

Stay sober with 'Great Pretenders'

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• Alcohol alertness. Make sure your guests' ability to drive is not impaired. The Auto Club booklet suggests "Do-Not-Drink" games and explains a driver's legal drinking limits.

• Buffet. Serve food to help absorb alcohol and offer alcohol-free drinks to divert attention from the bar.

• Car pool. Arrange safe transportation home for guests who have had too much to drink.

The Auto Club's analysis of 29 traffic deaths during the last Christmas and New Year's periods showed most happened at night and involved drinking drivers who were less than 25 miles from home.

Alcohol was a factor in 10 of the 19 fatalities over the Christmas holiday. During the New Year's period, alcohol was involved in six of 10 fatalities.

Party hosts can help their guests avoid post-party traffic mishaps by following the ABCs of party giving outlined in the Auto Club's booklet.

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Brownies seek gifts for needy children

Brownie Troop 3226 of Farmington Hills is collecting new clothing, toys and food through Wednesday as part of a project to help needy children at the Alameda School in Farmington Hills.

Especially needed are clothing, new and unwrapped toys, canned food and storybooks.

Persons interested in giving to the drive may take the items to the Woodcreek Elementary School, 28400 Harwich.

A large, marked collection box is located just inside the front door. Brownie Troop 3226 is composed of 26 girls, most of whom are first through third graders at Woodcreek.

For additional information, call Diane Gaydek at 553-9176.

Jaycees provide holiday cheer

During the holidays, the Farmington Area Jaycee Women and Jaycees offered several projects to brighten the holidays for many in the community.

For the second year, "Christmas Gifts for Needy Children" is a project where community residents can visit local banks (1st Federal of Michigan on Farmington Road near Nine Mile, and Metropolitan National Bank of Farmington on Farmington Road near 12 Mile) or the Farmington or Farmington Hills city halls to select a child's name (with the age) posted on Christmas ornaments hanging on the Christmas trees.

Christmas gifts are bought and returned to that location (wrapped) so that the Jaycee Women can deliver them to needy children in the community in time for Christmas.

On Thursday, Dec. 15, the Jaycee Women held a Christmas party for the elderly women living at the Oakhill Annex. Refreshments and gifts were provided, Christmas carols were sung and Santa Claus visited.

"LUNCH WITH Santa" was held on Saturday, Dec. 17 to raise funds for many community service projects (such as the Oakhill Annex party). Movies, entertainment, a visiting Santa with goodies and a lunch were provided.

Both the Jaycee Women and Jaycees went Christmas Caroling at Botsford Hospital to entertain patients who are spending Christmas in the hospital. Musical instruments including jingle bells were played.

The Farmington Jaycees participated in the Goodfellow drive on Dec. 2. More than \$370 was raised, which made the Jaycees the largest fund-raising group this year. A donation will be made during the holiday season to the Farmington Community Center from the Jaycees' community service fund.

The Jaycees sponsored a party for the Oakhill Men's club on Dec. 15.

During the holidays the Jaycees will raise funds for community service projects by selling 1984 Entertainment Books. Call 477-JCCS.

Child safety seats available

Do you need a child passenger safety seat but can't afford to buy one? The Oakland County Health Division Child Passenger Safety Project can help you find one.

If you'd like to get in touch with a group in your area that rents these seats, call Eva Clark at the Oakland County Health Division at 558-0905.

The project has the support of Oakland County Executive, Daniel T. Murphy.

"The law mandates that all children under 4 years of age must be in child safety restraints when riding in the car. Because many people cannot afford the expense of purchasing a seat, Oakland County, with the assistance of a state grant, bought more than 600 seats and made them available for rent through groups in the area," Murphy said.

Recently the county held a one-day training session for representatives of local civic organizations and hospital affiliates to expand their car seat rental programs and to start new programs where needed in the county. The representatives were trained about the importance of child passenger safety and the correct use of the car seats.

Attendees of the training session will pass on the safety information to those who rent the seats and, hopefully, this will result in a decrease in the number of deaths and injuries each year due to untrained children in a motor vehicle.

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