

Youth Concert Band opens spring session

Farmington Hills Parks and Recreation Department welcomes sixth through eighth graders to the next session of Youth Concert Band. The young musicians are invited to get acquainted with the workings of the band at its first spring meeting, at 4 p.m. Wednesday, April 28, in Shawnee Recreation Center.

Rehearsals continue at the same time on Wednesdays through June 9, under the direction of Fern Barber, founder of the group.

The band ensemble offers the student the opportunity to play and acquaint them with the best music literature available. A variety of music is used, from marches and show tunes to classical overtures and symphonies.

Basic techniques, such as scales, exercises in articulation, dynamics and intonation are drilled during rehearsals.

The spring session winds up with a concert at 6:30 p.m. Sunday, June 13, on Farmington Community Center grounds. The concert this year will be called "Music, Kids and Ice Cream."

Fern Barber is a former music teacher with Farmington Public Schools. She is currently president of Farmington Musicals, vice president and musician with Farmington Community Band, a member of Farmington Area Arts Commission, and gives private music lessons.

Fee for the Youth Band is \$9.50 which can be paid the first evening of the new season.

All participants must furnish their own instruments, except for percussionists whose instruments will be provided. All music and other related equipment will be furnished.

The band is open to members who have had at least six months prior instrumental instruction.

All students should be concurrently participating in music lessons, as the band participation is not a replacement for an instructional lesson program.

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Director promises 'best show ever'

Jim Whitten, director of Farmington Community Chorus, said, "This is going to be the best show ever," speaking of "Pop Goes the Chorus," the singers' spring concert.

Curtain time is 8 p.m., Friday, April 30, in Harrison High School's Center for the Performing Arts when concertgoers will hear music ranging from high comedy to romance.

"We have very talented members performing very popular songs," Whitten said, naming "It's a Miracle" and "One Voice" as stand-outs. "We are 65 members strong and very enthusiastic about this show."

Accompanist Susan Garr is now working to polish off the specialty acts,

of "very professional quality," she says, performed by the two-year old chorus sponsored by Farmington Hills Parks and Recreation Department.

Before ending the spring session, the singers will be donning their bright green shirts and white slacks for one more show when they participate in National Music Week. The last performance of the season will be given at 7 p.m. Thursday, May 7 in 12-Oaks Mall.

That show is without charge, sponsored by member clubs of the Michigan Federation of Music Clubs.

For the spring concert, \$2 will be asked at the door, or \$1 for students and seniors.

Finnish caterer visits

Finnish Cultural Center will host Mrs. Soile Pennanen Anderson, a restaurateur and caterer from Minneapolis, who will be demonstrating the preparation of Finnish foods at a special informational seminar on April 30. She will also supervise the preparation of the celebration of Finnish foods at a dinner on the following day, May 1.

Anderson operates the Museum Restaurant in the Minnesota Museum of Art and is a caterer for many special dinners such as the Minneapolis Aquatennial in July 1981, for visiting celebrities from the diplomatic corps.

She trained for four years at Restaurant and Hotel Institute in Helsinki and

graduated with a degree in hotel management.

May 1 is called Vapunaiva in Finland, it is the traditional day for graduating students to celebrate in the great market square in Helsinki.

Old grads from Finland, who brought along their white student caps to America, will present traditional songs, led by Finnish Consul for Michigan, Harri M. Virjo.

Virjo is a graduate of the University of Helsinki and is a past member of the University Men's Chorus.

There will also be a presentation of Finnish folk music by the Pellmannit, an instrumental group.



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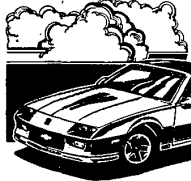
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