

# Friendly Visitors Needed

Are you the kind of person who likes to drop in on friends or neighbors and chat for a while? If so, you may be just the one we're looking for!

Somewhere in Livonia, Garden City or nearby Northwest Wayne County communities there is a lonely individual who would give anything to find a friend who would keep in touch and help fill some of the empty hours.

This may be a homebound invalid, a widow or widower living alone or an elderly person feeling lost in a changing neighborhood.

Each needs someone to take a personal interest, to come calling every week or so, to really care about what they are doing and how they are getting along.

This is what the "Friendly Visitors" do. Men and women, at home, employed or retired, make up this corps of volunteer visitors and are at present paying calls on more than 300 lonely adults throughout metropolitan Detroit.

But there are still a number of people, some of them in your own community, who are kept waiting until more visitors can be recruited and trained. If this type of warm, personalized volunteer service appeals to you, please call the Central Volunteer Bureau right away. Dial 833-0622, and ask for the Volunteer Bureau and let them tell you more about this rewarding service.



MRS. FRANK H. RIDDER (Susan Peterhans)

# St. Dunstan Ceremony Unites Pair

Susan Marie Peterhans and Frank H. Ridder repeated their nuptial vows in a recent ceremony in St. Dunstan Catholic Church, Garden City.

Mr. and Mrs. Hagen E. Peterhans, of Gilman Avenue, Garden City, are the bride's parents. The bridegroom is the son of Stephen T. Ridder, of South Rockwood, and the late Mrs. Ridder.

The Rev. Robert Fehrbach officiated.

THE BRIDE, given in marriage by her father, wore a white lace and set bouffant gown with hoop skirt and long lace sleeves. A white flower held her fingertip veil, and her flowers were white roses and stephanolits with an orchid in the center.

Cathleen Theisen, of Garden City, wore a full-length apricot gown and carried carnations tipped in an apricot shade. Similar gowns and flowers, in a pale peach shade, were chosen by the bridesmaids.

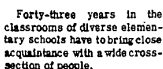
Flower girls Stephanie and Mary Ann Ridder wore short full dresses of organdy over peach with wide peach sashes and carried baskets of rose petals.

THEODORE RIDDER, of New Boston, was best man. The usher was Don Chamberlain, of Lincoln Park, and groomsmen included Clifford Theisen, of Garden City; Stephen Ridder, of New Boston and Danny Peterhans, of Garden City.

For her daughter's wedding, Mrs. Peterhans chose a mint green lace dress with matching silk coat. The couple greeted guests in the Garden City Knights of Columbus Hall before leaving for a honeymoon at Fontana Village, N.C.

The new Mrs. Ridder is a graduate of Garden City High School and Detroit College of Business and is employed as a medical secretary at Garden City Medical Center. Her husband, a Fiat Rock High School graduate, is employed by Detroit Edison Co.

# Women On The Go Enrich Kids Experience, Says Long-Time Teacher



Forty-three years in the classrooms of diverse elementary schools have brought close acquaintance with a wide cross-section of people.

To a thoughtful woman like Livonia's Charlotte Petrosky, they have brought a number of interesting observations and firm convictions.

For instance: That children of Negro neighborhoods in the Detroit inner-city truly want to learn, and their families want them to.

That this matter of elementary school education is getting so complicated that there is little chance for children and teachers to "just talk"—and that's too bad.

And that many parents today, especially in the suburbs, short-change their children by letting them watch hours of television and missing such great educational experiences as trips downtown, tours of museums, visits to farms.

CHARLOTTE PETROSKY retires in June after a long and varied stay in the Detroit school system.

A native of Detroit, she started teaching after two years at Wayne Normal School, and saw many changes in the city's way of educating its young.

Her experience was mainly in three schools, beginning with the Russell School in the inner-city area. Even when Miss Petrosky began there, in 1931, its neighborhood was almost all Negro.

"I can say honestly that my nine years there were the most interesting, most pleasant, most profitable of my teaching time," she said.

"The children wanted to learn, and their parents stood behind them. These families managed to stay clean in homes so old and run down they would have discouraged me. And if these people are getting militant now, it seems to me they have a perfect right."

MISS PETROSKY recalls vividly her first day in the Russell School. The fourth art teacher the school had hired in a matter of months, she found things pretty wild in the art room when she entered.

"The kids were really having a ball," she said, "rumming around, climbing all over the desks."

"The whole scene suddenly seemed terribly funny to me, and I started to laugh. That



CHARLOTTE PETROSKY in her garden.

surprised them and they quieted a bit. I've forgotten what I said then, but it must have been the right thing, because they sat down."

From then on, Miss Petrosky said, she had the children's attention and found them a well-behaved group.

THE TWO SCHOOLS where she taught later, in more affluent neighborhoods, presented a somewhat different picture, Miss Petrosky felt.

"There was often the problem of people who have too much and take too much for granted," she said.

As the years progressed, she said, it seemed that more and more facts were crammed into the textbooks and needed covering during the school year.

"It's too technical now," Miss Petrosky added. "We shouldn't try to push so much down the children's throats. They are tense, and the teachers are tense too, with so much to be covered."

MISS PETROSKY, moving from art teacher to homeroom teacher to auditorium teacher, said she found her room was the place where there could be time for talk and discussion, and she took advantage of it.

"I'd get them to express themselves on all sorts of topics," she said. "It was interesting—we had debates and I couldn't get anyone to speak against the war, but they all

were against smoking and Communism. At election times, we had discussions of the candidates, and a lot of the children knew all about them. I think that's a good sign."

MISS PETROSKY thinks the

"Head Start" program for preschoolers is one of the best things that has happened to the country, but she's not sure it should be confined to economically deprived neighborhoods.

"I've seen lots of children in well-to-do areas who need it just as much," she said. "So many parents just don't seem to care," she added. "They can't be bothered to take children on outings and trips that would enrich their experience."

"They seem to want the schools to do it all, and the schools don't have time."

In the years she has lived in Livonia, Charlotte Petrosky has made a beauty spot of her Rosedale Gardens yard, and she's looking forward to spending as much time as she wants with her plants.

She also loves antique foraging, and thinks it will be delightful to have more time for such hunts, and for art and music and maybe a bit of furniture refinishing.

"I have to keep pinching myself," she said. "My main myself believe that this summer I don't have to finish all my projects by Labor Day. It's nice to remember."

# National BPW Meet Draws 7 Local Members

Seven members of local Business and Professional Women's Clubs attended the recent 34th National Convention held in Minneapolis, Minn.

Representing their clubs were Mrs. Daisy Proctor, president, and Mrs. Connie Abbott, vice president of the Plymouth BPW chapter; Mrs. Clara Korr and Mrs. Eleanor Senkowski, of Livonia; Mrs. Myra Roose, of Garden City and Mrs. Pauline Olin and Mrs. Mable Pease, of Redford.

There were 4,000 delegates and members attending the convention, where new officers were elected, a legislative platform adopted and Federation business sessions were held.

In floor action the delegates voted to request the Senate Judiciary Committee to report favorable a joint resolution for a constitutional amendment guaranteeing equal rights for men and women.

Mrs. Hope Roberts, of Reno, Nev., was installed as 1968-69 national president during the closing annual banquet.

Mr. and Mrs. John H. Baumert, of Columbus, O., announce the birth of a son, John Richard, July 25. The baby's grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. John Baumert, of Plymouth, and Mr. and Mrs. Richard Heck, of Detroit.

# Westland Girls In Scout Camp

Five Westland girls are among the 115 Girl Scouts from the Huron Valley Council attending the current two-week session of Camp Linden.

Bambi Settle, 36126 Florane, Westland, is enrolled in the Wider Opportunity unit for Cadette Scouts. The emphasis of

this unit is drama in the out-of-doors and the girls will write, costume-direct, and produce their own plays.

Enrolled in the general program units are Anne Bialecki, 35741 Fairchild; Susan Igielski, 34548 Mellon; Susan Newman, 34800 Fairchild, and Kimberly Rowland, 35727 Thames.

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