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those around them miserable. I still would not hesitate to prescribe it for the right patient.

"Worker's Compensation and liability for injury on the job were in place even in the '40s," Wells said. "After I trained for industrial medicine at Chrysler's Dodge Main, I accepted an assignment to their Plymouth plant. It included overseeing the nearby Lynch Road and the Forge plants."

"Each had a first-aid room, and the Plymouth Plant had, in addition, a small operating room and a large physiotherapy room. Workers badly bruised or having fractures or who needed surgery for cuts, minor amputations or eye injuries came to me. One of the most painstaking procedures was removing 'sparks' from the corner. Also, we chest-X-rayed all new hires," Wells said. "This procedure might find heart irregularities as well as pulmonary problems."

"Auto companies wanted safety above all," Wells said. "Some injuries demanded rushing the worker to a full-facilities hospital, or worse - the morgue. One worker stuck his head into a shaft to see if the elevator was coming. It was. That brought about new safety measures, pronto!"

"In 1943 the Lynch Road Plant was suddenly off limits. New workers came in and gutted the place, put in new showers, hired

new workmen and a new doctor - for the Lynch Road only. They put up a heavy-duty fence. Everything was hush-hush. Some time after the atomic bombs ended the war, we found out that parts for the A-bomb had been made there during that time."

During the war years, the Wells seldom had time for vacations. Milt, Martha's engineer-husband sold precision machine tools to Packard for building the Rolls-Royce engines for the British Royal Air Force. "We needed almost a disaster to get some time together and with our daughter."

In 1945, she jumped at the chance to go into practice with family friend Harold Sawyer, M.D., a noted proctologist with offices in Detroit's prestigious Fisher Building. Upon his death, Wells was offered the prized

office space. "I came to a new awareness of the business side of medicine when one patient told me that most specialists were then charging \$10 for an office call, and I should raise my price, I did."

Aware at age 67 that some of her patients' distress was psychological, Wells started her three-year residency in psychiatry at Northwestern State Hospital. She followed that with two years at Hawthorn Center, their residence for troubled children. Then, in private practice, Wells attended young clients at various residential treatment centers in the Detroit area.

Born in 1905 in Upar County, W. Va. Wells played as hard as she worked. She made time for tennis, track, and basketball - where she played center for her high school and college. Later, she pursued horseback riding,

skiing and sailing. Her classmates from Wayne State University's Medical College remember her shooting craps with them. "I usually lost," Wells laughed.

"In my day, the discovery of insulin turned the medical world upside-down. Before that, patients were dying of diabetes. And who would have dreamed of penicillin, hormone therapy, even treatment 'in utero'."

When asked what brought about the biggest emancipation of women in her lifetime, she surprised the questioner with, "That's easy - the Second World War. When the men were called away, there was no longer any excuse for keeping 'the little woman' at home. She was desperately needed for the war effort. And women proved then they can get the job done - any job."

Telethon airs March 16-17

Due to the tremendous success of last year's telethon, Farmington Public Schools is hosting a second 24-hour live telethon of talent on Friday, March 16, and Saturday, March 17.

The event will kick off at 3 p.m. on March 16 from the TV-10 studio at North Farmington High School and conclude at 3 p.m. on March 17.

Money raised through phone pledges will support the After School Youth Program, a designated fund of the Farmington Hills/Farmington Community Foundation.

For more information about attending or participating in the event, call Sue and Dean Cobb at the TV-10 studio, (248) 489-3539, or Paul Barber, (248) 489-3412.

East students win essay contest

Three students from East Middle School in Farmington Hills, have been named local winners in the 32nd annual America & Me Essay Contest, sponsored by Farm Bureau Insurance.

The three students, who earned the first-, second-, and third-place awards for their school are Stephanie Weesies, first, Candee Childress, second, and Jason McKenzie, third. All three received award certificates for their achievement. As the

school's first-place winner, Stephanie's name will also be engraved on a plaque for permanent display in the school.

Stephanie Weesies' first-place essay now advances to the state level competition, from which the top 10 essays in Michigan will be selected. The top 10 statewide winners, who will be announced in March, will receive plaques, cash and U. S. savings bonds valued from \$500 to \$1,000. In addition, the top 10

essayists will be honored at a banquet in Lansing, meet with Michigan's top governmental leaders and be the featured guests at a Lansing Lugnuts minor league baseball game dedicated in their honor.

A team of finalist judges that includes a top Michigan government official and the sponsoring teachers of last year's top-two statewide winners will determine the ranking of the top 10 statewide winners this year.

SOUTHFIELD CHRISTIAN SCHOOL "Pursuing excellence for the glory of God"

SCS, a National Exemplary, independent, K-12, Christian college-preparatory school will be holding an Open House for parents interested in enrolling their children for the 2001-2002 school year on Tuesday, March 13, 2001 at 7:30 PM.

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Crime from page A1

dropped from 909 in 1999 to 838 last year.

Contributing to the decrease was a 32-percent decrease in reported vandalism (from 90 to 61) and a 37-percent decrease in reports of public nuisances.

Despite involvement with community-awareness programs such as the Call to Action Coalition and "stings" of Farmington businesses to see whether they sell alcohol to minors, statistics indicate more work needs to be done. There were 14 more drunk driving arrests up from 113 to 132. Drug violations also increased, by six incidents or 21

percent.

Meanwhile, four liquor law infractions were issued to juveniles in 2000 and another 12 youths were cited for possession of marijuana. That is a reversal of 1999, when there were 12 juvenile liquor violations and one juvenile marijuana violation.

There were 54 assault and battery incidents reported last year, the same number as in 1999.

In the Part III category, or calls for service of a non-criminal manner, there were 5,448 requests last year, up from 5,363 calls the previous year.

The year 2000 also was not-

worthy for the department in that it worked closely with Farmington Public Schools to implement the state Safe Schools Act by assisting in the development of school safety plans and reporting mechanisms.

An expanded presence at Farmington High School by the police liaison officer is another indication of the department's strong commitment to making a positive impact on young people, Goss said. The officer is at FHS every day classes are in session.

After school program celebrates 5th.

The Farmington Hills after school youth centers will mark its fifth anniversary on Thursday, March 15, at the Costick Center.

Festivities begin at 5 p.m. and will include a pizza dinner and birthday cake. A ceremony honoring youth center volunteers, members and partners will be held 6:30-7:30 p.m.

Since it began, the youth center program has served more than 3,200 Farmington/Farmington Hills middle school students. Activities include sports, games, music, tutoring, enrichment classes and field trips.

To make reservations for the birthday party, or for more information on youth centers, call 473-1841.

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The Farmington Observer

A HomeTown Communications Network™ publication
33411 Grand River, Farmington, MI 48335
(On the southwest corner of Grand River and Farmington Rds.)

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