

Marlowe Belanger coordinates Southfield cultural activities

Marlowe Belanger, a Farmington Hills resident with a long-time history as an advocate for the arts, is now a full-time cultural coordinator for the City of Southfield.

She was instrumental in founding the Farmington Arts Council, now Farmington Area Arts Commission, and established the group as a recognized arm of the two cities.

Mrs. Belanger set the guidelines and headed up Oakland County Cultural Council. She is now the first person to be hired as a full-time arts coordinator by any city in the county.

Ralph Richards, director of parks and recreation in Southfield, said Mrs. Belanger is charged with putting forward a master plan on every facet of the arts.

"Already she is meeting with individual artists and with groups to get things rolling," Richards said.

Mrs. Belanger said she was enticed to come to Southfield because of its "beautiful recreation area and the city's commitment to the arts."

A NATIVE OF Michigan, she grew up in Dearborn and was trained as a vocalist.

"In addition to performing, I was always getting involved in arrangements and chairmanships," she said. "I got so busy with administrative activities I was often too busy to rehearse."

She says of her presidency of the Farmington Arts Council, from 1970-

77, "When I came in everyone was doing their own thing, but by 1976 we had formed a commission. We were organized and coordinated."

She has also been involved with the

Michigan Council for the Arts. Mrs. Belanger is married to a Ford Motor Company engineer, Roger Belanger, and is the mother of Brian, 20, and Anne, 18.

She begins her new position with a

registry of artists. Her job is to meet the needs of those artists.

Richards' aim is to develop a system whereby people staying in the hotels in the area could dial a number and learn

what cultural events are going on at any given time.

Both Mrs. Belanger and Richards are working to promote the idea of displaying fine art publicly to provide a place

for artists to market their work. The space for the public display of art is being developed in the area of the new Southfield City Hall.



MARLOWE BELANGER

Free brochures given to outdoor dog owners

ARK (Action, Respect and Kindness), a humane education service, asks dog owners to think about their pets as winter approaches.

A doghouse is a necessity for dogs kept outside, the groups believes, and offers a free brochure telling how to build one, and how to provide the best care for an outdoor dog.

Humans wishing the information may write to ARK, P.O. Box 65, Warren, Mich. 48099.

Fancy Farmers offer 'bargain of the year'

Fancy Farmers of Farmington tell residents to fight inflation by joining square dance classes.

The bargain of the year is the \$1.80 per couple for an evening of square dancing lessons in Ten Mile Community School," said Edith Stone, speaking for the group.

"Square dancing is fun, good exercise and one of the most economical

forms of recreation around."

Caller and teacher, Chuck McClelland, added, "It's easy to learn, there's no fancy footwork. And you don't have to be a John Travolta to join in."

Classes for beginning students are held Wednesdays from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. in the school at 32785 Ten Mile Rd., sponsored in cooperation with Farmington Public

Schools Community Education. The cost is \$18 for 10 lessons.

Several veteran square dancers recommend this form of recreation.

Paul Olivier, a Farmington Hills attorney and former president of the club, said, "Square dancing is a great way to relax and forget your daily troubles, because you have to concentrate on the caller's directions."

Walt Goulet, a Farmington Hills market analyst, said, "Square dancing is such a good way to get your exercise to music while having a good time with your wife and friends."

The sessions got under way last week, but newcomers are welcome any time.

Questions may be directed to Ms. Stone at 553-3270.

Rockets sell candy

The Farmington Rockets, composed of about 150 youth from 9-13 years, will go door to door in Farmington and Farmington Hills on Saturday, Sept. 29, selling boxes of Butterfinger and Baby Ruth candy.

Cost for a purchase is \$1, which is the Rockets' biggest fund raiser. The money raised will maintain the high level of safe equipment and the efficient programming the youth's football players now enjoy.

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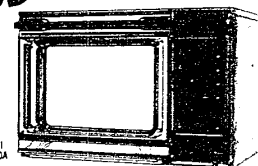
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