

Getting To Know YOU...



GETTING THE PICTURE -- A clearer view of one's own capabilities is what the Continuum Center's "Investigation Into Identity" program offers. Katherine Gurot

(left) of Farmington and Gail Esty of Livonia were among the area women who began the program recently in the Farmington Community Center. (Ever photo)

They both were restless. It is fulfilling to be a homemaker and the mother of small children, but for Katherine Gurot and Gail Esty, it simply wasn't enough.

They could see the day coming when their children would be away from home all day, and the question that they both wanted answered was: what next?

Katherine is Mrs. I. Macit Gurot, of 2290 Frederick in Farmington. She has three children to keep her busy. Kam, 7, Anna, 5 and Suna, 2.

"I knew that I had talents and interests that weren't being satisfied at home," Katherine said, "but I didn't know exactly what they were or what to do with them. I wanted to begin making plans for when the children were all in school and I had time to pursue my own interests."

THE SAME THOUGHTS were going through the head of Gail, who is Mrs. Joseph Esty of 18675 Parklane Drive, Livonia. And the mother of three-year-old Dave and Geoff.

"I wanted to look five years ahead to when my children were no longer home all day. I was pretty sure I wanted to study library science but I wasn't positive and I didn't know if I would qualify for the graduate school courses I would need."

ALTHOUGH these two women have not drastically changed their lives, they have both started making concrete plans for the future based on a

new evaluation of themselves and their skills. They both made an "investigation into identity" through a special eight-part program for women called "Investigation Into Identity" in various parts of Detroit by the Continuum Center of Oakland University.

The Continuum Center was founded on a Kellogg Foundation grant in 1965, after Oakland ran a special conference for women called "Seven Days in May."

Its purpose was to explore the needs of the modern woman as she goes through a "continuum of various stages" from the unmarried girl through marriage and motherhood to the days when the children are gone and finally to the stage of widowhood and retirement.

THE CONFERENCE revealed that most women develop their skills in one stage but are completely unprepared to move into the next stage. And the most difficult time for the modern woman is the time that should be her fulfillment: those years when she has time and freedom because her children are at school or have left home, but when she has health and opportunity to do what she wants with life.

The Oakland conference showed that most women are still living to live their grandmothers' lives and have no way of adapting from the years spent in the home to the years which may be spent outside of it.

The conference also showed that most women want to be

wives and mothers first, but that they want to fulfill their own potential as well.

THE CONTINUUM CENTER was founded to help women reach this goal.

More than 2000 women like Katherine and Gail have gone through the Continuum Center course called "Investigation Into Identity," a course that began as a way of testing a woman who wanted to go back to school or to work but which has been expanded to include self-evaluation in more personal areas.

It includes a form of "sensitivity training" designed to show a woman what she thinks of herself, how others see her, how she copes with problems and whether or not she has personal skills that she is not aware of.

Then came tests that evaluated a woman's interests, her vocational aspirations, her educational level and other factors.

"THE SESSIONS of looking into myself gave me a whole new insight," Gail Esty said. "And when I took the tests they showed that I didn't really want to go into library science at all, that I was more interested in working with ideas and people."

"I helped out in a school library and found that this work was indeed too administrative for my liking."

Mrs. Esty has not decided exactly what she will do, but she is now using the informa-

tion and skills from the center to make plans for the future.

"During the next year I will probably do volunteer work that will develop skills and help me to clarify my goal, which may now be work in guidance and counseling, or which may combine this with my interest in library science."

"Then I'll probably start taking a couple of courses to improve my readiness to go back to school. The tests showed me where my weaknesses are. When I'm ready to take the big jump I should be ready educationally and personally and I should know exactly where I want to go. I know already that I want eventually to go to work."

THIS IS the kind of personal decision which is encouraged by the Continuum Center, which is more interested in helping a woman to meet her own life needs than it is in telling her what to do. Some women want to go to work, some to school and many wish to continue staying at home, but with new insights into their goals in life and the ways that they can use volunteer work or hobbies to achieve them.

"I was disappointed that I wasn't going to get an easy answer through the investigation course," Katherine Gurot said, "but I learned that there is no single consuming way to go, that each woman chooses her own route."

"But I found out some new things about myself and I was

The Observer

Women

m. m. memos

A fellow worker recently had a most frustrating shopping trip.

It seems she went to several stores in our area, fully prepared to make a fairly major purchase, and found herself utterly ignored by the clerks.

She reports she stood around, examined the merchandise, tried to look more visible and finally gave up. She couldn't even get anyone to notice her when she tried to leave some film to be developed.

Thinking the matter over, she remembered shopping trips of a few years ago when she sometimes felt she got better service if she wore a hat.

She's decided to try this method, on the theory that it might be even more successful in these days when hardly anybody wears one.

I leave it to her to do the experimenting. I lack the necessary research material—namely the hat.

Finally, in exasperation and desperation, she approached the clerk with the desired lampshade perched on her head. She was served immediately.

But her report reminded me of the experience of another friend who once waited and waited and WAITED and WAITED for assistance in buying a lampshade in a large department store.

There's no question that at least one kind of hat would have the desired result.

—Margaret Miller

Phi Mu Marks Founders' Day

Phi Mu fraternity's Detroit Alumnae chapter will honor members in the metropolitan area initiated 35 and 50 years ago during a Founder's Day tea at 2 p.m. Sunday, March 1, in the home of Mrs. Vernon Bryant, 884 Harmon, Birmingham.

The group was founded March 4, 1852, at Wesleyan College in Macon, Ga., and now has 115 collegiate and 160 alumnae chapters across the nation.

Also planned by the west group of the local alumnae is a progressive dinner Saturday, March 7, beginning at 7 p.m. with hors d'oeuvres in the home of Mrs. Levy Tindal, 18010 Bungalow, Lathrop.

The main course will be served in the home of Mrs. Malcolm Omer in Farmington and the dessert will be served in Mrs. Edward Bission's home, also in Farmington.

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Workshop Set

Secretaries Brush Up

The Livonia Educational Secretaries Association will present a spring fashion show at 7:30 p.m. in Frost Junior High School Monday, March 2. Frost is located at 14041 Stark Road, Livonia.

Mrs. Emily Murphy will act as commentator-coordinator, while Mrs. Cheryl Wasko will be the make-up consultant. Fashions will be supplied by Harvi's of Plymouth and Farmington.

Tickets for the show are priced at \$1.50 and may be obtained by contacting Mrs. Betty Orzol at Adams School, 422-4333.

The committee members are Betty Orzol, Dorothy Baron, Helen Foster, Virginia Quarles and Betty Tripp. Models will be Dorothy Baron, Sally Cunningham, Beverly Proctor, Marilyn Neiderer, Mary Holliday and Bobbie Reid.



MAKING ARRANGEMENTS—Mrs. Jeneloda Sowers, president of the Town & Country Chapter of NSA; Mrs. Mary Zygal of Wyandotte, Mrs. Sophie Zoller of the Town & Country Chapter and chairwoman of the registrations committee, and Mrs. Rebecca Seale, coordinator, check the final details for the national Secretaries Association Workshop.

Plymouth AAUW Surveys Radio-TV

The Plymouth branch of the American Association of University Women will join in a nationwide AAUW assessment of local programming on radio and television.

Diane Reickert, president of the Farmington AAUW branch, said that group was considering joining the national project, but no final decision had been made.

THE SURVEY will concen-

trate on the four topics of environmental pollution, the urban crisis, the new look on campus and American foreign policy. These are the four main AAUW discussion and study topics for the year.

Included in the survey will be all programs dealing with these subjects originated by local broadcasters between July 1, 1969 and June 30, 1970. Those programs recom-

mended as outstanding by AAUW branches will serve as the basis for next year's Alfred I. duPont - Columbia University Awards in Broadcast Journalism. Other findings will make up an important part of the 1969-1970 edition of the annual duPont - Columbia Survey of Broadcast Journalism.

THE UNIVERSITY women, who have been conducting

study groups on these topics since last fall, will complete their logs of local broadcast coverage and evaluations of the programs listed early next summer.

The material will be turned over to the Alfred I. duPont - Columbia University Survey, and Awards at the Graduate School of Journalism at Columbia University for analysis and summary by a panel of jurors.