

Teens selected for fashion panel

The search for a very special group of young men and women to serve as the 1987 Fairlane Town Center Fashion Panel is complete. The carefully selected panel is comprised of area residents interested in fashion, retailing, marketing and modeling.

Shannon Marie Bobes and Lisa Carey, both 17 and both residents of Farmington Hills, were among the 31 members chosen to complete a one-year term on this elite panel.

Shannon is a senior at Mercy High School. Her interests include skiing, singing, modeling, choir and acting. She has been a member of the varsity soccer team for three years. After graduation Shannon will attend Northwestern Institute to study fashion.

Lisa is a 12th grade student at Southfield Christian High School. Her interests include horseback riding. After she graduates, Lisa plans

on attending the University of Michigan to study finance.

More than 175 applicants participated in preliminary interviews which resulted in the selection of 76 semifinalists. The semifinalists competed in poise, personality, and modeling skills before a panel of expert judges on the South Grand Court Stage at Fairlane.

Monthly workshops on hair styling, makeup application, fitness, fashion directions and careers in related fields will be conducted for the panel members. Marketing activities within the center will be part of the duties of the panel and will include distribution of promotional materials and assistance with other marketing efforts as well as opportunities to participate in fashion shows, informal modeling events and photo shoots.

The panel benefits from the experience and knowledge gained through the scope of activities mem-



Shannon Bobes



Lisa Carey

bers are involved in throughout their one year term. Modeling portfolio

opportunities and fashion skills are other benefits.



On the runway

Marla Montessori Center students Kaitlin Wolse (at left) Sununda Nair and Allison Jones modeled clothes from Peanut for a fashion show and luncheon to benefit the school. The youngsters aided their mothers, who modeled fashions from Begadim, for funds that will purchase more recreational equipment, science materials and books for the school library. The center is at 32450 13 Mile, for children from preschool age through sixth grade.

retirement memos



Margaret Miller

Medigap an issue for many retirees

JOE AND I — like just about every retiree and senior citizen in the country — have been following with great interest the current discussion of insurance against catastrophic illness.

The matter's prominence in the headlines is fairly recent, but our concern is old.

We watched three elderly relatives spend a total of nearly 10 years in nursing homes, and know only too well what happens to lifetime savings when one of these institutions — their high cost not covered by Medicare — becomes the only choice.

AND RECENTLY we've seen a friend's trauma as she has struggled with her husband's long-term, perhaps permanent, need for nursing home care.

She had watched in anguish and provided great support as a stroke incapacitated her mate. She saw him come close to death three times and finally moved him to a nursing home when doctors determined that further therapy would be of little value.

But it was a different kind of shock she experienced when their home called one morning and told her: "No emergency, but you should know that Medicare is no longer paying for your husband's care here."

And yet a further shock — she thought they had purchased supplemental insurance to cover such a situation. But no. The fine print on the policy said payments would be made only while Medicare payments were coming in.

ONE FRIEND is working with an attorney to straighten out finances so that her husband's care won't leave her without means of supporting herself. She has learned a lot about "medigap" in the last few weeks.

But her case is a perfect example of why catastrophic illness insurance is needed and how current proposals still leave a gap.

She thought she had purchased the kind of "peace of mind" touted on television by pitchmen such as Ed McMahon and Eddie Albert. But she learned the truth of a recent statement in USA Today that "no medigap policy really covers long-term, custodial and nursing home costs, frequently the real source of financial catastrophe."

JOE AND I retired with good hospitalization coverage and a good supplement purchased. But there's still that gap, and insurance to fill it has started to show up only recently.

We watch with great interest the debate in Washington. We're sure we have lots of company.

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.

clarification



This men's casual wear cotton pants in elephant shade by Hugo Boss, shown in the Observer & Eccentric's special spring supplement last week, with cotton and linen shirt by Giorgio Armani and braces by Armani are all available at L'Uomo Vogue in Southfield. The pants are \$112; the shirt, \$72 and the braces, \$84. Also, the hat and gloves shown on the fashion section cover were from Jacobson's.

Statewide hot line is aid to seniors

Dial 1-800-922-HIRE to inquire about jobs or job training to employ an older worker. This is the statewide older worker hot line.

Under the direction of Project ABLE (Ability Based on Long Experience) of Southeastern Michigan, the hot line averages 300 calls monthly. The wage range for job orders is \$43.35 per hour to \$52,000 per year. About 34 percent of the job orders pay more than \$5 per hour.

The Michigan project is based on the Project ABLE founded in Chicago.

In its report to Gov. James Blanchard last year, the Governor's Task Force on Employment Opportunities for Older Citizens recommended that the Michigan project be expanded because of its comprehensive marketing strategy and coordinated approach to job placement, including enough money to continue the existing hot line for older workers.

The hot line connects older workers to Project ABLE. Applications are taken, and the clients are given

telephone numbers to contact older worker employment programs in their counties.

FOLLOW-UP MAILINGS are done by Project ABLE putting the referral information in writing to clients. Information about the clients are then forwarded to the appropriate network agencies that provide employment services. Project ABLE has a listing of 47 network agencies statewide.

Employers dialing the hot line provide Project ABLE with information on the kind of job available, sal-

ary range and qualifications. This information is forwarded to the appropriate network agency with written confirmation to the employer.

Project ABLE uses computerized files to provide direct job match services for clients and employers.

The hot line receives money from Title II of the Job Training and Partnership Act, Title V of the Older Americans Act, the C.S. Mott Foundation, and Traveler's Insurance Foundation.

For other information, call Laraine Trimmi, 517-373-4081.

Lunch and fashion show benefits Salvation Army

The auxiliary to the Salvation Army will have its annual "Orchids in April" fashion show and luncheon Wednesday, April 8. The event will take place at the Fairlane Manor, 19000 Hubbard Drive, Dearborn. Social hour is 11 a.m., and lunch will be served at noon.

Ticket prices are \$20, or \$35 for patron or \$50 for benefactor. Patrons and benefactors will have their names listed in the program of the day.

Fashions will come from Alvin's under the direction of Sheryl Fellows, fashion coordinator.

Each person attending will receive an orchid cultivated and donated by Bill Piersante of Marble-Tite Inc., Dearborn, and there will be door prizes given away.

President of the auxiliary is Ida Krandle of Farmington Hills. Chairwoman of the fashion show is Maureen Keane of Dearborn. For tickets, call Keane at 271-9422 or Krandle at 851-4524.

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