

retirement memos

Margaret Miller

A gift of history

My first thought when I looked at our Grandmother's special Christmas present was that I wished I'd thought of it first.

My second was, "What was this, a new version of True Confessions?" And my third was that if its full purpose is carried out, Katie and Danny could wind up trying to read more about Grandma and Grandpa than they care to know.

Nevertheless, Joe and I should have some fun with the gift that came from Michigan to sit under our Florida Christmas tree. It bore a tag that read "To Katie and Danny, eventually, from Grandma and Grandpa Miller."

Inside that intriguingly-designed package were two copies of "A Grandparent's Book: Thoughts, Memories and Hopes for a Grandchild."

PRODUCED BY James Wagenvoort Studio Inc., it's filled with 140-plus pages of places to record our life history, or histories, from "Beginnings" and "When You Were Very Young," on through "Friends," "Marriage," "Work, Jobs, Money" and "Family Lore," to things like "Politics" and "Between Us."

Joe and I had talked some of getting notebooks and compiling some memories for family members, including our grandchildren. And, if there are lots of grandparents with similar notions, the Wagenvoort Studio should do very well indeed with its publication. Like I said, I rather wish I'd thought of producing such a book.

But I'm not at all sure I could have come up with all those questions, or even that I can manage all those an-

Tax law changes told

The current and proposed change in tax laws as it affects small business will be discussed by R.J. Dickshott of R.J. Dickshott and Co., P.C. at 12:15 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 20, in Madonna College, Livonia.

Sharon Snodgrass, from Krandle, Creighton, Snodgrass & Mier, will moderate for the "Brown Bag Business Lecture Series."

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Anne Frank exhibit coming to Jewish center

Jewish Community Center of Metro Detroit is one of the tour stops for the international exhibition "Anne Frank in the World: 1929-1945." The exhibit of more than 800 previously unpublished photographs and documents from Dutch and German archives and private collections will be open for public viewing from Feb. 23 to March 9 in the center at 5600 W. Maple, West Bloomfield.

There is no charge for visitors during the center's regular hours from 9 a.m. to 10 p.m. Monday through Thursday and from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Friday and Sunday.

The exhibit will move to University of Michigan-Dearborn March 14-21, then the Detroit Historical Museum March 28 to April 16.

The metro-area exhibits are presented in conjunction with The Anne Frank Center, which is a branch of The Anne Frank Foundation in the Netherlands and is sponsored by The American Friends of the Anne Frank Center. It is sponsored in conjunction with Burroughs Corp., Comerica Inc., Jewish Welfare Federation-United Jewish Charities and Michigan Bell Telephone Co.

The exhibit provides a personal historical account of events that led to the Nazi's rise to power and of life in Germany and occupied Holland.

Flute, piano recital set

A faculty flute and piano and recital featuring Cynthia Ferris and Linette Popoff will be presented at 3:30 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 23, in Madonna College.

The performance will include "Duo for Flute and Piano" by Aaron Copland and "Sonata for Flute and Piano in D Major" by Sergei Prokofiev.

Admission is free. Madonna College is at 1-96 and Levan, Livonia.

In the forefront

The signature of Benjamin Franklin appears on the Declaration of Independence, the Treaty of Paris and the Constitution. Benjamin Franklin was always in the forefront in matters connected with the founding of our nation.

And I have big doubts about whether Katie and Danny are ever likely to be much interested in how we think our government is doing, or how we regard psychiatrists, or what goals we've set for the future. What goals, they may well ask, and what future.

WE'VE RUN INTO one immediate snag if we're going to get into this particular grandparenting task.

Each book is set up on the basis of one grandparent to one grandchild. So do Joe and I share the books as we prepare them, or do we each do one and let our grandchildren share the results?

We may wind up buying two more books. Definitely, I should have thought of the whole thing first.

Margaret Miller was Suburban Life editor for Observer Newspapers for 16 years. She and her husband Joe have retired to Florida, where she writes Retirement Memos.

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