

m.m. memos

Margaret Miller

Now for the BIG news

"When do we get into your column?" our married daughter asked. "We've been watching every week."

And indeed it's time to report the most exciting news to hit our family in 19 years. I guess I was just that I was sworn to secrecy for a while, and it got to be a habit.

Anyway, we've crowded to friends and relatives, and now we can get into print with the word that our next generation makes its debut in September. The man of our house and I are having all kinds of fun getting used to the idea of becoming grandparents.

THE NEWS spread in the family in a series of long-to-remember incidents.

The mother-to-be told me on the telephone while her youngest sister, at that time in her last few weeks at home before heading Air Force-ward, was in the same room.

The conversation went on a while without much evidence of interest on sister's part. Then when I said something about congratulating my son-in-law, the light went on. "She's PREGNANT!" came in a shout that almost could have been heard in the next county without benefit of telephone.

Our prospective grandchild's other grandmother wasn't feeling well when they telephoned to tell her. In fact, she was a bit loathe to make the effort to get to the telephone. She recovered in a hurry when she heard the reason for the call.

I listened to one side of a phone conversation when mother-to-be relayed the news to her sister in Boston. What I heard when something like "talk-talk-talk-pregnant-talk-talk-talk-talk-talk-on-purpose-talk-talk." Sisters can ask pretty frank questions.

We told my dad when we went up for a visit. He beamed and chortled at the prospect of becoming a great-grandpa.

AND THEN last weekend I was talking to a close friend and realized I hadn't yet shared with her the news that soon we'd be sharing grandmotherhood.

But I had so many times announced I was going to be a grandma that I had started worrying about my perspective. Wasn't the baby more important? So this time I worded it differently and said our daughter was going to have a baby in September.

There seemed something unusual about the way I had phrased my news. I hadn't mentioned my own role. Was I pleased?

Of course, I assured her. This time I was just trying to put first things first.

I guess grandmothers have their own language. Give me time. I'll learn.



On the auction block

"Seagulls" by Robert White at left and "Mother and Child" by Marilyn Zapp, are examples of the quality art that will on the auction block for the benefit of Farmington Community Center Saturday. The event begins with a 7:30 preview and the auction begins at 8:30 p.m. in the

center at 24705 Farmington Road coordinated by Oxford Art Gallery. Benefit tickets are \$1 available at the door. (Staff photos by Randy Borst)

Youth symphony in concert March 15

Oakland Youth Symphony, under conductor Ervin Monroe, will present an exciting concert on Sunday, March 15, at 7:15 p.m. in Varner Recital Hall on the campus of Oakland University, Rochester.

This performance will include the Brahms Symphony No. 4 in E minor,

Op. 98, and will be climaxed by a dazzling version of Tchaikovsky's Capriccio Italien, featuring the superb artistry of the Oakland Youth Brass Section. Tickets are \$3 for adults and \$2 for students and may be purchased in advance or at the door. Information can be obtained by calling Mrs. Lewis at

624-1540 or 349-0036.

Oakland Youth Symphony is made up of young musicians ranging in age from 11 to 18 from the metropolitan Detroit area. Now in its seventh season, Oakland Youth has since its origin been conducted by Ervin Monroe, principal flutist and soloist with the Detroit Symphony Orchestra. As Music Director, Monroe selects exciting and challenging music designed to develop the members' musical abilities beyond usual school levels. Oakland Youth Sym-

phony has not only a nine month orchestral program, but also offers a summer orchestral camp utilizing the beautiful Oakland University Campus. Students enrolled in the summer camp receive in-depth training in conducting, music theory, Chamber Music, and are featured in a formal concert as part of the Meadowbrook Music Festival Series. Oakland Youth Symphony maintains a close relationship with members of the Detroit Symphony Orchestra.

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