

## around Farmington

All announcements for this column must be mailed to **Around Farmington, Farmington Observer**, 33203 Grand River, Farmington 48024. Deadline is noon Monday for the Thursday publication and noon Thursday for the Monday publication. Requests for announcements will not be taken on the phone.

**HOLY FAMILY PORTRAYAL**  
Monday through Saturday, Dec. 19-24: Members of Orchard United Methodist Church portray the Holy Family and shepherds as the story of the birth of Jesus is told in music, words and the tableau surrounding a life-size crèche, from 6:30-8 p.m. Sunday through Friday and immediately after the 5 p.m. service Saturday, on the church's front lawn, 39450 Farmington Road.

**BLOODMOBILE**  
Monday, Dec. 19: Red Cross Bloodmobile accepts donors from 1-7 p.m. in American Legion Post 346, 31775 Grand River. Appointments can be made with Don McTigue, 624-4813.

**HIGH SCHOOL COMPLETION**  
Monday, Dec. 19: Registration for high school completion classes are

## Help wanted at 4-H Center

The National 4-H Council is looking for college-age 4-H alumni to spend next summer as program assistants at the National 4-H Center in Chevy Chase, Md.

Positions run from three months to a maximum of two years.

Those interested can contact the state 4-H office at (517) 335-0180 for a position description and application. The application deadline for summer employment is Jan. 1.

taken from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. daily and from 7-9 p.m. Monday through Thursday in Farmington Community School, 30415 Shawansee. Inquiries taken by calling the school, 477-9373.

**STRING PUPPETS**  
Tuesday and Wednesday, Dec. 20-21: "Jack and the Beanstalk" performed by The String Puppet Theatre using handmade marionettes at 7 p.m. Tuesday in Farmington Hills Branch Library and at 7 p.m. Wednesday in Farmington Branch Library. No charge, but preregistration is necessary by calling the Farmington Hills Branch, 555-0300 or the Farmington Branch, 474-7770. Programs sponsored by Friends of the Farmington Library.

**AUDITIONS**  
Tuesday through Thursday, Dec. 20-22: TAP (Theatre Arts Produc-

tions) holds auditions for "I Do, I Do," "Same Time Next Year," "Fantasticks," "Little Mary Sunshine," "Broadway Stagefright," "Mystery Weekends and Broadway musicals" by appointment only. Actors, singers and dancers can call 655-1827 or 555-8453 for appointments. All positions are paid.

**HOLIDAY CONCERT**  
Wednesday, Dec. 21: North Farmington High School choir, bands and orchestra in Holiday Concert at 8 p.m. in the school, 13 Mile east of Farmington Road. Admission is \$2, or \$1.50 for students and senior adults.

**CHRISTMAS IN OUR TOWN**  
Sunday, Dec. 25: "Christmas in Our Town," communitywide First Church of the Nazarene Christmas worship service at 10:30 a.m. in Novi

Hilton Ballroom, on Haggerty Road and Eight Mile, with guest musicians, Handbell Choir, the Sanctuary Choir and special program for children. For pre-schoolers child care, available in the church, call the church office, 346-7600.

**MAGIC AND PIZZA**  
Tuesday, Dec. 27: Ming the Magician performs magic after a pizza lunch, at 11:30 a.m. in Farmington Community Center, Farmington Road, north of 10 Mile. Reservations, at \$5 each, taken by calling the center, 477-8404.

**MUSEUM OPEN**  
Wednesday, Dec. 28: Farmington Historical Museum, dressed for the holidays, open to guests from 1-5 p.m. on Grand River, west of Farmington Road. Donation of \$1 asked at the door. Children under 12 admitted free.

**MAGIC AND PIZZA**  
Thursday, Dec. 29: Boyer and Fitzsimmons mix music, magic and comedy for their show following a pizza dinner at 6 p.m. in Farmington Community Center, Farmington Road north of 10 Mile. Reservations, at \$5 each, taken by calling the center, 477-8404.

**DINNER DANCE**  
Saturday, Dec. 31: Groves-Walker American Legion Post 346's annual New Year's Eve dinner dance begins at 7 p.m. in the post home, 31775 Grand River. Reservations, at \$45 per couple, taken by calling the post, 475-9174 after 2 p.m., and includes open bar and buffet supper after midnight.

## Hosts called to share holiday celebration

Hosts for a one-night Christmas homestay Dec. 24-25 or for dinner Wednesday, Dec. 18, are sought by International Visitors Council of Metropolitan Detroit, sponsor of a Dec. 21-30 seminar for 20-30 foreign graduate and undergraduate students studying in the U.S. on grants from the U.S. Agency for International Development.

Some of the guests are Christians from Grenada, the island country of the coast of Venezuela, and from the African countries of Botswana, Rwanda, Swaziland and Zambia.

Others are Muslims from Morocco and Pakistan and from Oman and Yemen on the Arabian Peninsula. Their fields of study include nursing, agriculture, engineering, con-

struction management, urban planning and census techniques.

Except for the night of Dec. 24, the visitors will stay at Southfield's Radisson Plaza Hotel, where hosts will pick up and return their overnight or dinner guests.

To offer hospitality, phone the seminar coordinator, IVC volunteer Julie Oldani of Birmingham, at 647-8050 (office) or 643-4528 (home).

*Flowers from Joe's Says Merry Christmas*

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### One woman show

Skeeter Crotty, a member of Farmington Artists Club, exhibits her work in a one-woman show in Farmington Hills Branch Library, on 12 Mile Road of Farmington Road. Her style is realism, and her work is done in a variety of media: oils, watercolors, pastels, pencil, and pen and ink.

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**Arthritis Today**

Joseph J. Weiss, M.D. Rheumatology  
18929 Farmington Road  
Livonia, Michigan 48152  
Phone: 478-7880

**THE THYROID AND ARTHRITIS**

A thyroid gland that is acting improperly can affect your joints and muscles.

Weakness and aching of the shoulder and hip muscles can occur in both hyper- and hypothyroidism. Swelling of the knees is common in hypothyroidism, and frozen shoulder is associated with hyperthyroidism. Often these changes are difficult to recognize as indicating thyroid malfunction because stiffness and weakness are part of a number of arthritic conditions such as rheumatoid disease, tension myopathy, and fibromyalgia syndrome.

Blood tests are available that help the physician to determine if your joint problem is thyroid-related. However, the battery of tests can cost over a hundred dollars with equivocal results adding to the expense, as tests are repeated and others added on. Treatment for low thyroid when such is not the case only adds an extra medicine and delays therapy for the condition that really is the source of your discomfort.

Thus, when the question of underlying thyroid disease arises, your physician may choose to treat you for the most likely arthritic diagnosis and follow you for changes that would indicate the presence of thyroid dysfunction.

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