

# SUBURBAN LIFE



THURSDAY, MAY 20, 1993

**THE SCENE**



GRETCHEN HITCH

## Ball in the Hall to benefit DSO

To leave a message for Gretchen Hitch, from a Touch-Tone phone, call 953-2047, Ext. 1885. Material for The Scene may be mailed to Hitch at 646 Kimberley, Birmingham 48009, or you may call her at 646-6277.

The 12th annual Ball in the Hall and Afterglow, a fund-raiser for the Detroit Symphony Orchestra, will be held in Orchestra Hall at 8:30 p.m. Saturday, June 5.

The black tie Ball in the Hall offers an evening of entertainment, music by the Emil Moro Band, and an opportunity to support one of the world's finest symphony orchestras.

Tickets are priced at \$200 for donors, \$350 for patrons and \$500 for benefactors.

One of America's most popular groups, the Emil Moro musicians will bring the big band sound to the 12th annual Ball in the Hall. Fronting the band, in the vocalist spotlight, will be Judi Cochill.

Marjorie Saulson of Franklin, Detroit Symphony Orchestra Hall Volunteer Council president, said, "Judi's talents, combining with those of the Emil Moro Band, will bring new dimensions to the Ball in the Hall."

Ball in the Hall is the premier fund-raiser in support of Detroit Symphony Orchestra Hall.

The Emil Moro Band is the outgrowth of the Austin-Moro Band, which was organized in 1968. Several members of the DSO will play in the band for Ball in the Hall.

**Innovative party**

Tired of auctions? Tired of prescribed black tie? The three chairwomen of the International Visitors Council's International Dinner Dance, set for Friday, June 4, at the Townsend Hotel, decided on cocktail attire and only a five-minute live auction. Roger Sherman, husband of one of the chairwomen, is auctioneer.

Richard James of Bloomfield Hills will be honored with the International Visitors Council's first International Ambassador Award. The award includes a citation of service from the U.S. Information Agency. IVC president Ron Thela will present the award.

The three chairwomen are Judie Sherman, Fran Thela and Carole Wendzel. On their committees are Cheryl Hall Lindsay of Saks Fifth Avenue and Aggie Meidman of Jacobson's, plus Val Corradi, Barry Lou James, Sandy Mueller, Susan Lancelault, Sue Nino, Jessie Weyand, and Judith Bruggemann of Rochester.

IVC's mission is to welcome government-sponsored visitors from all over the world and arrange professional appointments, dinner hospitality and sightseeing with metro-Detroit families. The International Visitors program of the U.S. State Department started with the Fulbright-Hayes Act to promote international understanding of democracy in action.

For more information about tickets priced at \$100, \$125 or \$150, call IVC at 259-2680 or Judie Sherman at 626-2048.

**Spring into Michigan**

The Junior League of Birmingham hold its "Spring into Michigan" spring ball at a Birmingham Country Club evening to benefit the Maple Grove Children's Program.

JLB president Lisa Tille said, "For over 12 years we have worked closely with the Maple Grove Centers for chemical dependency and Maple Grove Community Education." She explained, "We are working with chemically dependent families and their children to prevent future substance abuse."

A former participant in the Maple Grove program said, "In a dysfunctional home you don't talk,

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GRETCHEN HITCH

Chairwomen trio: Fran Thela (left), Carole Wendzel and Judie Sherman attend a tasting and planning meeting for the International Visitors Council Dinner Dance on Friday, June 4, at the Townsend Hotel in Birmingham.

## He suits the job

### Gerald Kuhn, a man for all occasions

Dressing appropriately for every occasion is one of the traits that distinguishes Gerald Kuhn, who lives and works in Southfield.

By ETHEL SIMMONS  
STAFF WRITER

An executive administrative assistant to Southfield city administrator Robert Block, Gerald Kuhn wears a business suit to the office every day. He describes himself as a conservative dresser, but his well-coordinated way of dressing — with compatible shirt, necktie and cufflinks — draws attention.

"I take a lot of ribbing about dressing," Kuhn said. "People form a first opinion on how you look." Kuhn has maintained a polished appearance ever since he was in the Army. His business-suited style goes back to when he worked for the U.S. government as a postmaster. "I'm always representing somebody. I had to look halfway decent," he said.

In his current job, Kuhn has a

**OFF THE CUFF**

busy schedule that included, on the day he was interviewed, the mayor's prayer breakfast for more than 700 people including city officials, and a lunch at the Highland Park Baptist Church of Southfield by invitation of the pastor and congregation. He also had other activities planned later that day.

"It's important for the position that you hold," he said, giving one reason he is careful about what he wears. "I do like to wear a sport coat but, it never falls, the day I wear a sport coat and feel comfortable, I'm going to a funeral."

**From the old school**

"There's a lot of talk about casual days at the office," he acknowledged, but admitted that when you're dressed informally at work, in his opinion, you're just not properly dressed. "I'm one of the older gentlemen of the staff," Kuhn said, indicating this has something to do with his attitude.

His choice in business suits includes classic styles. "I really don't like the new suits — the baggy look — although I have one on today," he said. "I like to stick with the dark colors, maybe because I've always been overproportioned, or big."

Buttoning the jacket on his double-breasted suit, he said with a smile, "That's one thing about a double-breasted. We heavy-duty people like 'em because you can wrap 'em round and cover a multitude of sins."

Kuhn said that in the last 40 years, his weight has gone up and down. He was up to 250 pounds about a year ago and now is down to 215. He lost weight for health reasons that include diabetes.

**Wardrobe looks new**

He threw out all his really big suits and replaced them with new ones, but some suits he was able to keep on hand. "Naturally, when you go down, everyone thinks you've got a new wardrobe," he said.

To keep from gaining extra pounds, Kuhn — along with Ron DeMaagd, deputy city administrator, and Roman Gronkowski, city treasurer — goes walking for an hour every other evening after work. They walk down Civic Center Drive to Telegraph Road and back. They also may spend a half-hour lifting weights at Lawrence Technological University.

Kuhn and his wife, Jean, who live in Southfield, have two children and three grandchildren. Last year, Kuhn was hospitalized for a phlebitis condition and received an artery implant called the Greenfield filter that prevents blood clots. That's when he lost about 60 pounds over three or four months. At home, all his clothes are hung in the master bedroom closet, with all the suits together, the same with shirts, ties and shoes. Asked how many suits he has, he replied, "I never counted them." It turned out he has 20 suits, 21 counting his tuxedo, and nine sport coats.

**Always dressed right**

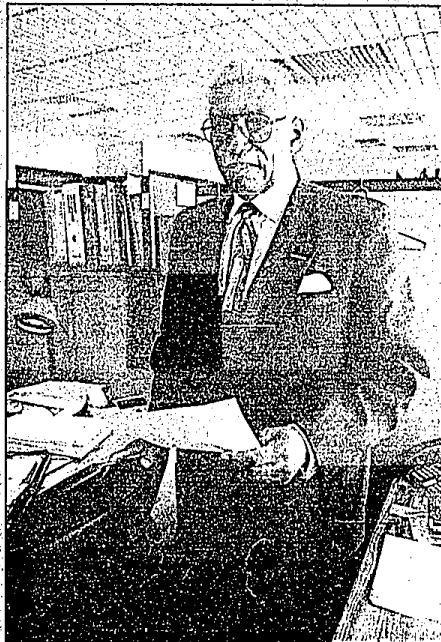
Wife Jean said, "I always think he is dressed for the occasion. He enjoys dressing for going to the office, for recreation, and for relaxing purposes. Usually I like him in dark colors, like the navy blues. At about 10:30, they always comment on the ties, or wherever you go. I help him pick out the ties."

Jeann describes herself as a frustrated artist and pursues painting as a hobby. Her artistic leanings were apparent as she talked about her husband's wardrobe. "I like the colorful, soft colors on him — abstract or contemporary designs or the classics."

She said, "Our daughter used to buy most all the cufflinks. Now I do the cufflinks." One of his favorite sets of cufflinks is in a marbled dark blue pattern that blends with a tie in lighter tones of marbled blue.

Regarding his business suits, Jeann commented, "He said I call it the complete uniform. It took years to get him into a pair of jeans."

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STAFF PHOTOS BY JERRY ZOLNERSKY

Office attire: Gerald Kuhn wears double-breasted suit that he says "covers a multitude of sins."



Around home: Jerry Kuhn dresses casually to work in his backyard.

## Home care adviser helps new mothers

By ETHEL SIMMONS  
STAFF WRITER

A new mother may want to breast-feed her baby but sometimes the infant doesn't get latched on the way it should. That's when both mother and baby can become frustrated.

To the rescue comes an individual such as Sherri Glassman of Professional Perinatal Home Care Inc., who operates the business out of her home in West Bloomfield and visits and advises mothers-to-be, as well as new mothers.

"She has saved my sanity," declared Eleanor Litt of Birmingham, who has been successfully breast-feeding her baby since Glassman came to her aid.

"You're 40 years old. You have a lifetime established. You think you can be superior," said Litt, explaining why the wasn't prepared when the breast-feeding originally didn't go as well as she expected.

"It's very hard for professional women who are used to being in charge," Glassman explained. "The baby is in charge."

Litt, "over 40 — 41 to put in small print," is on leave from the Hamtramck Public School System where she is a speech pathologist. Her baby Alexander Jacob ("A.J.") is now 11 weeks old and being breast-fed with his mother's use of the Supplemental Nursing System.

The SNS may be introduced when there is a question of adequate milk supply and the baby is fussy at the breast. A bottle will be hung by a cord around the mother's neck and connected to the breast by tubing. When the baby sucks, it gets milk both from the bottle and the mother's breast. The bottle may contain either breast milk or formula.

Litt said she had read 13 books about baby care,



STEPHEN CANTRELL/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Happy mom: Eleanor Litt of Birmingham holds her baby, after breast-feeding. Home care consultant is Sherri Glassman.

but originally had problems with breast-feeding "because I wasn't latching him on properly." Glassman showed her how to do it correctly. Glassman also recommended using the SNS, which can

help lead to a mother producing more breast milk. "Ideally, we like babies to wean off the Supplemental Nursing System," Glassman said.

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