Instal just not something no thought he would be in the running for. Was a bit surprised," said the leyear finance department veteran. "I'm usually the teach people for the wards, the cheeks and such." An accountain, Benton handles the payroll, special assessment billing; rust funds for projects, pension plan, acturarial reports and government grants. "He's a very frustworthy employee. One of the key elements of his duties is that he deals a lot with payroll information and deductions. He keeps it all confidential. Bill handles that with a great deal of confidence and concern for people's rights," finance director Charles Rosch said.

But the University of Detroit

Bill Benton didn't stay up nights wondering whether hed be the 1988 wondering whether hed be the 1988 wondering whether hed be the 1988 to be the 1988 wondering whether hed be the 1988 wondering whether hed be the 1988 wondering whether hed be the 1988 wondering whether he would be in the running to thought he would be in the running the thought he would be in the running 19 when the 1988 whether he would be in the running 1988 whether he was a single that the wonder has a single that the wonder he was a single that the wonder has a

WHEN PRESENTING the award Jan. 9 at the 13th annual recognition awards night, city manager William Costick said Benton is "Known as quite a gentleman around city halt." He's known as "witty, generous and sensitive." His nominators added that Benton 'brings a cheerful atti-tude and sense of mission to city halt."

ude and sense of mission to city Inall."

In addition to having his name placed on the Employee of the Year plaque in the city hall lobby with past winners. Benton will receive a \$500 check. Past winners are Elste McKeown of the assessing division and Loretta Conway of the special services department senior adult division.

A former marathon runner, who now runs for fitness, Benton ran the



Bill Benton, a 18-year Farmington Hills finance department veteran, was named "Employee of the Year" for 1988. His nominators said Benton "brings a cheerful attitude and sense of mission to city hall."

Boston Marathon nine times, placing 200th once out of a large, select field of runners. Admitting that winning the award was "awkward" for him, Benton sald this award is different.

"When you race, you train for a goal. Something like this, there's so many employees that could win this. Loretta and Elsle were not surprises

HIS INVOLVEMENT and com-mitment to people extends beyond city hall. He's a backup for the Meals on Wheels program, using his own lunch hour to take meals to sen-

ior adults when he's needed. Benton also makes household repairs for senior adults. His handiwork, learned while watching his father, extends to the renovation of his own West Bhomflield house. He's also involved in the annual Rouge River cleanup and is one of the cooks for the annual employee plenic.

the cooks for use amount plents.
"In general, there's an increase in volunteerism. I enjoy helping people. For me, it's putting a more religious, spiritual focus on my life. You don't don't put it into action, it's incomplete," Benton said.

5 others honored at Hills ceremony

What do you mean they're not real?

By Joanno Mallezawski staff writer

Farmington Hills finance depart-ment veteran William Benton wasn't the only city employee recognized in the 13th annual recognition awards

the 18th annual recognition awards night Jan 9.

Five employees were honored with the outstanding employee recognition awards and a \$200 check each. They are Jerry W. Brock, building division; Darla Growe, building maintenance; Jeanette Hayward, police department; and Shirley Shortof, public safety officers of the year awards were presented to a \$26 year police department veteran, Call Russell Conway, and to firefighter Ron Schwartz of the fire department.

ment.
Employees also were honored for their years of service to the city. Honored for 25 years of service was Lt. Jack Brown, police department.

Those honored for 20 years of service were: John Hedrick, Norman Kilmer, Ernest Miller and James Worthington, police department, and Robert Rebtoy, fire department.

Honored for 15 years of service: Douglas Anderson and Dennis Green, Douglas Anderson and Denais Green, police department; Barbara Batm-forth, city manager's office; David Ewart and Thomas Yakes, fire-department; Doris Fleming, city citrk's office; and Martha Gielchman, finance department.

Honored for 10 years of service: Gary Brandemili, Patrick Browne, Robert Burkhart, Staffey K. Gales, Gary Hawald, Sandra Rochford, Daryl Stowinski, police department; James Schierloh, Iris Morgan, fire department; Mary Jane Ale, clty clerk's office, Jon Maddern, special services, Dorothy Savage, general government.

Honored for five years of service:
Ronald D. Achtenberg, James P.
Cheyne, Waller Kurzejs, Keith L.
Lampear, Howard J. Saltz, Ronald
Segali, fire department; Marylou
Alex, Janet Ogrodowski, Donna
Reid, police department; Robert
Ballard, building; Debra Howe,
finance, Marguerite Jordan, city
clerk's office; D. Glenn Lemmon, assessing, Nancy Plowar, Sharl Stigleman, finance.

For pool owners, safety is not 3-month concern

Safety is more than merely a three-month summer concern for Michigan swimming pool owners, because dangerous accidents can oc-cur year round, AAA Michigan re-ports.

"Pool owners should make certain that their peols are repeally required."

that their pools are properly secured for winter," said Dick Robertson, AAA Michigan homeowner's claim

AAA Michigan homeowner's ciaum manager.

Both in-ground and above-ground pools should have safety covers which secure the pool entirely so children and animals cannot fall in and freeze or drown during winter. "If you don't have a commercial safety cover, at least put something over the pool, secure it and be sure to remove any water that may col-

lect there," said Robertson. "Children sometimes drown by falling into water on top of the covers."

Also, he cautioned, covers that a child can crawl under, such as a solar cover, are dangerous and should never be used to enclose a pool for winter. A solar cover is usually used to relain the pool's heat in the summer. Because it floats on top of the pool and is not securely attached to the sides of the pool, it should never be used in the winter.

Above-ground pool filters should be taken apart in the winter as playing children can use the filter-as a ladder to climb into the pool.

Further, be sure security fences, barriers and self-latching gates work properly at all times.

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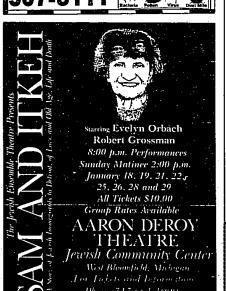
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