

CLOSEUP

She has penchant for dolls

Bernadine "Birdie" Sheahan prefers old-fashioned dolls over newfangled ones like Cabbage Patch Kids.

A 30-year Lisle resident, Sheahan started her hobby of making dolls only about a year ago — and she's not fond of the plastic, battery-driven mini-humans that walk and talk on television during the gift-giving season. Instead, she likes dolls of value — historical value.

Sheahan makes her brood from strips of muslin, a sturdy, plain-weave cotton fabric reminiscent of days past when women tended to make their children's playthings out of what was handy. Similar dolls were referred to as Depression dolls during the 1930s when "there was no money for gifts," Sheahan explained.

Describing how she "learned by accident," Sheahan said her penchant for dolls began when her daughter-in-law invited her to a class.

"I hadn't done crafts in years until last year," Sheahan said. "I just enjoy making them and seeing how nice they look when I get



Bernadine Sheahan

finished."

The process isn't necessarily a simple one.

Sheahan cuts the muslin into 1-inch strips — about 30 in all — that she winds around a plastic-foam ball and fashions into arms. She wraps them with a ribbon for decoration, and they're ready to go.

Sheahan, referred to as the "crafty lady" by some, has made about 60 dolls. Most of them have been given as gifts or sold, including those she made for the Lisle Heritage Society's Depot Days in September. There she demonstrated her craft.

Sheahan has been a society member for at least 12 years.

— Deedra Lawhead

CANDIDATES: Family leave issue debated

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would see even more of our businesses leaving Illinois."

40th House District

Marylou Crane: "Family leave legislation for up to eight weeks, for crisis illness of immediate family members or for the birth or adoption of a child, should be available on a biannual basis to full-time workers of companies with over 50 full-time employees. This legislation would be helpful in lowering the health care cost to families and, with the addition of a new family member, provide premium bonding time between parent and child, which is so important in today's world. In addition, it allows employers to increase the benefit package to employees without creating an immediate out-of-pocket expense to the company."

Grant Eckhoff: "We all have concerns about taking care of ailing parents or children. All of us will be faced with such a situation someday. However, to mandate such family leave on a state level will increase the costs of business locally and drive companies and jobs out of the state. I would strongly consider endorsing such a bill on the national level and would work to implement such legislation in Illinois if it were passed nationally. However, to saddle only Illinois businesses with such a cost during these economic times would only serve to injure the state's economy."

Peter Roskam: "To attract jobs to Illinois we must create a more positive business environment. This leg-

islation, while intended to help families, actually increases the cost of doing business, jeopardizes the creation of new jobs and is not the direction we should be moving in a recession. Some claim that the leave is 'unpaid' and does not cost businesses. An employee may leave on any part-time leave schedule they choose within one year. The hidden cost is training new employees and losing productivity for those temporary employees learning the job. This bill puts us at competitive disadvantage in the marketplace."

William Bunge: "I would approve the concept of release time for employees to deal with child birth or extended family illness without pay. This is an idea borne by the worth of a loyal, well-trained employee. Such an employee is a valuable asset. Their worth to the company has intrinsic value. Thus preserving trained employees makes good dollar sense."

50th House District

William Fawell: "I oppose government-mandated anything at this point in our current economic condition. It's the wrong attitude and direction in government today. Government mandates cost money, whether it's in regard to schools, the workplace, the home etc. It is a form of latent taxation. We simply can not afford 'mandates' at this time."

Tom Johnson: "The family is society's most time-honored institution — yet we see it disintegrating before our eyes. I believe the bonds of family can be strengthened by the passage of a family leave policy. However, I also understand the financial

burden such a policy would have on certain businesses, particularly small businesses. Therefore, I favor family leave legislation for businesses with more than 50 employees. These businesses should receive a tax credit to offset any financial burden that may result from such legislation. Small businesses, those with 50 employees or less, should receive a tax credit for their voluntary participation in a family leave program."

Fred Norris: "I believe family leave is a worthwhile benefit, but I couldn't at this time favor an across-the-board mandate as has been proposed in recent bills. The true cost to business, and ultimately the consumer, must be considered. The legislation I've seen introduced requires a substantial sum in unemployment compensation costs which some businesses can accommodate, while others might be forced to relocate to nearby states that do not have this mandate. Presently, I want to stem the loss of jobs in Illinois, and we must be sensitive to what mandates such as this have done to our supporting economic base."

20th Senate District

Peggy Connolly: "Government's role, through elected representatives, is to define responsibilities and rights. Everyone has the responsibility and the right to care for family members in times of particular need. There is nobody else. Elected representatives have failed to ensure this right. Consequently, business has defined public policy: policy that says, 'Choose! Your family or your livelihood.' The federal gov-

ernment estimates the cost of unpaid family medical leave to be about \$5 annually per employee: a minimal amount for each employee to bear to strengthen families. Strong families make strong societies. Public policy should encourage, not deny, the family's right to be responsible for itself."

Beverly Fawell: "I am against the family leave bill because it doesn't work. Sponsors of this bill which passed in Oregon told me that in the real world women whom this bill was supposed to help were hurt by it. Single women with children, women with aging parents and women who are of child-bearing age suddenly found it impossible to get jobs. Companies who were anywhere near 50 employees were laying off workers and hiring Kelly girls to fill in. These temporary workers don't get any benefits at all since they are contract workers. Family leave should be a negotiated benefit between employees and the company, not mandated by the state."

Betty Lewis: "Solid families are society's strongest foundation. To enjoy the privilege of 'family' to the fullest, breadwinners need financial stability. How does the Family Leave Act affect the financial stability of families? It can bankrupt employers and cause job loss. The benefit is leisure time to care for ailing family members and children. Great! But without pay? Few families can afford that. Take note that many large corporations and some entrepreneurs already provide employees with leave of absence for family problems. Firms can negotiate family leave arrangements with employees. Too much government regulation harms the economy and the family."

MEETINGS

Schedule of area meetings

Today

Carol Stream

■ The Carol Stream village board will meet at 8 p.m. at village hall, 500 N. Gary Ave.

Glen Ellyn

■ The Glen Ellyn Park District's pool committee will hold a public meeting at 7 p.m. at Park View Elementary School, 250 S. Park Blvd., to consider building a new pool.

■ The Glen Ellyn Zoning Board of Appeals will meet at 7:30 p.m. in the civic center, 535 Duane St.

■ The Glen Ellyn Environmental Protection Commission will meet at 7:30 p.m. in the civic center, 535 Duane St.

Glendale Heights

■ The Glendale Heights Plan Commission will meet at 7:30 p.m. in the civic center, 300 E. Fullerton Ave.

■ The Marquardt Elementary District 15 school board will meet at 7:30 p.m. at the district offices, 1890 Glen Ellyn Road, Glendale Heights.

Wheaton

■ The Wheaton Environmental Improvement Commission will meet at 7:30 p.m. at the city hall annex, 214 N. Wheaton Ave., to discuss a proposed model community program.

■ The Wheaton Board of Zoning Appeals will meet at 7:30 p.m. at city hall, 303 W. Wesley St., for public hearings on a Robinwood Court resident's request for permission to complete construction of a tennis court in his front yard and proposed landscaping and tree preservation requirements.

Winfield

■ The Winfield Park District board will meet at 7:30 p.m. at the park district activity center, 0N20 County Farm Road.

DuPage County

■ A public meeting to discuss the March 17 referendum to build a fifth Glenbard High School District 87 will be conducted at 7:30 p.m. today at Stratford Junior High School, 251 Butterfield Road, Bloomingdale. The meeting is sponsored by the PTAs and Parent-Teacher Organizations in Carol Stream Elementary District 93. Slated to speak are District 87 Superintendent Robert C. Stevens and Susan H. Barr, president of the District 87 school board.

■ The communications committee of Lombard Elementary District 44 will meet at 7:30 p.m. at the district office, 150 W. Madison St., Lombard. The group is expected to discuss public relations activities.

Wednesday

Carol Stream

■ The Carol Stream Park District board will hold a special meeting at 7:30 p.m. to discuss its referendum and plans to build a golf course, driving range and park on Lies Road.

Glen Ellyn

■ The Glen Ellyn Architectural Review Commission will meet at 7:30 p.m. in the civic center, 535 Duane St.

■ The Glen Ellyn Elementary District 41 Key Communicators group will hold an annual meeting at 7 p.m. at Hadley Junior High School, 240 Hawthorne Blvd.

Wheaton

■ The Wheaton-Warrenville Unit District 200 school board will meet at 7 p.m. at Hawthorne Elementary School, 334 E. Wakeman Ave., Wheaton.



Fred Barnes

Journalist to speak at Wheaton College

Washington journalist Fred Barnes will speak three times on Wednesday and Thursday at Wheaton College on being "A Christian in Journalism."

As this year's lecturer in the annual Staley Distinguished Speaker Series, Barnes will speak to students twice and to the public at 7 p.m. Wednesday in the Barrows Auditorium of the Billy Graham Center, 500 E. College Ave. The lecture is free.

Barnes is a nationally known political commentator and a regular panelist on The McLaughlin Group. He also is a frequent guest on Nightline, Today, Good Morning America, Meet the Press, Face the Nation and The McNeil-Lehrer Newshour.

A graduate of the University of Virginia, Barnes covered the U.S. Supreme Court and the White House for the Washington Star before joining the Baltimore Sun in 1979. He joined the New Republic in 1985. He has received many honors and awards for his work.

The Staley Distinguished Speaker Series, a project of the Thomas F. Staley Foundation of New York, is promoted by the Wheaton College Chaplain's Office.



Making history

Mayor Gwendolyn S. Henry of Wheaton stands on the porch of the Wheaton History Center, 606 N. Main St., for last weekend's program centering on the discovery of a time capsule under the old police station. City officials have decided to delay opening the capsule until its 50th anniversary in 2009.

Daily Herald Photo/Edward Lee

DUPAGE COLLEGIANS

Kelly Kukovec

Wheaton. Millikin University senior Kelly M. Kukovec of Wheaton recently gave her senior recital in Kaeuper Hall. She sang works by Albinoni, Wolf, Bizet, Debussy and Duke. She was assisted by Bruce Gibbons, adjunct assistant professor of music. She also appeared as a member of the ensemble cast in "Gianni Schicchi," a one-act comic opera by Puccini. A 1987 graduate of Wheaton North High School, she is the daughter of Michael and Penny Kukovec of Wheaton.

Julie Nichols

Wheaton. Julie Marie Nichols of Wheaton was named to the dean's list for the fall semester at University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee. Nichols is studying architecture. The university is a major teaching and research institution with an enrollment of more than 25,000 students.

Vera Allen

Wheaton. A senior at Cornell College, Vera Allen has been elected president of the Black Awareness and Cultural Organization. The organization endeavors to perpetuate an awareness of the problems of the black student on campus, and to initiate projects within the historical, cultural and educational context of the black community. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ronald Allen of Wheaton.

Steve Larman

Wheaton. A junior at DePauw University, Newcastle, Ind., Larman has been involved in the Chaplain's Office programs as student coordinator of the Fountain Square Program in Indianapolis, restoring dilapidated houses. This is part of a larger university community service

program which was recognized by President George Bush as the 592nd Daily Point of Light. Larmon is the son of Pete and Ede Larmon of Wheaton.

Erin Resler

Wheaton. Erin Resler was initiated recently into the Epsilon Beta Chapter of Alpha Phi Sorority at Butler University, Indianapolis, Ind. She is the daughter of Don and Bonnie Resler of Wheaton.

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AGENDAS

District 15

The Marquardt Elementary District 15 school board meets at 7:30 p.m. on the second and fourth Tuesdays of the month at the administration center, 1890 Glen Ellyn Road, Glendale Heights. Public comment is welcome for up to 30 minutes per individual or group near the start of the meeting.

- Superintendent's reports
- Board reports

- Presentation of the 1992 annual financial planning study by Rick Finck, business manager.
- Discussion of 1991 tax extension reduction allocation.
- Discussion of 1992 summer school programs.
- Discussion of 1992 bilingual census.
- Discussion of revision of district policies.
- Discussion of 1992-93 staffing pattern.

TODAY

■ At the February chapter meeting of the Prairie Star Quilters Guild, Moani Hepworth of Orem, Utah, will give a lecture on "The History of the Hawaiian Quilt" at 9:15 at the Roberta Campbell Gallery, 33W848 Cherry Lane, Geneva. Hepworth started working with fabric as a child and attended college on a scholarship for clothing and textiles. Guests may attend for a \$3 fee.

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