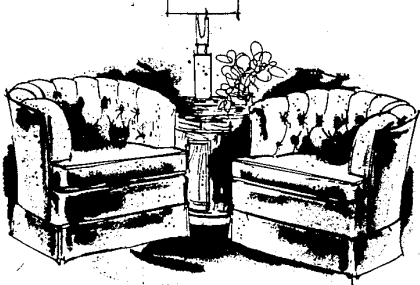


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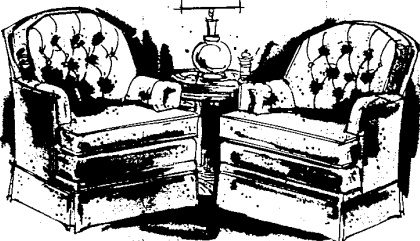
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# Women on the Go

## Special Parents Plan Special Party

By MARGARET MILLER  
Women's Editor

Foster parents have their special problems — and joys. So one of the newest organizations in this area is a coalition of these parents and one of group's first big projects is a Christmas party for all the foster children here.

Aims of the new group, Foster Parents for Progress, were outlined by Mrs. Sue Robinson of Garden City and Mrs. Helen Dombrosky of Dearborn Heights.

They want to work with Wayne County Social Services, they said, to more clearly define the rights of those who undertake to care for children who, for various reasons, cannot live in their own homes.

But the women's best enthusiasm went into telling plans now in the making for a big holiday party in the Wayne-Ford Civic Hall.

"SOME OF THESE KIDS never have had a Christmas," Sue Robinson said. "We want to show them we love them." The party, still not definite as to date, will be for the entire families in all homes where there are foster children, and the host organization is quick to point out that all sorts of help will be needed.

"It's completely non-profit," said Mrs. Robinson. "We're hoping that merchants in the area and people who want to help will want to donate the things we need — like food to feed about 250 to 300 children and inexpensive presents to go all around."

THE WESTSIDE Foster Parents for Progress group, has been meeting for several months, modeling its activities on an earlier-



FOSTER PARENTS Mrs. Sue Robinson, left, and Mrs. Helen Dombrosky. (Observer photo)

organized group on the east side of Detroit.

Membership now includes foster parents in Wayne, Westland, Dearborn Heights, Dearborn, Garden City and Belleville. Livonia and Farmington parents are expected to be joining soon.

The organization is invaluable, Mrs. Robinson and Mrs. Dombrosky agreed, in giving foster parents a chance to discuss their special problems and plan some sort of action both on their own behalf and on behalf of their charges.

"We understand that the social workers are swamped and that many of the problems stem from that fact," Sue Robinson said.

"But we don't want to make known our concern that the needs of children be given priority more often. There seems to be a tendency to consider first the rights of parents, and this often leaves

a child too long without the possibility of adoption."

FOSTER PARENTS assume their role for a variety of reasons, the women said, but it's never for hope of financial gain.

"It isn't possible to take care of a child in the way we feel necessary on the allotment we are given," Mrs. Robinson said.

In her own case, she said, she began caring for foster children eight years ago after Ronald, youngest of her three children, passed the babyhood stage. Present household members Bobby, 7, Barbara, 2, and Rosemarie, 10 months, are the most recent of 16 foster children, she said, and the longest stay for any of the youngsters is two years.

Mrs. Dombrosky, on the other hand, said she and her husband, Frank, decided to become foster parents because they had been

childless after 10 years of marriage and were considering adopting children.

"We thought being foster parents would be a good way to find out how we would get along with children," Helen Dombrosky said. They've had young Philip for nearly a year.

MATTERS LIKE providing for a foster child during a weekend away from home and getting the medical card necessary for such items as dental care and orthopedic shoes were listed by the women as some of the day-to-day problems of being a foster parent.

Their organization is working on a member survey to help parents say where they are most anxious to have changes made.

But right now a large share of the members' attention is centered on the coming Christmas party.

Sue Robinson said, "I do hope we can pull it off."

Anyone who would like to help may call Mrs. Frank Dombrosky at 24128 Lehigh, Dearborn Heights, or Mrs. Dennis Marcuso, 3553 Academy, Dearborn.

## YW Plans Dinner Tuesday

The annual smorgasbord of the Oakland Branch YWCA, a Torch Agency, will be Tuesday, Oct. 26. International foods will be featured at two sittings, 5:30 and 6:45 p.m., in the YW, 839 S. Crooks, Clawson.

"International Strings" is the theme for the entertainment throughout the evening. Entertainers include Laura Okuniewski, a harpist, and Val Jaskiewicz, a violinist, from the Kimball High Baroque String Group. Strolling Strings, Joseph Mary and Dennis Kasperzinski, will provide music during the dinner hour. Mrs. Gloria Jenkins will have a display of strings from around the world.

The event is sponsored by the Branch World Fellowship Committee, and proceeds from the program help the branch achieve its annual world-fellowship goal of \$1,200.

The YWCA is active in 81 countries around the world and is attempting to meet the needs of those less fortunate.

## League Sale

The Women's International League for Peace and Freedom will hold a rummage sale Saturday, Oct. 23, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the Universalist-Unitarian Church of Farmington, 25301 Halstead.



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## Theater Party Set By AAUW

The Plymouth branch of the American Association of University Women will present an encore to last year's highly successful "Punch 'n Play"—an evening of cocktails and live theatre—on Sunday, Nov. 7.

Local AAUW members will open their homes to serve champagne punch and hors d'oeuvres from 5:30 to 7 p.m., and the evening will continue with a 7:30 p.m. curtain at the Farmington Players' barn, located at 12 Mile and Farmington Roads in Farmington.

The play to be presented is "See How They Run," a fast-paced and witty English comedy. Reservations are being accepted now through Monday, November 1, by Mrs. Phillip Settles, 254 Blunk, Plymouth.

Tickets are \$3.50 per person and checks should be made payable to AAUW, Plymouth Branch. All reservations will be made on a first-come basis and persons wishing to attend the same punch party and be seated together at the theater are advised to send their orders in together.

The Plymouth group will be joined at the theater by members of the Farmington AAUW branch. The sister chapters have jointly purchased all 170 seats in the Players' Barn for this Sunday evening performance. Theater reservations in the Farmington area are being accepted by Mrs. David Wiens, 32330 Farmersville, Farmington.

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