

Farmington LIFE Classified

Monday, September 15, 1975

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Oakway is ready for 1975-76 season

Ballet, an American opera, chorale music, solo performances by several distinguished musicians and local television personalities are all part of Oakway Symphony Orchestra's 1975-76 season.

The orchestra, conducted by Francesco D'Elia, has increased its schedule to 12 concerts, and most performances will take place in larger auditoriums, affording residents an even greater opportunity to hear Oakway.

The orchestra, composed of 80 musicians from throughout Wayne and Oakland counties, will play a pre-season concert Sept. 21 sponsored by the Southfield Arts Council. The 4 p.m. concert at Oakland Community College's Orchard Ridge Campus in Farmington Hills is free to the public. The Oakway will play a tribute to John Philip Sousa.

THE SEASON opener Saturday, Sept. 27 at 8 p.m. in the Redford Theater will be introduced by television personality Rita Bell. Weathercaster Sonny Elliot will be featured with the Oakway in Allan Sherman's comedy "Peter and the Commisar."

This parody of "Peter and the Wolf" will be conducted by Ernest A. Jones of Bloomfield Hills. Jones has appeared with Oakway several times

and also has conducted the University of Michigan Symphony Band at Carnegie Hall at the Royal College of Music in London. Soprano Rosemary Jackson of Livonia also will perform. On Sunday, Nov. 30 at 4 p.m. violinist Ida Kavalian will perform with Oakway in Tchaikovsky's violin concerto. Miss Kavalian is a soloist with Tashli, a select group of musicians which includes pianist Peter Serkin. The program, presented in Southfield-Lathrup High School, also features Melasch's symphony No. 5 "Reformation."

THE KENNETH JEWELL Chorale joins the Oakway in January in Mercy High School in Farmington Hills. For this performance the newly organized Oakway Symphonic Choir will sing with the chorale. Those interested in joining the Oakway choir should write to Oakway Symphony Orchestra, Box 171, Farmington, 48031. About 30 voices are needed. Auditions will be scheduled at a later date. The Jan. 25 program will feature "Verdi Requiem."

On Feb. 15 the Livonia Civic Ballet and Oakway join forces to present "Rodeo" by Aaron Copland. The first half of the show will feature the or-



rita bell



ROSEMARY JACKSON



IDA KAVAFIAN



ERNEST A. JONES

chestra playing Beethoven's symphony No. 5.

MICHIGAN OPERA Theater and Oakway combine talents in March to present Copland's "This Tender Land," an opera about family life in the Midwest during the 1930s. Dr. David Di Chiara, director of MOT, chose the opera in commemoration of this nation's bicentennial.

The opera will be March 6 at 8 p.m. in Groves High School, Thirteen Mile Road and Evergreen, Birmingham. The opera is being staged with the cooperation of Arts Council Triangle (Birmingham, Bloomfield Hills-Troy). The final subscription concert in April will find the Oakway collaborating with Dance Detroit and The Theater dance and theater departments of the University of Detroit-Marygrove College in an evening of music by George and Ira Gershwin. Ruth Barczyk, Detroit pianist, will play "Rhapsody in Blue." The production will be staged by Jacob Laszlo.

Gwynn, director of music at Marygrove.

OTHER OAKWAY performances are slated in Mercy High in May. Di Chiara says several children's concerts in Oakland and Wayne county communities also are being planned for later this year. The orchestra's annual pops concert will be in May.

Season tickets for six Oakway concerts is \$15 general admission, and \$6 for student and senior citizens. For four concerts the cost is \$10 general and \$4 for others.

Single admission tickets are \$3 general admission and \$1.50 for students and senior citizens. Single tickets for the opera must be ordered by Jan. 1, 1976.



SONNY ELIOT

ALSAC calls marchers

By LORAIN McCLURE

Diana Franz is looking for volunteers who will join the Danny Thomas March to benefit St. Jude Children's Research Hospital on Sunday, Sept. 28.

The Novi woman said she took the chairmanship of the two-city area "from Eight to Fourteen Mile, from Halsted to Inkster, the whole shebang, an area that's had a slack-off drop in workers over the past few years."

Both adults and teens are asked to work together for the \$4,500 goal in the Farmington area. State-wide, Aiding Leukemia Stricken American Children (ALSAC) is seeking a \$500,000 goal.

Locally a small nucleus of workers, mostly teens, have sold balloons at the Founder's Day Festival and have been out with tags and canisters at shopping centers. "But we are a long way from our goal and need a lot more people to help us," Mrs. Franz said.

SHE ESTIMATES a need for 340 marchers and her roster now is showing only about 180. The big need is for those who live between Ten and Eleven Mile Road clear across the cities. "There is nobody volunteering there," she said.

Her area chairman are Kim Ster-



DIANA FRANZ

nick, Deb Duquet, Jason Craig, and Jack McCormack.

Volunteers will be asked to solicit funds within their own neighborhood, and will be identified to residents with the ALSAC patch on their clothing and official envelope. A volunteer must be at least 13 years old.

THEY WILL BE soliciting for St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, the largest childhood cancer research center in the world in terms of num-

bers of patients and treatment successes. It is fulfilling the promise and dream of its founder, Danny Thomas, in making a significant contribution to alleviating childhood diseases which blights the lives of youngsters, their families and society as a whole.

Mrs. Franz was drawn to ALSAC when her husband Richard, of 23617 Cranbrook Drive, Novi, became afflicted with leukemia. He has been in treatment for three years and the disease is now in complete remission.

"We think he may be the first victim of leukemia who has lived for that long," Mrs. Franz said. She credits her husband's extended lifespan to the research that was done on the disease in St. Jude Hospital.

PLAYDOWN LEADERS lined up so far for the march are Lori Brown, Karen Roach, Diane Burke, Tony Colburn, Mary Ann Rose, David Asomony, and Irene Grimm.

Others are Beth Hugh, Rosie Sidlesky, Kelly Fox, Lisa Angerilli, Mary Zahorski and JoAnn Tocalino.

Still others on the line up are Marilyn Hahry, Teresa McCormack, Chris Davis, Katie McKee and Patti Crowder.

All volunteers will be given free tickets to a concert set for November in Cobo Hall.

Persons wishing to join the march are asked to contact the ALSAC office at 2618 Michigan Ave., Suite 301, Dearborn, 48124.



Ready for Halloween

Ceco Orman (at left) admires Kelly Calme-ryne's clown outfit, a costume she'll wear at the Halloween party which is always the high point of Mrs. Orman's "Story Time for Tots." The program is open to 3-5 year olds which will get

under way this term on Tuesday, Sept. 25, in the Farmington Community Center. Registration for the time of stories, games, playacting and songs for the pre-schoolers can be made at the center until the class is filled.

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New lifestyle for the handicapped

By SUSAN AVERILL

It looks like a suburban dream house: Pastel pink brick, white-trimmed windows and an expansive porch decorated with hanging pots which trail ivy pinned to the pots with pink flowers.

A large garage is attached to the side of the house whose landscaping is simple and sparse, but still striking. The house is big for a six-person family. It looks like a small dormitory which is precisely what it is.

But the house and its inhabitants are a reflection of an extraordinary concept in training and aid for Farmington's mentally impaired.

That house and five others in Farmington are housing units for "Community Living Centers, Inc.," a private, non-profit organization built around the idea of integrating special people into community life.

"We run six homes for those who are retarded, but semi-independent," said Mary Wagner, executive director. Formerly a special education teacher for the Farmington School District, Mrs. Wagner has been working with the centers since they opened in 1968.

even beyond the founders' original intentions.

"We regard it as a lifelong program, but we have 12 people who have moved out of the houses and are living in their own apartments in Farmington. They have their own jobs and people to check in on them."

"This kind of thing is so needed—you just don't know how much good they can get from it," Mrs. Wagner said.

Community acceptance of the apartment dwellers has been "wonderful." Only minimum supervision is needed, and for those who can't read or write, a program aide will help them with menus, grocery shopping and such money matters as writing checks and balancing checkbooks, she said.

Occasionally, someone living in an apartment will become lonely and request to be taken back into one of the houses. And the amount of work required to look after oneself can become discouraging.

Nevertheless, those at the Community Living Centers (CLC) encourage independence.

For those who stay in the houses, CLC tries to maintain as much of a family atmosphere as possible.

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FAAC sets auction

The Farmington Area Advisory Council (FAAC) will sponsor a one-night art auction on Sunday, Sept. 28. It will begin with a 7 p.m. preview in East Junior High School, 2560 Middlebelt, Farmington Hills. Donation will be asked.

A money raising benefit, the auction will include signed photographs, etchings, oil paintings and sculpture by Peter Maz, Norman Redwood, LeRoy Neiman, Salvador Dali, Onagali and Miro. Paintings by Barbara Merrier, a Detroit artist killed at the top-selling painter in the Midwest, will be offered.

Other metropolitan area artists

whose work will be auctioned include David Fischel and Howard Weingarten of Detroit, and sculptors Frank Lohan of Plymouth and John Sullivan of Livonia.

FAAC maintains the Rapline crisis intervention phone service and provides family counseling and educational programs. A non-profit organization, it is financed by governmental grants and public contributions.

Tickets for the auction may be bought at the door or at the new FAAC offices, 2369 Middlebelt, Farmington Hills, during normal business hours.