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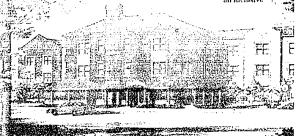
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Arts

Plans under way for annual April-May festival

BY JOANNE MALISZEWSEI BTAFF WRITER jmaliszewski@os.homeco

You know it's spring when organizers begin work on the annual Farmington Community Festival of the Arts that will open April 30 and run through May 7.

in our area," said Nancy Coumoundouros, cultural arts coordinator.

In its fifth year, the festival is sponsored by the Farmington Arts Council, which represents some 20 arts organizations.

The festival is designed to spollight the various artist talents – in a myriad of mediums – in the area and to expose the arts to residents, non-residents, students and senior citizons.

As in past years, the festival will be previewed with a gala April 29 at the Costick Activities Center.

"The price of tickets wont up a bit this year," said Sara Woollard, gala chair. But this year we are having a wonderful gourmet buffet that is being catered by Gourmet Express Catering, The food promises to be great."

The black tie optional event be great."

The black tie optional event

will run 6:30-11 p.m. Tickets are \$20 per person or \$35 per couple. They are available by calling Woollard at 478-2256. The gala will feature a silent and live auction, as well as music by the Matt Michaels Trio.

"We're raising money for the cultural arts," Woollard said, referring to proceeds from the

"We're raising money for the cultural arts," Woollard said, referring to proceeds from the auctions.

Throughout the evening members of the Farmington Artists Club will display their works, which will also be for sale.

The festival, for which admission is free all week, offers musical presentations, and demonstrations by a number of the arts groups, such as embroiderers and artists, as well as exhibits. The Ridgowriters also will present readings.

The presentation by the Farmington Area Arts commission of the popular Artist-in-Residence Award opens the weeklong celebration on April 30. Also to be presented is the Service to the Arts Award, high school student art awards and Farmington Artist Club awards.

New on the schedule of events this year is the PTA Reflections student exhibit.



"This is the only place in Michigan where it will be seen," Coumoundouros said, adding art

country will be displayed.

The event also promises to showcase "more exhibits, more art" than in previous years, she

Also new this year is a "Seniors Celebrate the Arts" day during which senior adults will be treated to performances and lunch.
The Farmington Community

Library will also hold its annual Battle of the Books during the



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