

'Head quilt lady' carries her work



PRIME TIME
If you ask Maturu Minglers in Bloomfield Hills for "the bag lady" or "the head quilt lady" you are immediately led to Eunice Nance. "They call me the bag lady because I always have a bag of quilt pieces that I am working on," she explained.

As head quilt lady, Nance is in charge of the group making the quilted prizes that are raffled off as a fund-raiser for the center. This year she and five quilters have hand-sewn and quilted a full-size Ohio Star pattern quilt in peach and green colors and a twin-size nine-block quilt in blue.

"I have begun laying out the Christmas theme well hanging for the raffie. I like to lay the fabric out on the floor and let it sit while I think about it," Nance said. She added that she is fortunate to have a wing of rooms in her daughter's home so her fabric planning does not interfere with other family members. "They don't come in and mess up my pattern."

Now 78 years old, Nance began quilting at the age of 10, sewing together blocks of fabric in a crazy-quilt pattern. She remembers the quilting frame being fastened to the ceiling in her home and her mother letting it down on ropes to work on the quilts. "My mother would cut out the pieces, and I put them together, however I picked them up. That's how a crazy quilt is made. She would use patterns cut from the pages of the Sears catalog," Nance said.

She believes she and her family have a natural talent for sewing. Her brother was a tailor and was always willing to help her with the more complicated clothing

pieces when needed. She has always sewn clothing for herself and her family but enjoys quilting the most because, "You are creating something."

She firmly believes that hand piecing and quilting makes a better quilt but can understand that young women of today use a sewing machine to save time. None of her own children or grandchildren sew — they depend on her talent — and she believes it is because they are too busy with other activities.

Although Nance does most quilting at home because of the time involved, she does spend four hours each week at the center with the other five quilters, Kinoy Adina, Mary Brady, Laura Cameros, Anna Gerarduzzi and Nancy Efling.

She loves the Thursday sessions because they combine her two favorite activities, quilting and being with other people. "I try to show people how to put pieces together so they look good. And I help them when they have trouble with their quilt," Nance said. Although she has made more than 50 quilts, most of which she has given away, she is eagerly looking forward to planning the quilt for the 1994 raffie. As a fund-raiser for the senior center's programs and services, the quilts and wall hanging will be given to the lucky winner at the Holiday Gala. This year's event will be held place Friday, Dec. 3, at Forest Lake Country Club in Bloomfield Township, with the drawing held at 12:30 p.m.

For raffie tickets or more information about joining the quilting group, call Maturu Minglers Senior Center at 932-2365.

Rose Weber is a freelance writer covering items of interest to and about seniors. To leave a message from a touch-tone phone call 953-2047, mailbox 1887.

Chocolate Jubilee aids a good cause



ON AGING
November is National Alzheimer's Disease Month.

According to the National Institute on Aging, approximately four million Americans are suffering from this mind-stealing disease. A Gallup Poll reports that one in 10 American families has a relative with Alzheimer's. The disease has become the fourth leading cause of death among older adults following heart disease, cancer and stroke.

Robbed of their memory and cognitive abilities, Alzheimer victims eventually require 24-hour care. The emotional, physical and financial toll of the disease, which is not covered by Medicare or most private insurances, can destroy family caregivers. Cost of caring for an Alzheimer's patient can be \$50,000 or more. The emotional cost on the victim's family is immeasurable.

The Alzheimer's Association, founded in 1980, is a nonprofit agency devoted to research and patient and family support programs and services. Our local association, serving Metropolitan Detroit, has offices in Southfield. Every year, to raise funds necessary to support all its services and programs, the metro Detroit Alzheimer's Association holds its Chocolate Jubilee. This year the party, entitled "Celebrate with the Stars," will be held 2-4 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 21, at the Ritz-Carlton. Dearborn. Jubilee chairwoman is WKBD-TV (Channel 60) news anchorwoman and public affairs manager Amyre Makupson. Joining Amyre will be more than 25 media celebrities, including Rich Fisher, Doris Biscoe, Jerry Hodak, Huel Perkins and Diana Lewis. Special guest will be Miss U.S.A. Konya Moore, whose grandmother suffered from Alzheimer's.

Prior to the Jubilee is a patron luncheon sponsored by the Detroit Medical Center Inc. Patron tickets begin at \$100 per person and include lunch and first taste at the Jubilee. Jubilee tickets are

only \$25 per person. More than 30 premier chocolatiers will present their finest confections. Everyone is invited to mingle with the media stars and enjoy free samples of candies, desserts and chocolate novelties. Holiday gifts also will be available. For additional information or to make your reservations call 557-8277. It is important that you know where your contribution will go. More than 90 percent of the monies raised through the Chocolate Jubilee go directly to support patient and family services.

Q. Last year my 87-year-old neighbor received a delivered hot meal on Thanksgiving and Christmas. She has no family and is always alone on the holidays. It would be very nice if she could receive the meals again this year, but she can't remember where they came from. I wonder if you could help us?

A. Thanksgiving, Christmas and Easter meals are delivered to homebound older adults thanks

to a program directed by the Senior Alliance. The Senior Alliance Holiday Meals program will provide these meals, free of charge, to older persons in Southern and Western Wayne County. To be eligible for the meals, a person must be 60 years of age or older, reside in Southern or Western Wayne County, be homebound and alone on the holiday.

Other local Area Agencies on Aging also have this same type of program. As your neighbor resides in Garden City, the Senior Alliance should be contacted. Call Monday-Friday 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. to make delivery arrangements.

Renee Mahler is a gerontologist and the director of communications and admission at a Rochester Hills nursing facility. She is a former member of the Michigan State Commission on Services to the Aging.

To leave a message for Mahler, from a touch-tone phone, call 953-2047, mailbox 1869. Send your questions to her at the Observer & Eccentric, 805 E. Maple, Birmingham 48009.

Speaker to discuss 'The Adoption Cycle'

A program entitled "The Adoption Cycle" will be presented at 8 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 17, at Temple Beth El, 7400 Telegraph, Birmingham.

Cost is \$10 per person, payable at the door. For more information,

call C&PS at 646-7790. To celebrate National Adoption Month, Child & Parent Services Inc. is presenting a program by Elinor Rosenberg, a clinical assistant professor in psychiatry and a senior staff member at Uni-

versity Center for the Child and Family. Rosenberg is an adoptive parent, who also has 30 years experience working with birth mothers, adoptees and their families. She will discuss the various stages of

development of an adopted child, their questions and how to talk to your child about adoption.

C&PS is a private, nonprofit adoption agency founded and actively directed by two adoptive parents.

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William Beaumont Hospital's Division of Preventive and Nutritional Medicine is seeking volunteers with high blood pressure for research studies.

Volunteers over age 18 with a diastolic pressure of 95 or above are needed for studies of blood pressure medications.

Both male and female volunteers are needed for the studies. Female participants must be of non-childbearing potential.

For more information or to volunteer, call Beaumont's Division of Preventive and Nutritional Medicine at 645-8158.

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