

Avondale students aid former teacher

By ALICE COLLINS

Albert Leo has lots of time to think. When you can't get out of bed or even sit up, time drags by. But it helps to have happy thoughts and Leo has plenty of them.

Leo, who has been paralyzed from the waist down since 1961, is temporarily confined to his home at 28213 Fairfax in Southfield recovering from a serious infection.

His happy thoughts are for his students at Avondale High School who just presented him with an electric

wheel chair to replace the manually operated one he has been using.

"I want people to know how wonderful and loving these kids are. You see so much bad publicity about the small percentage of students who cause all the trouble. Somebody's got to stick up for the good ones," he said.

LEO SAID the gift came as a "complete surprise to me."

"A couple of my students brought it over the other day. They were afraid to come in, afraid maybe I'd be mad at such an expensive gift."

Along with the new chair came a letter.

"A committee was formed a few months ago...to unite the school on a project for a special goal. This wheelchair was our goal. We hope you can put it to good use and our love comes with it."

Leo has been on medical leave from his social studies teaching job for five weeks and his goal is "to go back to work in the fall."

IN NOVEMBER 1961 Leo was work-

ing as a banking collector when an irate woman shot him, causing the spinal injury that changed his life.

With a bachelor's degree in philosophy he had been working as a collector and new business solicitor in banking for about 10 years. When he found he was facing the future with paralysis, he decided to go back to school and prepare for teaching. He is currently nearing completion of work on a master's degree in history from the University of Michigan.

Leo says his students keep him young. He has nothing but praise for them and says he has "never had a discipline problem."

He is not married and has been living in Southfield for 15 years and teaching at Avondale High School for eight and one-half years.

A GROUP of students representing school government got together and decided to do something for Leo, according to Charles Parrott, a fellow teacher and student representative advisor, who supervised the project.

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What's happening at Our Place!

SOUTHFIELD - Looking for something to do this summer?

A group of Southfield teens have organized series of concerts for the upcoming Friday nights.

The concerts will be held at Our Place, the teen room downstairs at Parks the Southfield Park and Recreation Building, 2000 Evergreen Road. Admission is \$1 for residents and \$1.50 for nonresidents.

Evergreen slates fair

BIRMINGHAM - Evergreen Extravaganza, the first school fair to be held at Evergreen Elementary School is scheduled from 4 - 8 p.m. Tuesday, June 4, at the school, Evergreen and Thirteen Mile roads.

The event is being sponsored by the Evergreen Parent Teacher League with Fran Goldman and Judy Pendrak as co-chairmen.

In addition to the traditional fair events, which include a cake walk, fun house, game booths, balloons and refreshments, an art fair will be featured.

Every student at Evergreen will have at least one piece of art on exhibit, chosen from the art work done all year under the supervision of Gail Prylon, Evergreen art teacher.

In addition, all parents and children from the school will be able to donate arts and crafts for sale at the fair.

4 grants awarded

Four students from Southfield have been awarded Eastern Michigan University Honors Scholarships for the 1974-75 academic year.

They include: Lesley Goldstein, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ronald Goldstein, 16041 Harten Circle; Jamie Lachowski, son of Mr. and Mrs. Edward Lachowski, 29140 Candlewood; Sherree Pye, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Milton A. Pye, 17391 Westland; and Barbara Schmidt, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Adolph H. Schmidt, 20720 Secluded Lane.

On the Saturdays following the concert, Our Place will be open as a free Drop In center for anyone who wishes to come.

The schedule for June is as follows:

- June 7, Destiny, a band.
- June 8, Drop In.
- June 14, The Files, a band.
- June 15, Drop In.
- June 21, Freedom, a band.
- June 22, Drop In.
- June 28, Haystack Fire, a band.
- June 29, Drop In.

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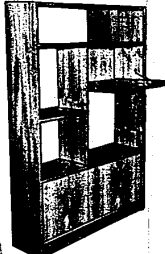
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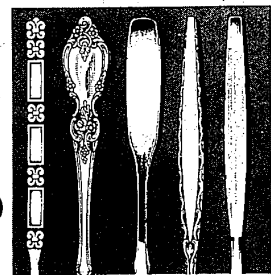
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