

He searches for the best of the beautiful



RANDY DORST/Staff photographer

Jim Rygiel wants to boost the Motor City's image by giving attention to its beautiful women.

By Joan Adamczak
staff writer

Many people feel Detroit's image needs to be improved.

Jim Rygiel wants to promote the more positive aspects of Detroit through a beautiful woman.

Rygiel, a Farmington Hills businessman, is searching for the 13 most beautiful women in the metropolitan Detroit area. Photographs of the women, taken at different Detroit landmarks, will be used in Rygiel's "1986 First Annual Edition of The Most Beautiful Women of Detroit Calendar".

According to Rygiel, Detroit women are "just as pretty" as the women in West Coast cities like San Diego, Los Angeles and San Francisco. Through his calendar of Detroit beauties, Rygiel hopes to help shed Detroit's negative image.

"The image of Detroit has always been dragged through the mud," said Rygiel. "I don't understand why the rest of the country and even people in the city itself don't have anything good to say about Detroit."

The owner of an automotive parts surplus business in Livonia, Rygiel says the idea for the calendar originated after an acquaintance of his put together a similar calendar in East Lansing called "The Women of MSU".

"I SAW that (calendar), and said to

myself, 'I think I can come up with a calendar that combines beautiful women and shows a positive side of Detroit,' says Rygiel.

In March, Rygiel began his "beautiful women" search by advertising for potential calendar candidates in The Detroit News. From then on, he says, the idea has taken off like wildfire.

To date, Rygiel has received about 160 applications from women in cities as far away as St. Clair Shores and Almont.

By the time of the entry deadline on June 30, Rygiel estimates he will have 500-600 applications to sort through. He will then narrow the field down to 100 semifinalists who will be introduced to the public at a party held at Roma Hall in Livonia on July 12.

CHANNEL 7's "Good Afternoon Detroit" program will cover the party and local celebrity judges as well as the partygoers will help choose the final 13 women.

Ultimately, Rygiel will be the judge of the final 13 women.

What will be his criteria? "Just pretty women," he said. "I do want to have 13 women who can communicate, publicize and personalize the calendar at promotional sales in the area. But, beauty is in the eye of the beholder."

The final 13 will be introduced July 24 on "Good Afternoon Detroit."

According to Rygiel, being chosen to appear on his calendar means not only cash prizes and gifts, but also "instant celebrity" status for the women.

"Most calendars treat women like a piece of meat," said Rygiel, "but mine

will be a first-class piece of work."

Included with the full-color photo, will be a black and white studio shot of each woman along with a written profile of each woman including her hobbies, interests and other information.

Vagnozzi eyed for appointment

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"I've probably said enough. We'll wait and see what happens Monday night."

Carey said she resigned for personal reasons.

"I HAD PLANNED to resign for some time," she said. "My decision had been a purely personal one ahead of all this."

When questions began to surface about the administration of former Library Director Gordon Lewis, Carey chose to stay until the situation was resolved. Lewis resigned his position on May 15, following his suspension without pay on May 2.

"I'd been there for seven years, sev-

en or eight, and I felt it wasn't the time to leave," she said.

"It wasn't that I didn't want to keep working on the library. It was strictly a personal decision." Her involvement in church activities and her classes at the Center for Creative Studies have kept Carey busy.

"I enjoyed the board, and I certainly did like serving on it. It had nothing to do with what happened."

"Something had to go. I just decided I had to start looking around for ways I could get my activities in order."

Library Board members are appointed in equal numbers by the city councils in Farmington and Farmington Hills. Earlier this year, the councils in both communities voted to increase the size of the Library Board from four members to eight.

LIT donor group elects president

Carl W. Cowan has been elected director of the Presidents Club Board at Lawrence Institute of Technology in Southfield.

Cowan will serve LIT's 600-member

donor organization until April 1986. A retired automotive marketing manager at Bendix Corp., he is a 1947 LIT mechanical engineering graduate. He has been a Presidents Club member since the group was founded in 1974.

Accident investigated

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NO MAJOR injuries were reported involving the Power Middle School students on the bus.

"One kid bumped her nose," Goss said. "That was about it."

Another bus was sent to the accident scene to transport the 34 youngsters, the school superintendent said.

"Nothing serious," Schulman said of the youngsters' injuries. "They seemed to be fine today."

Eastcott was driving a 1979 Pontiac passenger car, the Public Safety Department's Goss said.

Reports from officers who arrived

at the scene indicate Eastcott wasn't wearing a seat belt, he said.

"We don't know for sure, but we believe not."

School bus drivers are required to wear seat belts, Schulman said.

"She has a marvelous record with us," the superintendent said of Sund. "She's been here at least 10 years, or possibly 11. I don't have those figures in front of me."

Sund was shaken by the accident, he said.

"She's very distressed. She worried about the kids and about the other person in the car. She responded in a very humane fashion."

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