

March is Farmington Community Center month

By LORRAINE MCCLISH

In keeping with tradition, the city councils of Farmington and Farmington Hills issued proclamations declaring March as Farmington Community Center Month. It is the month area residents find a letter in their mail which launches the center's annual solicitation for funds.

The proclamations, presented by Farmington Mayor Keith Deacon, and Farmington Hills Mayor John Richardson, both were extended with good wishes for the center's funds appeal.

To meet the increased financial needs of the center, the goal of the 1977 drive is \$42,000.

Through classes, workshops, special events, room usage and benefits, the center engenders about 70 per cent of its needed income. The other 30 per cent must come from the community.

"The additional funds are vital to maintaining the center's ongoing programs, and, indeed, to its very existence," said Alberta Taylor, center directors.

To this, Harold J. Gibson, a co-chairman of the drive, added, "The Farmington Community Center is no different from the Birmingham Community House, the Grasse Pointe War Memorial or any other non-profit community center in this aspect. All of



JOHN FALAHEE

them have to depend on an annual solicitation from the community they serve.

GIBSON WILL WORK this year on the drive with John W. Falahee. Gibson has just retired as manager of the Ethyl Corporation's Detroit Research Laboratories. Last year, he was honored by the Society of Automotive Engineers with the Horning Award. He has taken an active part in the United Fund Drive and assisted the Detroit Engineering Society's Science Fair in its fund-raising efforts.

Falahee is associated with Indianapolis, Inc. as vice-president of administration. He has been active in Farmington Area Boy Scouts for five years, as committee chairman for Troop 263, and has worked for 20 years on United Fund Drive.

Both serve on the center's board of directors. The center receives no tax money. United Fund support or endowments. Present income levels have provided only the most necessary maintenance with very little left over for improvements.

This year, the center is not only faced with escalating operating costs, but must provide very necessary building repairs inside and out, new heating and electrical equipment. Much more than \$42,000 would have to be raised to fill one of the center's greatest needs, which is additional parking.

"The space is available in an area which would not affect the beauty of the house and grounds, but unusually large contributions would be necessary to make this possible," Mrs. Taylor said.

IN AN AREA which has grown prodigiously during the last few years and is considered one of the two or three prime growth areas of the state, the Farmington Community Center acts as a catalyst in bringing people together.

Mrs. Taylor voices her feelings on this aspect of the center by stating, "Meetings, classes, workshops, trips and special events draw adults and children from all over the area to share activities of common interest."

"The cultural opportunities, the skills, the hobbies, the good causes served are worthwhile in themselves.



The sprawling building, once known as Longacre House, has been a landmark in the area for more than 100 years. The children of Luman Goodenough, heirs to the estate, turned it over to the residents of Farmington in 1969 when it opened its doors under the name of

Farmington Community Center. It has since lived up to its new name, welcoming about 2,000 persons a week who use the lovely home as a meeting center. From tots to senior citizens, the center carries a full roster of year around activities.

But in an increasingly depersonalized society, getting-to-know-you is perhaps the most important of all.

"The community center tries to provide the kind of atmosphere that makes this possible. The house itself is probably the greatest ally here. 'It is a warm and friendly house.'"

She continues, "You have only to hear the spirited conversation and the laughter coming from the meeting rooms and echoing in the halls to know that what is happening here is not only good for people but for the community as a whole."

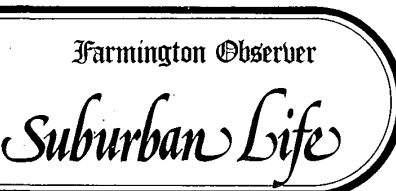
"Through new contacts and new friends, youngsters and adults alike come to feel more at home in this spread out community, and find it a more pleasant place to live."

ALL GIFTS to the community center, whether of money, materials or



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services, are tax deductible. At a recent meeting, the board of directors voted to issue appropriate Certificates of Appreciation to those who contribute \$100 or more, and an appropriate emblem to those who contribute



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\$25 or more. The proclamation signed by Mayor Deacon cites the center as a unique contribution of the area and commends it for generosity to the community.

Fashion show proceeds go to New Horizons

By LORRAINE MCCLISH

Franklin Knolls Women's Club members filled the ballroom in Bloomfield Hills' Kingsley Inn for a luncheon and fashion show to benefit New Horizons.

It was the 19th fashion show the club has staged every spring for a charity. The subdivision for which it was named is the oldest subdivision in southern Oakland County. As the club grew in social, cultural and philanthropic activities, it also grew in numbers.

The club retains the name, but the residential requirement for membership was abandoned long ago, and the 125 members on the roster now come from all neighboring areas.

Current president Audrey Turnalls, of 30123 Fox Grove, Farmington Hills, who presides at monthly meetings, held in St. Colman Catholic Church on the first Wednesday of every month, oversees bridge group, a golf league, a gourmet cooking group and various craft classes.

THE SPRING fashion show remains the one major fund-raising event of the year, with proceeds always earmarked for a charity.

Last year, a check for more than \$1,200 was given to the Sister Arline Cancer Research Fund. This year, probably in June, a check from the showing of fashions by the Jacqueline Shops will be turned over to Marge Duella, president of New Horizons of Oakland County's Woman Auxiliary.

The goal for New Horizons is independence for the handicapped. This is done through three sheltered workshops in the county where handicapped workers fill contracts from local businesses, mostly in the areas of assembling, mailing, and packaging.

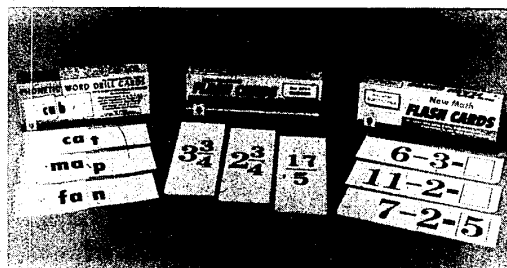
The auxiliary is foremost a fund-raising group which aims to help meet a \$600,000 a year budget, but takes on other chores. The auxiliary now promotes social programs, bowling leagues, periodic dances for those in the program, and encourages participation in the Special Olympics. It also acts in educating the public to the work and the needs of the workshops.

The workshop in Farmington is located at 21120 Owens.

Co-chairman for this year's fashion show to benefit New Horizons are Joseph Frank and Marjorie Spawers.



Fashion show by guests of the Franklin Knolls Women's Club this week were from the Jacqueline Shops in Bloomfield Shopping Center at South and Farmington. At left, feminine touches are yet to be manifested in the Western look. At right the Western look prevails in the dressage and men's suits of beige with white piping on the garment and vest.

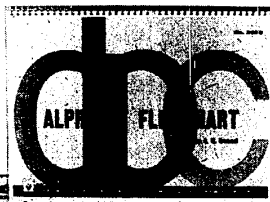


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