

'Children: The Challenge' program expands this spring

The Family Education Committee of Farmington Youth Assistance (FYA) begins its ninth series of parent discussion groups. The series this spring is based on the book, "Children: The Challenge," by Dr. Rudolf Dreikurs.

The Dreikurs approach to child rearing has now spread to 300 Farmington and Farmington Hills families since it was introduced here three years ago by Gary and Barbara Galsen and sponsored by FYA.

Last fall, the sponsors opened a series for parents with teens, based on the book "Living With Teens" by Pat and Murray Wood. It was received so

successfully it will now become a permanent part of the overall program, which shows ways to motivate youth to cooperate.

The format and the goals for both programs are the same.

Parents are assigned a chapter to read. The information is discussed in the group meetings led by two volunteers who have completed the course.

ONLY THE DAY-TO-DAY problems faced by all parents are addressed, sponsors said.

The courses do not advocate a correct way to raise a child. Their aim is

sharing techniques of handling problems that have worked for others.

The techniques are designed to motivate young people to cooperate, while retaining respect for themselves and taking responsibility for their own actions. Those techniques are spelled out in the books and backed up by discussion group.

Respect for the young people and encouraging them is paramount in the Dreikurs philosophy.

Also important are allowing a child to fail because he has made a bad decision and allowing a child to resolve

problems without parental interference.

Groups are limited to 13 persons. Registration is limited to parents who live in Farmington and Farmington Hills.

THREE GROUPS using "Children: The Challenge" begin in March for parents of young children.

A Monday session from 7-9 p.m. begins March 23 in Farmview Early Childhood Center, 28500 Oak Crest.

A Tuesday session, from 7:30-9:30 p.m., begins March 17 in Farmington High School's Room 104-D.

A Thursday class runs from 7:30-9:30 a.m. beginning March 19 in Nardin Park United Methodist Church, on 11 Mile, near Middlebelt.

"Living With Teens" will be given on Tuesday evenings beginning April 7 in a location yet to be determined. This class will be led by the two women who introduced it in the area last fall, Judy Marks and Kay Babich.

Mrs. Marks advocates the discussion groups as a back-up for the techniques spelled out in the book.

"Our alumni from the first group were so enthusiastic we're going to meet for periodic reunions," she said.



JUDY MARKS

Ecumenical day of renewal set March 14

An ecumenical day of personal renewal for men, women and teens is planned from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Saturday, March 14, in Orchard United Methodist Church, 30450 Farmington Road.

Theme for the day is "The Truth Shall Make You Free." Highlighting the program is guest speaker, The Rev. Robert J. Duthie, pastor of Victoria Avenue United Church of Canada, in Chatham, Ontario.

Rev. Duthie has a radio and television ministry, is noted for his extensive development of youth activities and is often in demand as a leader of conferences and retreats.

Opportunities for growth and Christian fellowship will be offered through small discussion groups, worship and music.

A free will offering will be taken to defray costs and lunch.

Advance registration is requested by calling Doris Edwards, 533-9030.

FACET meets

FACET, (Farmington Association for Children with Exceptional Talents) hosts Sharon Higham, coordinator for the intelligently gifted and some of her students when the group meets in March.

The program, "Options for High School Students in Gifted and Talented Education" begins at 7:30 p.m. March 18 in Farmington Hills Community Library on 12 Mile Road.

The session is open to guests at no charge.

The program will cover options for the gifted in the transition from middle school to high school and the executive internship program.

Scouts have a birthday

Twenty birthday cakes, one for each Girl Scout Troop attending the birthday party, will be served to the 250 girls who will be celebrating the 69th anniversary of Girl Scouts of America in Bonaventure Roller Rink.

The party for Girl Scouts in this area

begins at 6:30 p.m. Thursday, March 12, and has been arranged by Dorothy Mason of Birmingham and Kathy Merchant of Southfield.

Girl Scouting was established on that date 69 years ago by Juliette Low in Savannah, Ga.

Sheila Mitchell an 86 year old survivor of the ocean liner Britannic which sank in 1916, answered a Want Ad placed by Jacques Cousteau who plans to explore the wreck. He wanted survivors to help him find his way around but Mitchell got so sick when she boarded his research ship

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