

Potpourri

By JULIE CANDLER

To make a visiting V.I.P. feel important, to rouse community spirit or to make an every-day event into something special, just call out a band.

One reason why Franklin is such a nice village, I am certain, is because it has a boom-booming, comping, band to call out.

This 27-man-five-woman group of musicians can add colorful note to any community event by blasting forth rainbows of musical excitement all over the village.

The sounds make many a Franklin resident's step a little sprightlier, many a pulsebeat a little speedier, and many an event a lot more successful by its audio-musical presence.

LAST SPRING, for instance, the Committee for the New Constitution asked the Franklin Band to join in a 100-car Saturday motorcade to plug for "YES" votes. The motorcaders started from Franklin that cool March morning. As they gathered to line up their antique cars, they were stirred by the heartwarming roar of the Franklin Band, already cranked up and blaring their cheerful sounds at several dozen rpm's.

Not only were they making mighty music. They even looked the part. The antique car parade was to dramatize the 1908 vintage of Michigan's old constitution, so the Franklin Band members wore sensationally dramatic examples.

MRS. JOHN (Mary Jo) Bickhart of Cromwell Road wore floor-length black of early 20th century obsolescence. She had topped the outfit with a wide-brimmed hat loaded with ostrich plumes, which almost drooped over the saxophone she was tooting.

Some of the men wore derby hats, plaid jackets and other examples of what went out of style 50 years ago. Jack Skeels' spirit of cooperation that day went so far as to permit yer ole Pippin to plaster a "New-Cor" bumper sticker across the shining top of his Sousaphone.

All the members of the happy band of volunteers enjoy their music-making. They even like going to rehearsals every Monday night in the basement of the Franklin Community Church.

BEFORE SHE moved to Franklin, she hadn't touched her saxophone for 16 years, admits Mary Jo Bickhart.

Then one day she went to the annual Franklin Round-up where, as always, the village band was livening things up. Mrs. B. saw and heard and said, "That's for me."

That's the secret of the Franklin Band's success. That's for each and every one of the instrumentalists who's joining in for the sheer joy of it, glad to find a sympatico group with whom he can play.

That includes Dr. Conrad R. Lam, who directs the band, and his attractive wife, who has a capable way with a big bass drum.

THE BAND recently went formal and elected its first set of officers. For president, they have Jack Skeels on the bass Sousaphone. Vice president is Ron Nightingale on the solo cornet. Richard Bob Smith on the baritone



A Puppeteer Pops Up

A SEARCH FOR new entertainment for the Northville State Hospital Patients Fair led Miss Rose Fine (right) of Detroit, a member of the entertainment committee, to Mrs. Walter Ruessmann of 114 W. Hickory Grove, Bloomfield Hills. Observed Mrs. Ruessmann, who also gets her family into the act, "For many audiences before which we

perform, the aim, of course, is good, light entertainment—often after a banquet or a day of thoughtful meetings. But increasingly we have requests for our puppets—and accompanying dialogues—for purposeful instruction; the puppets so readily attract the attention of children."

horns doubles in brass as treasurer, and Bill Ellison makes happy notes as secretary and on his clarinet.

Occasionally, the band goes to a high school to play. Music teachers like to have their students see how much they can enjoy playing, even after school days, if they study a band instrument.

If you don't play a musical instrument and you don't live in Franklin, you're missing out on a lot of fun.

The average resident of Argentina more than eats his weight in beef every year. Easing leading the world in beef consumption, Argentines feast upon such treats as steak at an annual rate of 178 pounds per person.

Karl Emmanuel, Jr., also noted that there will be two additional courses beginning this month. These are Decoupage, with Mrs. Marie Mitchell instructing, and Beginning Bridge, taught by Mrs. Kay Clinton.

Simply spin your dial to Midwest 4-1100 and a professionally-trained advisor will help you prepare your message.

Community House Classes Record Top Enrollment

Fall classes at The Community House have again broken all enrollment records, according to Karl Emmanuel, Jr., director of educational activities.

As of Sept. 23, 894 students had enrolled in the fall series of hobby, crafts and cultural classes. This is a 77 student increase over last fall's enrollment.

One hundred and twenty children are enrolled in the youth classes, taking lessons in ballet, painting, drawing and modern jazz.

AT LEAST 77 adults are enrolled in courses that range from languages to silver-smithing.

All in all, there are 22 instructors conducting 119 hours of classes per week at The Community House.

Several different sections were added due to the large enrollment. Crew embroidery, a new course this year, and ballet required two additional sections each. On the other hand, there are still openings in art appreciation, rapid reading and some French classes.

Local Best Sellers

Fiction
THE GROUP—Mary McCarthy
THE LIVING REED—Pearl Buck
THE COLLECTOR—John Fowles
THE VENETIAN AFFAIR—Helen Melton
Nonfiction
FORD: DECLINE AND REBIRTH—Alan Nevins and Frank Ernest Hill
THE AMERICAN WAY OF DEATH—Jessica Mitford
THE WINE IS BITTER—Milton Eisenhower

Counselor Attends College Conference
Donald Laatsch, counselor at Seaholm High School, is attending a conference for guidance counselors at the College Center of the Finger Lakes, Corning, N.Y. During the three-day visit, Laatsch will tour six of the seven colleges and university which comprise the center.

Answer To Puzzle No. 768

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Creative Activities Classes for Kids To Begin Saturday

Saturday morning "Creative Activities" classes for children in art, drama, dance, needlecraft and French, sponsored by the Bloomfield Hills Board of Education, will begin Oct. 5.

Most of the classes will be held at Bloomfield Hills Junior High School; some will be held in East Hills Junior High School. Enrollment is limited to 15 per class. Registration should be made at the Recreation Office in Bloomfield Hills High School by Oct. 11.

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Moon Fantasy To Be Given For Children

"Let's Go to the Moon," a fantasy for children, will be presented by members of the Children's Theater group of AAUW at 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. Oct. 18 at the Birmingham Theater.

This is the first of a triad of plays sponsored by Children's Theater during the school year. Other plays in the series are "King of the Golden River," presented by the Will-O-Way Amateur Theater Dec. 30, and "Hansel and Gretel," Wayne State University Theater March 30, 1964.

MEMBERS of AAUW appearing in the cast of "Let's Go to the Moon" are Mrs. George Bliss, Mrs. Richard Cloonen, Mrs. Robert Cousineau, Mrs. Peyton Cramer, Mrs. Ralph Fox, Mrs. Robert Henry, Mrs. Mort Neff, Mrs. Edwin Pipp.

Mrs. Michael Remondino, Mrs. James Slayden, Mrs. Howard Thomson and Mrs. Robert Tucker. Mrs. Frank Mosher is the director, and Mrs. Michael Remondino is producer.

Ticket sales for the series will be held in the public schools Friday. Tickets may also be purchased at Grinnell's.

In addition to plays for the children of Birmingham, the theater group is actively engaged in working with emotionally disturbed children at Pontiac State Hospital.

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