



Farmington Observer Suburban Life

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The bulletin board in Farmington Hills Community Library's Young Adult Department gets a quick change of messages from Lauren Bowman, helping to spread the word on what's coming up for the

junior high set. With the help of local merchants and professionals, Ms. Bowman has a schedule set through February 1980 aimed to stimulate creative use of leisure time.

The library for young adults

Catering to 11-14-year-old set

By LORAIN McCLISH

Getting the young adult set into the library is the job of Lauren Bowman. But she's drawing the whole gamut of ages with programs she's devised on beer can collections, for example, or model airplane building, or J. R. R. Tolkien.

"Whatever the topic, it relates to our book collection here," said the librarian who caters to the 11-14 year olds in Farmington Hills Community Library. "Nobody goes away without a bibliography of all the books we've got on the subject."

Ms. Bowman explained that services explicitly for young adults in the library came about not too many years ago.

"For a long while it was simply an un-served age group and junior high kids just stopped coming. Simultaneously, authors seemed to come to realize that these were people with needs and problems and a whole crop of new literature sprang up de-



Bonnie Sherr, (at left) a student at Warner Junior High School, is spending her summer as one of the library's Young Adult Volunteers. The program at the Farmington Hills Community Library comes under the jurisdiction of Ms. Bowman who schedules out assignments for the corps members, many of whom hope to make a career in library science. Some of the young volunteers have been assigned to helping pre-schoolers stage their own play production at the end of the summer.

signed solely for the adolescent," she said.

That literature may have started with fiction on gang wars, or ethnic living in Harlem or teen pregnancies, but it has now spread over the spectrum from non-fiction to humor.

Among the pamphlets in the library is Ms. Bowman's own compiled home-town best seller list for the area's young adults.

ALL OF THE books on the library's young adult shelves "are very strongly reviewed and very carefully scrutinized," she said.

"Because some of the growing-up problems are so touchy, we keep very high standards, and if something on the book review list looks a little shaky to me, I read it myself before I buy it. Then, if there is a question, I know what it's about."

For her programs, all designed to stimulate creative use of free time and introduce subjects that may lead to consuming hobbies, Ms. Bowman relies on her young brother and keeps a sharp eye out for what books are leaving the shelves at any one time.

"My brother told me to put together a program on model airplane building and flying," she said. "We had youngsters as young as 8 here, very alert kids, and a few retired men, I'm sure."

"And who said Tolkien is restricted to an age group?"

Even so, she still zeroes in on the young set with programs scheduled now, once a month, through February 1980, getting assistance from local merchants and professionals in the area who donate their time to support the library.

For a Monday afternoon series in July, the This and That Shop sent an expert on macramé; the Focal Point Studios sent a professional photographer dovetailing in with Ms. Bowman's introducing-a-new-hobby philosophy.

COMING UP, Joe's Hobby Center sends a representative to demonstrate the new war games on July 23, and an expert in fossil hunting tells how to go about it on July 30.

For her once-a-month programs, home computer games, an astronomy session, alternate energy sources, a fashion show and a program on the colonization of space, are already on the agenda.

"Then they are all backed up with a list of books. The programs act as an extension of the shelves," she said.

Extending this another step further, Ms. Bowman is now serving on a committee within the Wayne-Oakland Library Federation who are in the midst of producing a cartoon illustrating the numerous tools the library has to offer.

Ms. Bowman has completed the script for the film that will be shown in junior high schools telling the students of films, cassettes, and even pop music available in the library.

"It's a way to spread the word," she said. "We want them to know that they can turn to the library for help, for enjoyment."

Farmington Players stage melodrama during festival days

Farmington area theatre-goers will have a chance to boo at the villain and cheer with the hero when the Farmington Players present an old-fashioned melodrama, "Caught in the Villain's Web."

Play dates are July 27-29 and Aug. 3-4.

Coinciding with the Farmington Founder's Festival, members of the cast, in costume, will ride on a float in the festival's parade, July 28.

In keeping with the era of the melodrama, costumed players will be serving beer, lemonade and popcorn, during intermission.

"Caught in the Villain's Web," subtitled "More Sinned Against Than Sinning," is the players' first summer show in three years.

The production will also be an open house for guests who can get a look at the Farmington Players' 27 years on stage. A slide show and costume display are planned, along with membership and season ticket booths.

CAST AS THE dashing hero of the

play is Erik Carlson, of Farmington, with Judie Tibbitts, of Farmington Hills as his fair love.

Doug Buckley, of Berkley, is the moustache-twirling villain who really does say, "Curses," "Egad" and "Gadzooks."

Other cast members are Virginia Mitchell, Marianne James and Tom Dougall, all of Farmington Hills; Ralph Rosati of Detroit; Bonnie Roy of Novi; Shariann Douglas of West Bloomfield; and Judy Uridge of Farmington.

Sharon Kolbasa of Farmington is making her directing debut on this show, assisted by C. N. Novess III of Rosedale Park.

Installation of a new ventilating system, to cool the barn theatre is now under way. The theatre is located at 32332 12 Mile Rd., between Orchard Lake and Farmington Roads.

Performances will be at 8:30 p.m. on Fridays and Saturdays and at 7:30 p.m. Sunday.

Tickets are \$3 and are available through the 24-hour box office, 477-1965.

UF seeks volunteers for fall Torch Drive

Volunteer leaders are now being recruited for the United Foundation's 1979 Torch Drive community campaigns in Farmington and Farmington Hills.

This year's Torch Drive will be conducted from Oct. 15 to Nov. 8 to raise funds for 137 health and community service agencies serving Macomb, Oakland and Wayne counties.

Community campaigns are designed to bring about greater Torch Drive involvement by local residents and business people in 112 tri-county area communities.

"Through community campaign, we want to become aware of the problems and needs of the individual communities within the Torch Drive service area," said Northwest unit chairwoman Pat Gerbig. "This is so we can respond to those needs in an efficient, coordinated manner."

"We will make every effort to in-

form local citizens of the services funded by the annual campaign and how these services can be obtained."

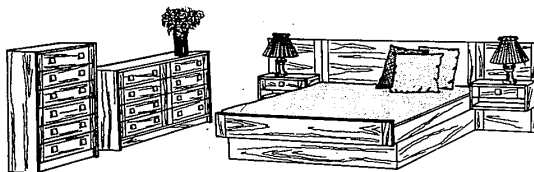
LOCAL RESIDENTS will be enrolled to serve as Torch Drive campaign leaders for each community. In turn, these leaders will enroll and train other volunteers to solicit the community's residents, small business and professional offices during the campaign.

Larger businesses and organizations in the tri-county area will continue to be solicited through the Torch Drive's regular chapter units.

"Although the Torch Drive does not officially kick off until October, volunteer training is already under way," Mrs. Gerbig said.

Individuals or civic groups interested in volunteering time in the 1979 Torch Drive can call the United Foundation's Oakland County office at 646-6668.

Storewide Summer Sale



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Design Service is available at Main Showroom only.

Youth sing their way through Australia

Thirteen young musicians from Farmington Hills and Livonia High Schools are enroute now with Musical Youth International members, who will sing their way through Australia with stops in California and New Zealand.

Concerts by the musicians and vocalists will be given in Disneyland, in New Zealand and six towns in Australia during the month-long good-will tour.

They will perform at blind children's centers, in hospitals, in schools, opera houses, in old folks

homes and in outdoor festivals.

On their return home they are scheduled for five public appearances in Ann Arbor, Detroit, Lansing and Saline from Aug. 1-5.

The 13 who make up the Farmington Hills and Livonia contingent are

Fred Shepherd, Bruce Barnard, Ellen Bassett, Troy Burgess, Kerri Langen and Charita Mangrum.

Others are Mark Perren, John Robinson, Susan Strauss, Elena Sylvan, Mark Honeyman, Virginia Falls and Susan Growney.