

Browsing Through Farmington Hills

MRS. DAVID KRINGS GR. 4-9644

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Walde and daughter, Mrs. Power, returned from a vacation in the Smokies.

The sympathy of Farmington Hills residents, is extended to the William Doyle family of Powers Road, on the bereavement of their month-old baby, Rita.

The first meeting of Den 6, Pack 110, of the Cub Scouts was held at the home of Mrs. Edward Wheeler, Mrs. Den Mother, Bruce Johnson, was elected den chief, by members Danny Wheeler, Michael Blouin, Michael Gregory, Terry Burke, Robert and Jim Conner. The boys made and painted plaques inscribed with the Cub Scout promise.

The first fall meeting of the St. Gerard Circle of Our Lady of Sorrows Altar Society was held at the home of Mrs. Edward Wheeler.

Urges Cultivating Individual Child Differences

Individual differences in children should be cultivated — not ignored or tolerated, according to Willard C. Olson, dean of The University of Michigan School of Education.

Dean Olson, a recognized authority on growth and maturity of children, calls teachers, principals, superintendents and school board members "environmental engineers" who should "cultivate" the best possible social surroundings to encourage maximum growth and maturity for all children.

"Tracing the increasing spread of a child's ability beginning at age six, he says research has shown six-year-old children will range in reading age from six years to nine years. Nine-year-olds will range in reading age from about seven years to 16 years; while 12-year-olds vary in reading age from seven years to over 18 years.

"These variations among children in the world over are equally prevalent regardless of the method of teaching employed. Literally, the more you teach children the more unlike they become," says the dean.

He urges teachers to establish a classroom environment which will bring higher achievement through enjoyment and interest. "The teacher must supply a wide variety of materials on many levels of difficulty. Children will select books and other classroom equipment on the level of their maturity, given a choice. The wise teacher capitalizes on this natural selection and challenges each child to accomplish his best work on his own level."

In addition to providing the best classroom situation for learning the three R's, Dean Olson emphasizes, the teacher must plan for social growth of her students. "In a classroom filled with 30 children there are 435 possible 'contacts' between the children during the day. This requires adequate space in the classroom and on the playground."

Dean Olson praises the growing philosophy, now gaining widespread acceptance, that higher education is no longer reserved for the privileged few.

"All have a right to an education and many children who begin showing signs of ability in the first grade eventually make brilliant records in college. We are now entering an era where education is an investment in our joint future, not an expense to be borne," he concludes.

Urge Mulching Lawns in Fall

As the lawn growing and mowing season nears an end, the task of preparing the grass for its winter hibernation is being stressed by lawn care experts.

Mulching and fertilizing in the fall will tide the grass through the winter and prevent the nutrients that are necessary to start it on its spring growth, they point out.

An important reason for mulching is the moisture retention that the mulch provides. Fall droughts could damage a lawn without its owner being aware of it since most people expect the grass to turn brown in the fall.

If the grass leaves its color because of a lack of moisture, there might be trouble ahead. The sod should be moist when the freeze comes and a leaf which is an exception to the rule, that the moisture is there through the first snowfall.

A fine layer of pulverized leaves at the base of the grass plants will help to moderate the effects of changing temperatures during the winter. The alternating freezes and thaws that mark early fall and late spring will tend to keep the grass from becoming dormant and maintain a near even temperature.

In many instances the finely ground leaves actually provide nutrients which the grass can utilize during the next growing season.

Building Products Exhibit Center To Open Oct. 26

The Midwest's first permanent exhibit center for home building products will open to the public on October 26 in Birmingham, Michigan. The building will put together a variety of material for residential and commercial construction on your "round display, officials said.

The 12,500 square foot center has been named Showcase, Inc., by its owners.

The building is located between Woodward (US 10) and Hunter Blvd., south of Maple Road (18 Mile Road) in downtown Birmingham.

Showcase, Inc., has exhibit space for more than 300 displays, all on one floor, all under one roof. Its function is not a selling one, but one of bringing manufacturers' products to the home buying public.

No salesmen will pitch from the displays. The management of Showcase will provide a permanent staff of salesmen for the convenience of visitors, and these personnel will act as walking information centers on the products being exhibited.

There will be no "hard selling" charge to the public, and the building is expected to attract a large number of visitors who are planning to buy or build houses, who are contemplating home improvements.

Showcase is also designed to facilitate the work of architects, builders and contractors. They may take their clients there in a single, one-floor center, complete with private conference rooms, show them materials they plan to install in all proposed construction.

Showcase offers every convenience for visitors. A thoroughly modern in its appointments, it features a play area for small children, music played softly over a public address system, private conference rooms for architect and building groups, a building products library service and ample parking facilities immediately adjacent.

The exhibit center will be open daily, weekdays, its hours are from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Saturdays from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and Sundays from 2:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Wood Ducks Still Illegal Targets

Michigan duck hunters are reminded to make sure their target isn't a wood duck when the waterfowl season opens on October 1. State regulations again this year prohibit the taking of wood ducks.

Hunters in Michigan may see large numbers of "wood ducks" on opening day, but the population of the species has decreased sharply in recent years in the Mississippi flyway, the migratory area which includes Michigan and 13 other midwestern and southern states.

In northern states of the flyway, it is estimated that wood duck populations have dwindled to about 20 percent of the number present 10 years ago. Several northern states have banned wood duck hunting this year in hopes of rebuilding the population.

The wood duck is a medium-sized duck with a long tail, making the proportion ahead and behind the main body appear equal. The bird's wings are white, contrasting its neck in flight as though looking over every detail of the landscape below. Other recognizable characteristics are the bird's white underparts and its distinctive, high-pitched "weep-weep" call, unlike the quack of most ducks.

In flight the wood duck moves with a rapid, choppy manner — similar to the flight of a pigeon.

In And Around Springland

MRS. RALPH EVERT GR. 4-8231

Mr. and Mrs. E. Dobbins of Ridgeway Drive announce the arrival of their first great grand daughter, Tamara Ann, born September 26, 1957, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Bowditch of Hudson Michigan. Mrs. Bowditch is the former Lennie Dobbins.

Mrs. Harold Baucher of Springland Drive, in the company of Mrs. Irvin Holmes of Redford, is spending a few days at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Bowditch. The plan is to visit all points of interest while there.

On Saturday afternoon, Suzanne Evans, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Evans of Ridgeway Drive, celebrated her fifth birthday by having 12 friends in for a party.

State Taking On Fall Coloring

Michigan's autumn color spectacular has begun.

According to reports received by the Michigan Tourist Council, the fall foliage is at its peak in the Upper Peninsula last weekend and within the next week the entire state will be splashed in crimson and gold on a background of spruce green.

Given good weather, the tourist chief says, Michigan can expect some 2 1/2 million tourists during the autumn season. Most of these and more vacationers are taking their annual holiday during the crisp, cool days of autumn.

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Launs In 'Sandy' Soil Require Special Care

Person with sandy soil can have as good a lawn as anyone else if he takes the proper steps to overcome the difficulties, says Professor Harold O. Whittemore, chairman of the Department of Landscape Architecture at The University of Michigan.

Says Professor Whittemore, "Sandy soil is overly loose, too well drained, and leached of soil nutrients. It is also deficient in water holding capacity. It is lacking, too, in vegetable mulching (water retaining) food supply for beneficial bacteria," says Professor Whittemore.

One of the other hand during long dry spells sandy soil will remain cool and slightly moist a few inches below the surface due to water movement upward, the professor says. "During drought, for lawns, however, something must be added to keep the moisture around the grass roots."

"Use decayed tree leaves, or compost, corn cobs, chopped straw, coarse sphagnum moss, grass clippings, and straw manure," he says. "Tough pasture and buried upside down at a depth of 8 to 10 inches is a very good way to retain moisture and fertility, but rather expensive in the long run."

"The vegetable compost materials must be used liberally till the soil is spongy and moisture retaining. Commercial fertilizer will be of no added long enough to feed the grass instead of being immediately leached away. Do not use for composting either sawdust or black swamp muck or powdered horn in sand."

According to Professor Whittemore, "The best seed mixture to use in sandy soil is 50 per cent Red Top and 50 per cent Kentucky Bluegrass. Sow at the rate of four bushels or 80 pounds to the acre, or 1/5 pound to each 100 square feet. Commercial fertilizer should be applied liberally and watered in here more sparingly but often, say one pound per 100 square feet every two months from March to November. Water once every two days, till the lawn is established; then once a week."

"A well prepared sandy lawn with good drainage is a good opportunity to grow Creeping Bentgrass, which must have immediate drainage after summer rains to prevent brown spots. A short clipped velvet lawn of Creeping Bent is the ultimate of attainment in lawn making. This is made not by seeding but by setting out pieces of especially grown sod."

"Troublesome perennial weeds like dandelions and clover should be sprayed very carefully with several applications of 2,4-D, or variations of this, and killed. Then seed the lawn with a mixture of ammonium sulphate. This will leave enough of a residue of sulphuric acid to kill off the weeds in a year or two earlier if the weeds grasses live."

"A light application of fertilizer every two months will create a vigorous lawn. But do not wash it all away with too much watering," the University professor warns.

Authorities List Driving Don'ts

There is no society for the prevention of cruelty to automobiles, but kind treatment of your car can certainly help to save your life.

Leading National Insurance company says that while today's cars are rugged enough not to be damaged by minor accidents, it is to keep them in safe operation condition. In other words, mechanical faults often develop as a result of bad driving habits and lack of sensible care.

The company lists the following bad operating practices which motorists should avoid:

1. Short, grinding stops — braking too suddenly and too hard.
2. Kicking starts — too fast acceleration from a standstill.
3. Using the brake instead of the motor for slowing or braking on long hills.
4. Habitual driving at speeds faster than necessary.
5. Riding the brake, particularly on never "shiftless" cars.
6. Kicking the clutch on manual shift cars.
7. Cornering to fast — slamming into a curve without braking or braking suddenly and too late.
8. Spinning the wheels when traction is poor.
9. Hurried, thoughtless parking — scraping fenders and rims against curbing.
10. Irregular checking of oil, water, battery and tires.
11. Failure to respect the rights of other drivers. Such disregard can lead to body repairs — not your own.

For the past thirty years Mr. Wagers has been actively engaged in the public practice of Christian Science. Prior to that he was in the lumber business in Wisconsin. He became an authorized teacher of Christian Science in 1940 and a member of The Christian Science Board of Lectureship in 1946.

Other Planets Have "Fall-Out"

The Earth is not the only planet to feel the effect of "fall-out" says Dean B. McLaughlin, professor of astronomy at The University of Michigan.

"Extensive dark gray areas, and some of the canals on Mars, may be the result of extensive ash-falls to leeward of volcanoes that erupted in the past," he said.

"The amount of ash required to make these features in no greater than that produced in a full-scale eruption of Vesuvius, provided the winds distribute it far enough," states the University astronomer.

Several decades ago, when our knowledge of physical conditions on Mars was very meager, a small but noisy minority of astronomers interpreted the narrow stripes to be artificial canals designed to carry water from the melting polar caps to irrigate the Martian tropics, explains Professor McLaughlin.

"Mars was pictured as a drying planet whose inhabitants were having a hard struggle to conserve their scanty moisture. Hence, the canals, which, in fact, had been constructed," he says.

"Apparently the wish to discover beings like ourselves on other planets is stronger than regard for fact," he adds.

Beavers, Squirrels Help Preserve Soil, Meadows

Beavers and squirrels are Michigan's original conservationists, says William H. Burt, chairman of the Department of Zoology at The University of Michigan.

"Small mammals undoubtedly have a profound effect on soils and vegetation," says the professor. "Burrowing animals are nature's tillers of the soil. They continually bring subsoil to the surface, open subterranean passages through which air and water can penetrate, and fertilize the soil with accumulations of vegetation."

According to Professor Burt, these animals also are nature's planters. "It has been said that were there no squirrels there would be no hickory trees. This probably is an overstatement, but certainly they would be fewer nut trees, if the great army of squirrels was not forever planting the nuts," he says.

And you can thank the beaver for his role as soil conservationist. "By damming the streams and impounding the water he kept the water table high and made possible the accumulation of debris and silt behind his dams. Over a period of years meadows were formed there, had it not been for the beaver, there would have been a continuous forest to the stream's edge. These open meadows are feeding grounds for deer and elk," he points out.

"Mice and shrews, in their small way, help maintain the forests by consuming large quantities of injurious insects. By keeping the forest floor worked into a soft muck, these little mammals help check the harmful erosion effects of the runoff of water."

Mrs. Frank Kidd of Schroeder Road, near Hamlin to St. Joseph Hospital in Pontiac. Although Mrs. Kidd could not attend, Mr. Kidd along with their five children went to a 50th anniversary celebration for Mrs. Kidd's grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Edwin Galt at Union Lake.

Planning North Plaza Yule Fair

Plans are in full swing at North Congregational Church this fall in anticipation of its annual Yule Fair. This year's event will be held at the Church, Northwestern Highway and Lahser, on Saturday, December 7. Co-chairmen are Mrs. John S. Ellis and Mrs. Charles Cox.

Appropriately titled "North Plaza Yule Fair," this year's exhibition will center around the Christmas season with hundreds of large and small gifts to attract the visitor's eye to be displayed.

A luncheon and dinner will be served under the direction of Mrs. Edward T. Ives and Mrs. Carl B. Stringer, respectively.

Publicity Chairman, Mrs. Albert G. Bolino and Mrs. Ernest J. Gross, Jr., will keep everyone informed as the plans progress and are carried out.

"Girls, don't worry if your husband flirts. My dog chases cars, but if he caught one, he wouldn't know what to do with it."

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NOVI NEWS

By Mrs. GEORGE S. WATERS Phone 180-1111

Mr. and Mrs. William Hanson, Sr., accompanied her brother and wife from Novi, Mich., and sister from Detroit to Breckenridge last week to see a brother who is seriously ill.

The Carl Evans entertained her mother from Royal Oak and a niece from Alpena on Sunday.

A group of 20 relatives and friends gathered at Saratoga Farms last Wednesday evening to treat the R. E. Wards to a surprise dinner at a going away party. The Wards had thought that they would only be going to the George Waites to have dinner with them.

The Wards will be moving to Florida November 1.

An address, in mourning for her third husband, insisted on black olives in her martini.

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