



By MARGARET MILLER
Women's Editor

Women on the Go Theater Keeps Beverly Busy

"It's been a wild year," says actress Beverly Childress.

That's an understatement. In the nine or 10 months she's lived in Farmington, Beverly has:

Played a lead role in the Jules Feiffer one-act "Crawling Arnold," part of an evening of one-act plays put on by the Livonia-Redford Theatre Guild.

Been leading lady in another guild production, the Tennessee Williams drama "Summer and Smoke."

Romped as the princess in a children's theater production

of "Rumplestiltskin," at the Detroit Institute of Arts.

And on April 30 and May 1 and 2 she'll go on stage in her third Livonia-Redford Guild part this year, the comedy "You Know I Can't Hear You."

When the Water's Running.

THIS IN ADDITION to making a home for husband Robert, a labor relations man for Bendix Corp., and five young members of the family, David, 13; Diana, 12; Craig, 9; Rebecca, 8, and year-old Jean Paul.

The Childress family moved to Farmington from

upper New York state last July.

Beverly had done community theater work there and also in Ohio where the family had lived previously, so she checked with groups in this area.

"Community theater is a good way to make friends in a new area, and it is my hobby," she explained.

The Livonia-Redford Guild had the season that most interested Beverly, so she joined.

"REALLY, I think I joined because I've wanted to do the role of Alma Winemiller in 'Summer and Smoke' for years," Beverly said. "That is a beautiful show - I think it's Tennessee Williams' best. It's not as decadent and depressing as some of his others."

Beverly did play the part she called "a frustrated old maid with soul" to follow up

her role as a psychiatric social worker in the evening of one acts.

Then the Art Institute theater needed a princess for "Rumplestiltskin" and Beverly got the call.

"That was pretty hectic—we put the show together in two weeks," she recalled. "It was a musical, so there were songs and dance routines to learn. And I wound up playing opposite a prince who was 17 years old—I could have been his mother."

But Beverly said she wouldn't have missed the show.

"Children make the best audiences," she said. "They cheer and boo and get so involved. My 13-year-old had announced he wasn't going to this kid show, but he did, and had as much fun as anyone."

THE OLDER Childress youngsters have seen most of Beverly's stage performances, and one of them described their mother's words "Summer and Smoke" role as "That play where you talked all the time."

There was so much memorizing to that one, Beverly said, that son David had to feed her lines while she cooked dinner.

Right now the girls both are a bit stage struck, their mother said, adding that if they want to act she'll "encourage but not push."

One budding actress in the family had a role in the second-grade production of "Peter Rabbit," Beverly said. She came and told her mother that "you can't just SAY the lines—you have to really TELL them."

BEVERLY'S next role is in the third of four related one act plays that go together to make up Robert Anderson's "You Know I Can't Hear You When the Water's Running."

She said her role this time, in "I'll Be Home for Christmas," is that of a "middle-aged woman who is a advocate about sex education to the point of insensitivity."

She likes the play because it's good comedy with an underlying seriousness.

"I've learned to respect comedy," this actress said. "It's not easy—you need good timing. But I think you get the point across more painlessly."

BEVERLY SAID she had enjoyed her busy theatrical year partly because her husband had had to be away from home a great deal on business. Former students at Ohio State University, they both participated in community theater in the past.

"He's really a better actor than I, but he just doesn't have time now," she said. He'd have to have a fair amount of time just to catch all his wife's stage performances.



BENEFIT AUCTION—This antique typewriter is one of the interesting items that will go on the auction block Saturday, April 25, in the Bloomfield Hills Masonic Temple, 357 Woodward, Bloomfield Hills, to benefit New Horizons, Inc., a sheltered workshop program with one of its three units in Farmington. The New Horizons Women's Auxiliary is sponsoring the benefit. Showing the typewriter are three auxiliary members from Farmington, Mrs. Barbara List, left, Mrs. Mildred Burns, past president, and Mrs. Phyllis Carley, auction chairman. (Evert photo)

Calling Curvy Colléens

If your mother came from Ireland—or some other member of the family did—you may be eligible to become the 1970 Michigan Rose of Tralee and visit the Emerald Isle next summer.

The fifth annual search for the prettiest colleen in the state is on, and single girls of Irish extraction between the ages of 17 and 25 are invited to get applications by calling Mrs. Rose Francis, 464-1064. Deadline is April 25.

The Michigan Rose of Tralee pageant will be held May 16 in the Friendly Sons of St. Patrick Hall, 809 E. Eight Mile, Detroit, and the winner will go to Ireland in August to participate in the Festival of Kerry for the honor of being the International Rose of Tralee.

Mrs. Francis said judging would be on the basis of beauty, poise, charm and speaking ability.

The winner will receive \$200 Under CARE "food plus" programs, hungry people also get the tools and knowledge to work, earn and plan for themselves in future years.

in cash and a round-trip ticket will pay expenses there. The to Ireland, and the Festival of Kerry committee in Ireland \$2,500 and other prizes.

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BEVERLY CHILDRESS studies a few lines. (Evert photo)

Women Mark First 100 Years On U-M Campus

If the first woman at The University of Michigan hadn't been a determined girl, she would have been frozen out.

No sooner did the regents open the door in January 1870 to any person who possesses the requisite literary and moral qualifications than Miss Madelon Stockwell of Kalamazoo presented herself for the second semester, just a century ago.

Such was her preparation that she was admitted to the sophomore class.

The men students gave her a hard time. They were not so much impolite as they were studiously unaware of her, says Howard Peckham, director of U-M's Clement Library, in his book, "The Making of the University of Michigan."

The women were not to be stopped, however. In the fall of 1870 Miss Stockwell gained the support of 33 other girls, two in law, 18 in medicine, and 13 in the literary department. In March 1871 one girl graduated in law and one in medicine. In June two more received the degree of pharmaceutical chemist.

MISS STOCKWELL graduated in 1872 and started a Michigan tradition by marrying a classmate, says Peckham. She became prominent in the cultural life of Kalamazoo and left money to Albion College for a library. She was given an honorary degree in 1912 by Michigan. A dormitory on campus also perpetuates her name.

The number of women students in residence at U-M this

past fall term totaled 13,870.

This year, beginning in March with a centennial issue of the Michigan Alumnus magazine, the university will be celebrating the 100th anniversary of going coed.

A 16-member committee—including the university's only female regent, Gertrude V. Huebner, and the university's only female executive officer, Vice President Barbara

Newell—was appointed by U-M President Hobben Fleming to plan the celebrations.

THE COMMITTEE is not exclusively female. Of the 16 members, seven are men. Of course, that gives the females majority control, and the chairman is Mrs. Allison Myers, director of alumnae activities in the U-M Alumni Association.



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Founders Day

Alumnae of Pi Beta Phi will celebrate Founders Day at a 12:30 p.m. luncheon April 25 in the northwest room of Stouffer's Restaurant in Southfield. For reservations, contact Mrs. Richard L. Kelly at 261-6659.

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