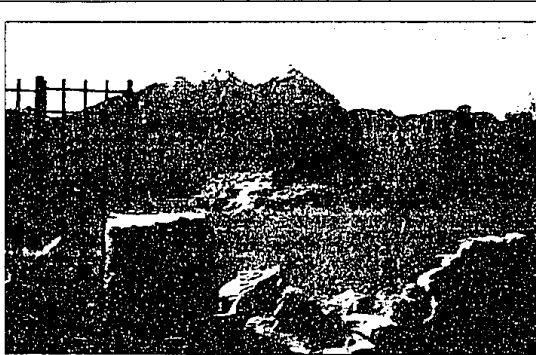


Swedish Club hosts Midsummer event

Swedish pancakes and sausage breakfast, maypole raising, folk dancing and singing by the Scandia (pictured) and Arpi choruses, and children's games are just some of the activities taking place

during the Swedish Club's Midsummer Festival on Saturday, June 21. Breakfast begins at 9:30 a.m., maypole raising, folk dancing, and choral performances begin at 12 noon, dinner begins at

1:30 p.m. at the Swedish Club, 22398 Ruth St. at Freedom Road, Farmington Hills. Call (734) 525-6366 for more information or visit www.SwedishClub.net.



O'DONOHUE

FROM PAGE C1

Dad had expansive knowledge and was singularly responsible for my "A" achievements in high school history. Each night at dinner, I would "test" him from my day's history assignment, and most of the time Dad would know the answers. When he didn't, we would have lively discussions, and I imagine my siblings benefited from these sessions as well. How I sometimes ache for those days.

My dad is a true Irishman, complete with the gift of gab and a pocketful of blarney to use at just the right moment. He tells stories of life events over and over again, even when we can relate the story by heart but somehow always adds a funny twist while we shake our heads, laughing. I imagine Dad sees his 16 grandchildren as uncharted territory: an ample audience for his endless stories.

A caring man with a huge heart, Dad would help anyone despite any inconvenience. What a lesson in unselfish giving he provided my siblings and me. He is a colorful personality others probably never forgot if they had the good for-

tune to meet him.

CIRCLE OF LIFE

I see the "smile lines" around his eyes deepen, now, when he sees me. And I hear the optimism in his voice when he asks when he will see us again. It's never often enough, now that I have five children involved in many activities.

My parents' lives are simple, replacing forever a once chronic flurry of days and responsibilities. Sitting down to coffee and the morning paper is part of their routine, and I like to visit at this time of day because it's quiet and peaceful. They have time, now, for hummingbird feeders and large gardens that reap well. Their pleasure comes from simplicity, and they have developed a perspective. I can only hope for-

I wonder at this circle of life, so beautiful in one sense yet cruel in another. Some days I cry softly thinking about Dad and Mom, pondering how life has changed them, wishing they could forever be as they live in my memory, so much younger and resilient. I am saddened by gnarled hands—the hands that held me and nurtured me as an infant—and slowed gait, the same ones whose pace I once had to run

to keep up with.

There is a difference, now, in the way they speak: softer, more tired. They have pains they never used to have—or was I too busy being a kid to notice? They take their time now, while I find myself always in a rush. They look different, too, and words fall short of relating to them the depth of my love.

Will my children cry for my husband and me as I do for my parents? When I look in the mirror, I see Mom 30 years ago, and I know the answer. My hope is that Dad knows that he is my hero and I love him with all my heart. They say a father is a child's first introduction to the personality of God. If that is true, I have nothing to fear when I die, because—God willing—I will be reunited once again with both my fathers—both loving and wonderful.

Happy Father's Day to my precious Dad, Carl O'Donohue, and to my husband, Mitei, who undoubtedly reigns as our children's hero, and to all those other men who deserve the title "Dad."

Kathie O'Donohue is a regular contributor to the Farmington Observer.

Kosledt exhibit at library

A photographic exhibition by artist Cheryl Kosledt will be on display through June 30 at the downtown Farmington Library. A member of the Farmington Artist Club, Kosledt's photos offer a guided tour of three Italian cities, Bellagio, Venice and Ravenna. She also provides insight from the trip

through excerpts of her personal journal. Kosledt is also planning a future exhibition of her pastel paintings inspired by her trip to Italy. Photos are available for purchase. For more information, call (810) 869-2592.

Tomkow to teach floral painting workshop

All levels of students can learn to paint beautiful summer flowers in a variety of water media and acrylic with artist Gwen Tomkow in a four day Floral Painting workshop offered by the City Farmington Hills Cultural Arts Division. The workshop will be held from Tuesday through Friday, July 15-18, from 9:30 a.m. to noon at Heritage Park Stables-Studio.

On the last day of this workshop, budding artists will have an opportunity to tour Tomkow's studio and gardens.

Tomkow is a signature member of the National Watercolor Society, and has been juried into numerous national shows. She has received many awards for her colorful, energetic watercolors and is a contributor to many publications. She was recently featured in "Keys

to Painting Trees and Foliage."

The fee for the four-day workshop is \$90. Students may enroll at the Costick Center at 28600 W. Eleven Mile Road, located just east of Middlebelt Road, or receive a faxable enrollment form by calling the Farmington Hills Cultural Arts Division, at (248) 473-1857.

Summer Term 2003
August 4-30, 2003
 Member Registration begins June 9, 9AM
 Guest Registration begins June 16, 9AM

Art History	Watercolor	Also...
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cinema
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 Three films present musical and dance moments from each movie: *The King of Kings*, *It's a Wonderful Life*, and *The Untouchables*. Look, these oldies, and DVD's, to name but a few.

March 22-28, 2004
 An epic story of two young lovers torn apart by the outside world and held together by a burning passion. Give your heart a little special wedding class love story.

THE SOUND OF MUSIC
 September 30, October 6, 2003
 THE SOUND OF MUSIC is the enchanting story of Maria, a spirited young novice who leaves the other nuns to become a governess. Maria discovers that the power of music and the magic of love may be all she needs to find her way.

May 4, 2004
 This sparkling new touring production of *ELIZABETH* is adapted from the Cameron Mackintosh production of the Royal National Theatre and has won the hearts of two generations of theatergoers.

Menopause The Musical
 Second City July 12-August 10, 2003
 Second City October 11-November 9, 2003
 Fox Theatre Fox Theatre December 27, 2003

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