

Potpourri

by JULIE CANDLER
Special Writer



We hear via a reliable source about the likeable Bertold (Tex) Schiwetz, who has settled down for some serious sculpting amid the artistry and creativity of Florence, Italy.

Our reliable source is Svea Kline, Birmingham sculptor and ceramist, who had lunch with Schiwetz recently when she was in Italy.

The bachelor sculptor is hard at work and "very happy there," says Svea. She reports that he has an elegant studio overlooking the Arno River.

ALL THIS NEWS about the artistic life in gay, romantic, Italy came as your Potpourri editor and Svea Kline bumped carts in that butter-and-eggs citadel of modern realism, the supermarket.

Tex Schiwetz was head of the sculpture department at Cranbrook Academy of Art when he up and resigned last summer to make his inter-continental move.

He was assistant to Carl Milles for 16 years at Cranbrook.

Upon Schiwetz, it's said, fell the task of draping the Milles canoe-bearing Indian sculpture outside Cobo Hall. Schiwetz was ordered to perform the undercover task by the very proper Detroit City Council.

DON'T BE ALARMED when you hear that seven Birmingham area teachers are working in or on "Once Upon a Mattress." It's an innocent plot about a stack of mattresses.

The musical comedy is scheduled to open Friday, Nov. 16, at the Chestnut St. playhouse of Birmingham Village Players. Other show dates are Saturday, Nov. 17, and Friday and Saturday, Nov. 23 and 24.

HEADING OF the pedagogical potpourri involved in this production is Dick Bagz, the director. Dick is a drama teacher at Seaholm's High School and heads up production of Seaholm's big variety show and the All School play.

Assistant director of "Mattress" is Sherry Bigelow, teacher of radio speech and senior English at Seaholm. Another Seaholm representative is Bill Seback, who teaches vocal music there and will play the role of Prince Dauntless in the musical.

Jim Halteman is working on set design and has a role in the show. He teaches in the South Redford School District. From Franklin School comes teacher Joe Sparling, who's going to be Sir Luce. Pierce School teacher Barbara Hitt is Princess No. 12.

Elizabeth Boyne, who is one of the dreamiest dancers your Potpourri writer knows of, is choreographer for "Mattress." She teaches at the Lois Middlelitch Nursery School.

ANY BLOOMFIELD Art Association member who misses the program at 8:30 p.m. tomorrow will be sorry. I predict. It's a talk on "The Critics' Role in Art" by Morley Driver, art critic of the Detroit Free Press. "Verbal and literate," the BAA literature calls her. To which we agree. If space allowed, we could add complimentary adjectives like "fascinating and delightful."

Another Free Press writer will be in Franklin Tuesday, Nov. 18. Thought-provoking columnist Judd Arnett leads off the Friends of the Franklin Library series at 1:30 p.m. at Franklin Community Church.

Future Teachers Meet at U of D

The fourth annual Future Teachers Workshop at the University of Detroit Saturday will entail the work of several local residents to insure its success.

Clyde Craine, 952 Brookwood, Birmingham, and William P. Godfrey, 18179 Cornell, Southfield, professors of English at the U. of D., will serve as resource persons for group discussions during the workshop.

U. OF D. education students Max Hunter, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Russell W. Hunter of 1335 Forest Lane, Birmingham, and Jo Anne Mysza, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Mysza of 19151 Coral Gable, Southfield, are members of the packets committee, and Carolyn Bryant, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. A. James Bryant of 250 N. Cranbrook, Birmingham, is on the registration committee.

Approximately 1,000 high school students are expected to attend the workshop. They are members of the Future Teachers Clubs in the Metropolitan Detroit High Schools.

Theme for this year's event is "Invitation to Teaching."

Area Teachers Attend Workshop on the Blind

Oakland County teachers of the blind studied a new science this week—peripatolgy.

Peripatolgy is the name given to a recently developed systematic method for teaching blind persons mobility.

William Goodman, mobility instructor of the Metropolitan Society for the Blind, conducted a three-day course Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday at the Oakland County Board of Education offices. His students were eleven blind, folded teachers from the Oakland County Board of Education, Pontiac, Royal Oak, Birmingham, Hazel Park and Farmington.

AT FIRST, the teachers were guided through elementary peripatolgy—or what they could expect to teach grade school children. They learned best methods of using hands and arms for maximum protection, how to develop a working knowledge of north, south, east and west and how to locate sounds and vibrations to use as beacons.

Use of a cane is a part of the high school peripatolgy curriculum. Wooden canes were replaced in this course with a dura-aluminum cane from 48 to 60 inches long (Length varies according to the student's height, length of stride and normal walking speed.) Equipped with the cane, students learned how to travel out of doors. The techniques of using a dura-cane is called the core of mobility training.

The student learns to hold his arm extended in front of the center of the body. With a wrist motion, he swings the tip of the cane so that it touches the ground on either side of a path slightly wider than the student's shoulders. The cane becomes a probe and a pro-

tective device to warn of the existence of curbs, stairs and other changes in ground level.

Dr. Paul Thams, director of special education for the Oakland County Board of Education, said that while canes have been used as a traveling aid by the blind for many years, it was only after World War II that any effort was made to determine the best ways of

using them.

THE NEW CANE and technique for using it was developed at Valley Forge Hospital near Philadelphia, Pa. It was perfected at the Veterans' Administration Hospital, Hines, Ill., where more than 1,000 blinded veterans have received orientation and mobility training. At present, there are two pro-

grams in the United States for training mobility instructors. One at Boston College graduates 16 instructors a year. The second program at Eastern Michigan University in Ypsilanti will graduate its first class of 16 in June.

With so few full-fledged mobility instructors available, Thams said, the fastest way of spreading mobility education is to train teach-

Page 5-D THE B'HAM ECCENTRIC November 8, 1962

ers of blind children in the essentials of peripatolgy.

THIS IS THE first short course in mobility training to be held in Michigan. Courses for teachers of the blind in Detroit and Grand Rapids are scheduled later in the month.

Getting ready to sell your car? Advertise it in the Classified Ads.

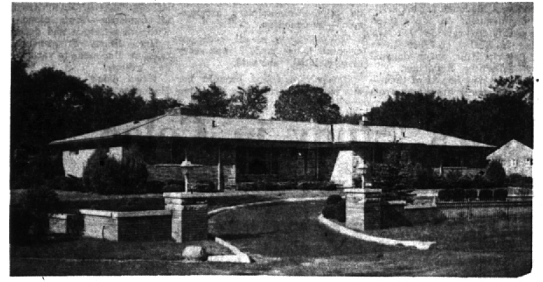
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