

Mom talks about son's Oscar

By CRAIG PIECHURA

When the Academy Award nominations were announced last week, there was no prouder parent around than Nick and Lea Aronson of Southfield.

Their son, Jerry Aronson, is in the running for an Oscar — but not against the Robert DeNiro's and Laurence Olivier of the film industry. The category in which he is competing is Best Short Subject Documentary.

Aronson, 33, produced, directed and edited a 33-minute documentary on the struggle of urban Indians called "The Divided Trail — A Native American Odyssey."

Four other documentaries comprise the competition: "An Encounter with Faces," "The Flight of the Gossamer Condor," "Goodbye Miss Ann," and "Squires of San Quentin."

But none of the other films nominated has created such a stir as "The Divided Trail." The Public Broadcasting System (PBS) recently acquired the rights to the documentary and Marion Brande, a proponent of Indian rights, has agreed to do a voice-over introduction and closing statement when the film airs on national television.

The film is Aronson's biggest success, after a string of documentaries. The film follows the lives of three Indians who in 1970 left their reservation in northern Wisconsin for the wilds of Chicago. The Indians, Michael Chosa, his sister Betty Chosa Jack, and their friend Carol Warrington, become involved in militancy in the beginning of the eight-year span covered in the film.

After finding out that Chicago wasn't the land of opportunity the Bureau of Indian Affairs made it out to be, Chosa and the two women set up camp in Wrigley Field, home of the Chicago

Cubs, and claimed the land for Indians. They were thrown out.

A YEAR LATER, Chosa and a band of militants get up tents and teepees in the abandoned Nike Missile base in Belmont Harbor, Ill. Chosa got on the bullhorn announcing to TV crews and Aronson's documentary crew that the treaties of the 1830s allowed Indians to claim abandoned federal lands.

Aronson said that after the Indians were routed from the encampment, he could've made a simple film that portrayed the police as bad guys and the Indians as good guys being victimized. But he probed further, and it took him seven years to finish the story and chronicle the lives of the three people.

Through the years Aronson followed the trio to two different camps occupied by urban Indians. He followed them to Washington where they met with legislators but with no luck.

The film shows Betty Chosa Jack's decision to admit herself into an alcohol treatment center in 1974. Her friend Carol has come to see her, and after crying uncontrollably, Ms. Jack agrees to enter a halfway house and receive emotional help to stop her drinking.

Chosa gets involved in a government program that teaches young Indian men karate. By the end of the film, we find Chosa studying Indian tradition with the elders of various tribes and the women counseling other Indian women.

ARONSON WASN'T a detached observer pointing an unflinching camera at the lives of the three people in the film. After eight years work and countless hours of editing 50 hours of film down to 33 minutes, he watched the docu-

mentary with the three subjects and cried with them.

That was followed by "an embarrassed laughter" because the camera wasn't always flattering to the subjects of the film and showed the rocky times both subjects and film makers went through.

Aronson is optimistic about urban Indians' ability to bounce back in the face of adversity. But the struggle is remote to most whites, he said.

"Indians don't fit into modern culture," said Aronson. That can get very depressing. Indians face social pressures from their peer group as well as a generational, cultural effect caused by the loss of self-respect.

Aronson said he gets two different reactions from the film, depending on the audience. Middle-class whites or minorities other than Indians, "say that's just incredible what we're doing to them." Indians, according to Aronson, "say 'Hey, that's really what's going on.'"

WHAT'S THE REACTION OF Aronson's mother Lea?

"I've seen it twice. What can I say?"

Ebert presents travel film

Wayne-Westland YMCA will present John Ebert with an "Alaska Adventure" as the next program in the Travel and Adventure Series.

The program will be at 8:15 p.m. March 3 in the Wayne Memorial High School auditorium, Glenwood at Fourth streets in Wayne.

The program includes camping and fishing adventures, wildlife close-ups and pioneer mountain explorations.



Betty Chosa Jack and Carol Warrington in a scene from "The Divided Trail — A Native American Odyssey."

CITY OF FARMINGTON

BOARD OF REVIEW

NOTICE IS GIVEN TO ALL PERSONS THAT: AN ASSESSMENT ROLL of all property in the CITY OF FARMINGTON subject to taxation has been prepared by the City Assessor and said Roll will be subject to inspection at the Office of the City Assessor in the Municipal Building, 2360 Liberty Street, Farmington, Michigan, on or after March 5, 1979.

THE BOARD OF REVIEW WILL BE IN SESSION AS FOLLOWS:

MONDAY, MARCH 12, 1979 9:00 A.M.-12:00 P.M.
1:00 P.M.-3:00 P.M.
TUESDAY, MARCH 13, 1979 2:00 P.M.-5:30 P.M.
7:00 P.M.-9:00 P.M.

Upon request of any person who is assessed on the Roll, or his Agent, and upon sufficient cause being shown, the Board of Review can adjust the Assessment on such property in such a manner as will in their judgment provide an equitable Assessment. Such Assessment Roll reviewed by said Board of Review shall be the ASSESSMENT ROLL OF THE CITY OF FARMINGTON FOR THE YEAR 1979.

Please call the City Assessor, Mr. John Sailer, 474-5500, for an appointment if you wish to review the Assessment against your property, or if you wish to appear before the Board of Review.

NEDRA VIANE, CITY CLERK

Publish: February 26 and March 1, 1979

PUBLIC NOTICE

All interested persons are hereby advised that the City of Farmington has requested Design Location Approval for reconstruction of the intersection of Farmington and Siuswasse Roads in the City of Farmington, Oakland County, Michigan.

The proposed construction is to include drainage, road widening, curbing, paving and bridge replacement. This project has been submitted for Federal assistance under the Federal Aid Urban System Program.

Publish: March 1, 1979

CITY OF FARMINGTON COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

February 20, 1979

A regular meeting of the Farmington City Council was called to order at 8:00 P.M. Tuesday, February 20, 1979, in the Council Chambers, 2360 Liberty Street, Farmington, Michigan.

The Minutes of the previous meeting were approved. The minutes of other Boards and Commissions were received and/or filed. Permission was granted to South Farmington Baseball, Inc. for Annual Parade May 19, 1979.

Resolution from City of Oak Park was received. City Manager Deadman was authorized to submit the name of a Farmington citizen for membership on the Detroit Water and Sewerage Department Citizens Advisory Council.

The following Resolutions were adopted:

—Approving the expansion of the Commission on Aging to ten members and authorizing the appointment of one additional Farmington representative

—Granting a variance to the Center Holding Company to continue use of ground sign at 33225 Grand River

—Authorizing a Special Election for May 8, 1979 and approving the wording of two questions submitted by the Farmington Community Library to be placed on the ballot

—Authorizing the transfer of funds from the Contingency Fund to the Elections Account

—Approving Preliminary Plat for the Tall Pines Subdivision No. 2

—Authorizing contract with McCreeley Trucking Company

Council authorized City Manager to arrange a dinner meeting with State Representatives the evening prior to the Annual Legislative Conference in Lansing.

Council received notification of the transfer of Antonio G. and Grace Perez, 30790 Grand River, to Lawrence D. Gratian, with no objections.

Council received proposed Local Road Improvement Policy and will schedule a study session in conjunction with other items at a suitable date.

The following reports were received and filed:

Department Public Safety Report as of December, 1978

City of Farmington Financial Report - General Fund for the 7 months ended 1-31-79

Ordinance C-443-79 amending the Taxicab Ordinance was introduced.

The following ordinance was adopted:

ORDINANCE NO. C-442-79

AMENDMENT NO. 4 TO THE ZONING MAP CITY OF FARMINGTON, OAKLAND COUNTY, MICHIGAN

THE CITY OF FARMINGTON ORDAINS:

Section 1: That the territory lying with the City of Farmington, Oakland County, Michigan, be rezoned as follows:

T1N, R5E, Section 29, beginning at a point on the E & W 1/4 line distant 588-03-29 E 140 ft. from center of Section, thence S 01-11-14 W 105.48 ft. to the northerly line of Farmington Cut-off, thence N 73-58-00 W 338.08 ft., thence N 01-11-14 E 766.82 ft., thence S 88-02-21 E 325 ft., thence S 01-11-14 W 742.57 ft. to the point of beginning, and containing 6.01 acres.

FROM: R-1-D One Family District, Planned Unit Development

TO: R-1-S One Family District

Section 2: The attached map showing the property affected by this amendment is made a part of this ordinance.

Section 3: This ordinance shall be known as Amendment No. 4 to the zoning map as revised May 1, 1976.

This ordinance was introduced at a regular meeting of the Farmington City Council on February 5, 1979, was adopted and enacted at the next regular meeting of the Council on February 20, 1979, and will become effective ten days after publication.

AYES: Tupper, Burnett, Buckler, Hartsock

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Yoder

Monthly bills were approved for payment.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:50 P.M.

RICHARD L. TUPPER, Mayor

NEDRA VIANE, City Clerk

Publish: March 1, 1979

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'79 NEWPORT Stock No. 406 **\$6875**

'79 CORDOBA Stock No. 701 **\$6925**

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