grade	31	Kindergarten	30, 31	6th Grade	33, 31
• FORST		6th Grade	32, 32, 31	• LOUGACRE	
1st Grade	31, 31	• MIDDLEBELT		3rd Grade	31
Kindergarten	31, 31	3rd Grade	32, 32	4th Grade	31
• SHIAWASSEE		• WOOD CREEK		• WOODDALE	
5th & 6th Grade	31, 32	2nd Grade	31, 32	Kindergarten	31, 31
• WM. GRACE		3rd Grade	31, 31	3rd Grade	32
Kindergarten	31, 30	4th Grade	31, 31	4th Grade	32
3rd Grade	33, 32	6th Grade	32, 32	5th Grade	34, 34

If you agree with these thoughts and care about education, give us a call. We'll let you know how you can help.

FARMINGTON EDUCATION ASSOCIATION
476-2174