

In Farmington

Center celebrates a sew-sew day

By LOUISE OKRUTSKY

Bonnie Paiva fulfilled her duties as mother of the bride in Kansas City last week, wearing a dress which was the product of three industrious hands and imaginative minds.

She wore a sea green floral print dress which was a copy of a \$400 garment sold at a leading women's clothing store.

She made it herself, with the help of Irene McKinnon's sewing skill and Pat Conti's knowledge of smocking.

Last Friday, the same dress showed up in the Ms. McKinnon's annual fashion show which marks the end of her sewing classes at the Farmington Community Center.



Jane Perry models two of the outfits her mother, Jill, made for her while at Irene McKinnon's class. The eyelet (left) gown gives her a Southern belle charm. In a different mood, the three-piece suits offer a no-nonsense but elegant look. The color coordinated suits offer variety to her wardrobe.

The classes and Mrs. Paiva's dress prove Mrs. McKinnon's point that the loving-hands-at-home look in wardrobe need not be hopelessly old-fashioned or ill-fitting.

Mrs. Paiva's gown with its peasant neckline surrounded by smocking and puffy batwing sleeves was a product of ingenuity as well as skill.

She brought the dress off rack to Mrs. McKinnon, who helped her as she picked out a pattern similar to the sample.

"I think our's is prettier than the store's," said Mrs. McKinnon, as Mrs. Paiva walked through the crowded luncheon and modeled her creation.

THE GOWN WAS JUST ONE OF



more than 30 fashions made by fledgling and experienced seamstresses at home.

And her's wasn't the only example of home seamstress ingenuity.

Robes received new treatment and became glamorous pieces of clothing rather than utilitarian goods.

Marlene Coffey's colorful caftan was made without a pattern. She multiplied by two the length from her shoulder to the floor and then used that measurement to buy 45-inch wide material. She sewed the two halves together and fastened the front edge with a zipper.

A length of hot pink velour was teamed with marabou down. Since the coat style robe was made before the owner decided to attach the marabou trim, the length of bound buttonholes down the front of the robe remained without trimming.

The sleeves and hem are trimmed with marabou with the collar getting a double row of the white fluffy accent.

When working with velour, Mrs. McKinnon advises, avoid using a steam iron, which will cause lines to show on the velour.

Another seamstress proved that a robe by any other name is still a robe. She used a jacket pattern to make a man-tailored breakfast coat. The tailored full cut jacket was elongated into a robe.

INGENUITY ALSO showed up in the different types of tops to wear with slacks.

Janice McCarthy took a circle of material, added darts to give it shape in the front and sewed in the material under the arms to fashion the sleeves. The sleeves and bottom of the blouse were ruffled by using the technique for lettuce edging.

That is accomplished by turning the material over to the wrong side and zig-zagging the edges using the small stitch possible. Pull the material while zig-zagging.

Attention to details can make the difference between a nice outfit and a show stopper.

Jean Schure's first sewing projects were a baby dress and a slacks-and-vest outfit for herself. On the back of the yellow cotton vest, she stitched a butterfly design of her own which provided an unexpected focus in an otherwise simple outfit.

The baby dress was made into something special by introducing red smocking on the yoke of the white dress.

Persons who want to try to add a design to their outfits should make sure

their fabric has an even weave. If that isn't the case, a square of waster canvas attached to the place the design will help keep track of stitches.

JILL PERRY made a prom dress for her daughter, Jane, using cotton eyelet. The border print of thicker eyelet was used for the shoulder grazing ruffle and for the hem. The matching purse was made of the same eyelet. A green bow added interest at the waist and set off the soft white color of the fabric.

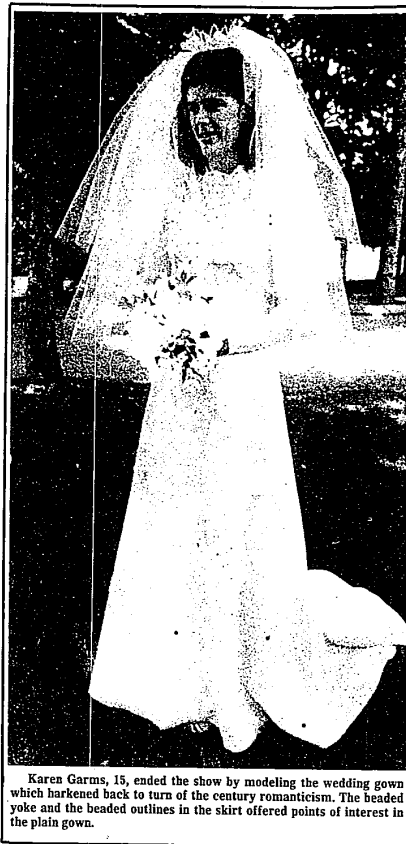
Perfectly matched plaids and patterns added to the professional look of the workmanship. Ms. Perry's plaid skirt and vest was an example of matching plaids for a custom made look.

The coordinated jacket, extra vest and skirt which she carried as she modeled the suit serve to stretch her wardrobe as she mixes and matches outfits.

Hunting through the remnant tables (Continued on page 4A)



Marlene Coffey breezes through the crowded luncheon in a caftan of her own making.



Karen Garms, 15, ended the show by modeling the wedding gown which harkened back to turn of the century romanticism. The beaded yoke and the beaded outlines in the skirt offered points of interest in the plain gown.

Photos by Randy Borst

THE INSIDE * ANGLE

A COUPLE OF FLAT TIRES AND 1,000 miles into his dream trip, Dan Harrison has reached Boulder, Colo. Along the way, the bicyclist from Farmington Hills who is pedaling around the world has attracted some notice. He hit the pages of the Grinnel, Iowa newspaper and has been filmed by an ABC-affiliated camera crew in Nebraska. At last report, Harrison, was having the time of his life.

WHERE, OH WHERE, CAN A NEW SCOUTMASTER BE? That's the question facing Boy Scout Troop 179 after long-time leader, Kenneth Milliken retired recently. The scouts meet in the Church of Christ, 3600 Eleven Mile, about a quarter of a mile west of Drake. The boys range in age from 11-18. Interested persons can call troop committee chairman 474-9421. Every boy needs someone to teach him how to be prepared.

NARDIN PARK METHODIST CHURCH at Eleven Mile, west of Middlebelt in Farmington Hills, will hold an old-fashioned ice cream social from 6 p.m. - 9 p.m. on June 29. The Farmington District Band will provide appropriate music as participants peruse through games, pony rides dunk tanks, cakes, pies and of course, ice cream. Everyone is invited.

ANGLES REALIZES THAT residents pride themselves on their rural atmosphere but it didn't fully realize to what lengths some folks would go to keep that quiet. IA was perusing the daily blotter at the Farmington Hills Police Department when it came upon a complaint about Loud Noises. Does that mean IA will have to take to demurely running into the restrooms to sneeze during cold season? More logical heads (and noses) have told Angles that the complaint was really about Loud Noises. (That's a relief, IA was getting nervous down to its toe-sies.)

IN THE REAL WORLD, Angles salutes, Ann-Marie Smith, a 1979 graduate of Harrison High School, who has won this year's Farmington Education Association scholarship. She will attend Central Michigan University in the fall and plans to major in computer science. Ms. Smith participated in the National Honor Society, marching band as flag captain, choir, as secretary and Theplans. Ms. Smith graduated in the top 10 percent of her class.

FOCUS ON LIVING (WITH CANCER) will meet at 7:30 p.m., June 14 at Orchard United Methodist, 39450 Farmington Road in Farmington. The purpose of the self-help group is to bring together patients and family members who have questions or are experiencing problems as a result of living with cancer. For additional

information contact the American Cancer Society at 557-5353.

THIS WEEK, marks the beginning of a new organization aimed at the interests of the gifted student.

The Farmington Association for Educational Enrichment will contribute to the school programs aimed at exceptionally able students. Coffee gatherings will be conducted for each of the district's 21 schools. The organization will seek to increase the awareness of parents and the public of the unique needs of these children who are under the Special Education Department in the Farmington schools.

INSIDE ANGLES INTRODUCES a feature which will crop up again in the columns — Inside Jokes. The feature will prompt readers to ask the searing question, "What was that all about?"

Farmington watchers are still taking bets on whether Bob Flattery of the Farmington Community Band and the Chamber of Commerce will ever convince Ed Lane, the chamber's director, to take him to lunch.

At last report, Flattery had Lane talking into taking him to the Elks. Flattery, Inside Joke's source says, that it's part of Flattery's Master Plan to work his way from the Elks Club to Clamdiggers. Will Lane ever consent to treating Flattery at the Clamdiggers? Will Flattery ever make it to the Elks?

THINGS WERE SEW during a recent lesson for seamstresses interested in stretch sewing, the other day. Jokes figures that the basic student-teacher relationship still holds for sewing classes but one class has decided to break the rule of humble and pained silence. During one lesson, students incredulously asked the teacher, "You expect me to do that?"

When teacher's garment didn't turn out picture perfect, the class, obviously on to the hype which is part of the lessons, pointed out that teacher wasn't using her Special Handy Dandy Sewing Gauge. When a film was shown in class, the students pointed out that the person in the film had three different garments at three different stages of completion to use for examples. "She probably couldn't do it right either," some students said. The friendly heckling was taken in stride by the teacher, an accomplished seamstress, who was realistic enough not to guarantee great results the first time.

DEADLINE

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When you want to say congratulations with style, say it with Pierre Cardin.

That says it all. The richness of his leather, the status of his name, from the class gift in fine, soft calfskin leather. Dark brown with red trim. Key case, \$33. Checkbook secretary, \$40. The Get-away, with outside coin purse, \$25.50. French purse, \$25.50. In Small Leather Goods, Northland, Westland, Oakland, Fairlane and Twelve Oaks only.

HUDSON'S