Farmington Observer
Suburban Life

Monday, May 16, 1977

Belonging to the JDF team means being in with fashion

Story: **LORRAINE McCLISH**
Photos: **GARY FRIEDMAN**

About 1,200 women turned out to Southfield's Raleigh House this week to watch local television personalities model new fashions for the Juvenile Diabetes Foundation's annual benefit luncheon.

Claire Pearone supplied the clothes and accessories to make up this spring's in look. The clothes were topped with hair styles by Geralds.

The overall look of the show was that of romantic feminism. Off-the-shoulder peasant dresses, low scooped necklines, bare backs, the smallest of spaghetti straps, halters, little sleeves or no sleeves predominated the fashion parade.

Materials were soft always, mostly pastels, and more often than not trimmed with eyelet or lace.

Chiffon silk tunics hung in layers over pajamas, sheer cottons hung in full skirts and clingy jersey made into clothes for both daytime and evening made up the showing for an easy-go spring and summer.

SKIRTS FELL at any length from just below the knee to just above the ankle, set off with bare-look shoes.

And flowers were everywhere. On the waist, on the shoulder, around the neck, in the hair or on hats.

More often than not, scarves, shawls, short capes or stoles accompanied an outfit.

Marilyn Turner Kelly, television weather girl who has turned model every spring for the four years the foundation has given its benefit fashion show and lunch, took a round of applause from the audience for her support in the group's efforts.

She modeled this spring with other women in the industry, Beverly Payne, Sande Drew, Robbie Timmons and JoJo Shutty in the battle to find a cure for diabetes.

The foundation, which has not yet reached its fifth birthday, now has a membership of 600 families, and pledges itself to allocate 90 per cent of its funds to research.

Fund raising never stops. A march for diabetes was held in the early spring. A few days after the fashion show, a lacrosse match was held in West Bloomfield to benefit the foundation, and a benefit polo match is set for June.

Other supporters who modeled in the spring fashion show were Diane Schoenith, Cathy Iacocca, Joyce Garret, Kathy August, Gloria Gilbert, Barbara Yearn, Rose Marie Karbel and Gloria August.

Beverly Payne, television personality, topped her bare shouldered print dress with a straw hat as shown above. Right; Gloria August, who has two diabetic youngsters, models a glamorous white pantsuit, topped with a calf-length knit coat in bright-as-summer colors.

Arm-in-arm as they stride down the runway in summery sun and cocktail dress, Diane Schoenith and Jo-Jo Shutty sport the flowers in their hair that are popping out everywhere in today's fashions.

Diabetes--a way of life

By SHIRLEE IDEN

She's 15, she's beautiful and she has an incurable disease.

Her name is Kathy August and the name of the disease is diabetes. The ninth grade student at West Bloomfield High School doesn't think twice about discussing her medical problems. Her attitude is simple. She's got it. She's had it for a long time and she's stuck with it for life. So she might as well accept and live with it.

She does that very well.

Kathy developed juvenile diabetes when she was just over 4 years of age.

"My brother Brian had been diabetic for three months and my mom tested my urine and found sugar," she said.

"The doctors took tests and even though I was only 4, I realized something was wrong. I was in the hospital and it was Halloween and I couldn't have any candy, so I was mad."

Her mother Gloria August said the toddler was in the hospital for two weeks to regulate her blood sugar level.

She said she and her husband are not diabetic and there is no history of the disease in their families.

"The doctors were shocked to see two cases of juvenile diabetes turn up in one family in such a short time," she said.

MRS. AUGUST was so involved in learning to care for her two youngsters that she "didn't even have time to think."

She explained that Brian, 16, is a "brittle" diabetic which means that his sugar levels are very hard to regulate. He has been in coma several times and even had the paramedics come to school recently when he became ill.

"When I first got sick" Kathy said, "I still was thinking it was neat to have your own special chocolates, so I'd sneak some of Brian's. But when I became a diabetic, I quickly learned to hate the taste."

"People always ask me if you get used to it, taking insulin shots and all and you do, but you always have to have it and always at the right time. It's hard."

Kathy and Brian both take insulin shots twice a day and have to test their urine about four times daily. They must carry instant glucose or candy to take quickly if their sugar level drops.

"Just a simple cold can throw them off, however," Mrs. August said, "and they might have to have insulin three or four times in a day."

Kathy has had diabetes so long she can't imagine what life would be like if she didn't have the disease. "But I know I'm more responsible and mature and I have to take care of myself."

Mrs. August pointed out that many diabetics don't have this positive kind of attitude and management of the disease can be very difficult.

KATHY has not had as much difficulty in regulating her blood sugar level as her brother.

"My reactions are mostly at night," she said.

Both youngsters will be much affected by the coming ban on saccharin decreed by the Federal Drug Administration.

"The saccharin ban will affect us a lot," Kathy said. "We drink a lot of diet pop and use powdered sweetener on cereal. A bottle of pop will fill me up when I'm spilling (excess sugar spilling into the blood) and I'm not allowed to eat."

The teen said friends are sympathetic "but they can't really emphathize.

"They're concerned about what to do if I pass out or something."

Both Kathy and her brother do well in high school. She gets all As, her mother said, and Brian was just asked to join the honor society.

"In kindergarten, he slept through classes because his sugar was so out of control, so we're very pleased," she said.

All four Augusts are avid tennis players and fans and Kathy and Brian both play for West Bloomfield High.

"I can't beat any of my family yet," Kathy said. "But wait."

Mrs. August read about the Juvenile Diabetes Foundation being formed several years ago and attended its first meeting. Today she is on the board.

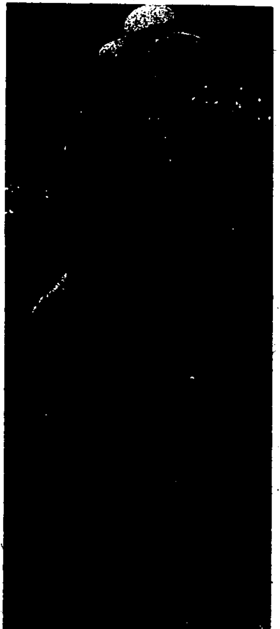
"We have about 300 members in the area and our main thrust is to raise funds for research," she said.

SHE HAS sold 150 tickets for the annual luncheon to raise research funds. "Many things are being worked on and we hope for a control if not a cure."

Last year at the luncheon, Kathy spoke about herself before hundreds of women.

"I asked them if I looked like I had an incurable disease," she said, "and they were shocked. My grandmother was crying.

"I told them my daily routine and that I could go blind or get kidney disease and I told them they should help JDF."



Kathy [illegible] spoke to the Juvenile Diabetes Foundation supporters at last-year's luncheon. This year she modeled fashions like this plaid pantsuit at the Raleigh House event.