

## Battling leukemia

# Volunteers raise funds with theater party

By LORRAINE McCLEISH

Members of the Childrens Leukemia Foundation are preparing for their annual winter theater party. This year's show will be "The Star is Born" with Barbara Mandrell and the Mandrell Sisters performing in Southfield's Americana Theater.

The date is Jan. 5. Show time is 8 p.m. It is the fifth year that a theater party has been the major fund raiser for the Southfield-based foundation, and the fifth year that it's been all pulled together by three couples: Dr. and Mrs. Alan Cornfield, of 3380 Old Timber Road, Farmington, Mich., and Mrs. Jack Goldberg, of 2343 Chatsfield Circuit, Southfield, and Dr. and Mrs. F. Joseph Belanger of Gross Pointe.

The idea stemmed from Sharyn Cornfield who spends the better part of her free time with the foundation. "The tickets that will be sold out to fill up the theater are \$10.00 each," she said. "We have always had capacity, or near-capacity, crowds for our party."

**DONOR TICKETS** sell for \$6.50, partners for \$20, and sponsors for \$35. Patron and special ticket buyers have names listed on the "Circle of Gold" for the movie showing, and are invited to an after-gala in the Raleigh House.

Two personalities Joe Glover and Robbie Timmons will host the after-gala this year.

Cornfield, who has been president of the foundation for the past three years, stressed that "our major goals are not fund-raising. We act to raise supplemental funds for our future program of service to the patients."

"We've got a lot of the crew of volunteers who sell cookies and Christmas cards, and work on the theater party to balance the foundation's \$300,000 annual budget. The Belangers' job at this time of the year is selling ads for the program book."

About one-half of the budget comes from United Way of Michigan.

Most of the volunteers have suffered a loss to leukemia. Mrs. Cornfield's mother, the founder of the foundation, died of a child's disease, and Michael Stark Memorial Chapter of the group was formed.

The Goldbergs lost a daughter to leukemia seven years ago and found solace through the foundation's counseling service.



SHARYN CORNFIELD



ALAN CORNFIELD



SYLVIA BROWN



JACK GOLDBERG



HARRIET GOLDBERG

"WE ARE A UNIQUE organization in that respect," said Sylvia Brown, who with her husband, Harriet, began the foundation. "We don't know of any other that gets involved as extensively as we do with our individual contacts."

"A great many of the people we see don't need financial help, really don't need anything other than just to talk to someone who cares, and that they are going through," she said. "We can take along a parent because we expect to someday, but hard that might be, it is much harder to lose a child."

Mrs. Brown serves on the foundation's speakers bureau and will talk to anybody who will listen, but stressed that she doesn't want people to come to the foundation.

"Above and beyond all of the sympathy, care and services offered," said Mrs. Brown, "is the foundation's deep and abiding interest in research, with faith that through research, an answer to this heartbreaking disease will be found."

"We just try to let everybody know we are here and what services we have to offer," she said.

The foundation, located at 1802 Ten Mile in Southfield, helps adults as well as children with any serious blood disease, despite the fact that it was founded only to aid those with leukemia. It was formed in 1962 and is the only blood disease organization in the state offering free services to patients.

A minimum of \$10,000 annually is given by the foundation to support research in hospitals and research centers throughout the state.

Cornfield said that there is a stipulation in the lease they hold for the foundation office, which states the contract cannot be broken "until we go out of business. We'll be out of business as soon as a cure is found and I hope to live to see that lease broken," he said.

INDIVIDUALS or groups can aid the foundation by giving blood through the American Red Cross, or the Michigan Community Blood Center, asking that it be allocated to the Children's Leukemia Foundation.

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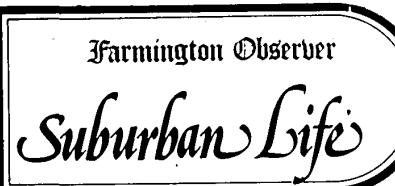
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Mrs. Cornfield is reserving seats now for the January theater party, and said, "The sooner I get your check, the better your seat will be."

Mrs. Cornfield will take phone calls at her home, 626-6301. Mrs. Brown will take inquiries at her office, 333-8222.



Thursday, December 23, 1976



ENT

## Seniors discount program needs a push

By LORRAINE McCLEISH

The Farmington Area Retirement Commission is doing its best to help senior citizens find a new way to fight inflation, but Lorretta Conway says that right now, "it's a slow moving and dream process."

Mrs. Conway, with her assistant Karen Ross, are senior adult coordinators for the commission. The two have been out knocking on doors to sell adult merchants on the idea of giving discounts to seniors. Starting last month, the program is a program operated by the Oakland Livingston Human Service Agency (OLHSA).

In Farmington, 17 businesses have responded. Several restaurants, bakeries, a beauty salon, drug stores, an ergonomic center, a lumber yard, a hardware store, "even one grocery market—we were thrilled with that," Mrs. Conway said; we were offered card-carrying seniors from 10 to 20 percent off on purchases or services.

**THE PROGRAM** in Farmington got underway last spring when identification cards, bearing pictures, were made in the senior's meeting hall. The Gathering Place

is offering seniors a discount, and receives added promotion by being listed in the Oakland County Senior Citizen Discount Directory, which will be distributed to senior citizens in the county.

IN TURN, discounts for the seniors, although seemingly small, can be significant in improving what, for most, is a meager existence.

Mrs. Conway reflects on some societies which are known for the great respect they give to their seniors and says of this, "Older Americans who have given to the country also deserve to be honored."

Further, participating in the program means more customers."

She explains by saying that Oakland County now has over 100,000 senior citizens and this represents a large amount of buying power, and the participants can expect a definite increase in business.

Each participating merchant receives an official decal which identifies him or her

as offering seniors a discount, and receives added promotion by being listed in the Oakland County Senior Citizen Discount Directory, which will be distributed to senior citizens in the county.

Another indirect benefit to the seniors is the identification card itself. Many don't drive, and without a driver's license, may have no official identification. The discount card can be used for official purposes of identification.

Each card, in addition to the picture, address and signature of the bearer, is laminated for protection.

More cards will be issued to those who come on Feb. 10, in The Gathering Place, at the American Legion Hall on Grand River.

COUNTY-WIDE, more than 20,000 citizens are carrying cards now. In Farmington, a high of 4,000 persons in one month have participated in activities in The Gathering Place.

OLHSA developed the discount program in conjunction with the Area Agency on Aging and Kiwanis Clubs in Oakland County.

Information on OLHSA and its soon-to-be-published directory is available by calling its headquarters at 654-5128.

Local merchants, or seniors, wishing to participate in the discount program in Farmington are asked to call the County Farmington Area Retirement Commission office, in city hall, at 31551 Eleven Mile, 474-4113.

LORRETTA CONWAY

## SENIOR DISCOUNT PROGRAM OAKLAND COUNTY IDENTIFICATION CARD SENIORS REGISTER AND RECEIVE YOUR



With popcorn and cranberries

Ropes and ropes of popcorn and cranberries are strung around the American Pioner tree produced by the Adventurers group of Camp Fire Girls in Farmington. Les Petros, one of the 6- and 10-year-old youngsters who make up the group, strung the popcorn and cranberries, made gingerbread cookies, clove apples and yarn dolls to complete the tree's decorations. The girls meet every week in the home of their leader, Marilyn Doyle. (Staff photo by Harry Maueth)