around Farmington

All announcements for this col-mn must be mailed to Around umn must be mailed to Around Farmington, Observer, 33202 Grand River, Farmington 48024, Deadline is noon Monday for the Thursday publication and noon Thursday for the Monday publi-cation. Requests for announce-ments will not be taken over the whone.

O MOVEMENT WITH MIME

O MOVEMENT WITH MIME
Thursday, July 27: "Movement
With Mime," workshop for 10-13year-olds led by Mime Ensemble of
Oakland University, at 1 p.m. in The
Community Center. Fee is \$15.
Registrations taken by calling the
center, 477-8404.

e PUMP-OFF

• PUMP-OFF Thursday, July 27: Pump-Off weightlifting seminar with nutrition-and training tips led by Peter Peter Neilsen and competition of top bench press lifters in four categories be-gins at 8 p.m. in Peter Niclsen's Eye of the Tiger Total Fitness Center, 23311 Orchard Lake Road. No ad-mission charge for spectators.

 STORY HOUR Saturday, July 29: Borders Book Shop in the Novi Town Center, off Novi Road, south of I-96, hosts a sto-

ry hour for children and adults which will include sign-language in-terpretation for the hearing im-paired at 2 p.m. No charge.

@ DEVELOPMENT DISABILITIES

DISABILITIES
Salurday-Sunday, July 20-30:
"We're Making It On Our Own," conference for people with development idsabilities, at 9:30 am. both days in Madonaa College, Livonia. The event is sponsored by the Interdependent Living Council of Michigan. For information, call John Sigworth, 455-8880, Ext. 227.

O MUSICAL REVIEW
Sunday, July 30: Marcus Belgrave
and Phase II combine award-winning jazz with improvisational dance
in their musical revue at 7 pm. in
the amphitheater on the grounds of
The Community Center, Farmington
Road north of 10 Mile. Tickets are \$8
at the gate. Guests asked to bring
their own blanket or lawn chairs.

© CHRISTIAN CONCERT Sunday, July 30: Crystal Lewis, Christian songwriter and vocalist, in concert at 8 p.m. in Detroit First Church of the Nazarene, 21260 Hag-gerty Road. No admission charge.

VACATION CHURCH

SCHOOL Monday through Friday, July 31-Aug, 4: Nardin Park United Methodist Church will be visited by real live disciples at this year's annual vacation church school 9:15 a.m. to 12:15 pm. The church is at 2087 11 Mile Road, Farmington Hills. In addition to slinging, crafts, stories and Disciples, the children will have the opportunity to walk where Jesus walked on the Nardin Park version of the Holy Lands, a buge map painted out on the church parking lot. Children entering kindergarten through 6th grade are welcome, For more information call the church tion call the church

© DIGGING DINOSAURS
Monday through Friday, July 31 to
Aug. 4: "Digging Dinosaurs Camp,"
for 7-11-year-olds 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
each day led by Living Science Foundation staff in The Community Center. Fee is 3180. Registration siken
by calling the center, 477-8404.

• AFRICA

Wednesday, Aug.2: Three films on Africa conclude Summer Travei Film Series at 7:30 p.m. in Farming-ton Branch Library, 23500 Liberty

Street. No charge.

YOUR TOWN — MY TOWN
Wednesday, Aug. 2: "Your Town
My Town," program led by Ruth
Mochiman, author of "It he Walls
Could Talk," who discusses and
shows sildes of the historic homes in
Farmington and Farmington Hills,
at 7 pm. in The Community Center,
Farmington Road north of 10 Miles
Fee is 48. Registrations taken by
calling the center, 477-8404.

FASHION LUNCHEON

FASHION LUNCHEON Friday, Aug. 4: Fashlon Focus Luncheon, with Pendleton fall '89 collection shown at noon in Jacob-sen's Livonia, Cost is \$5. Reserva-tions are necessary, made by calling 591-7698, Ext. 263.

MEDICARE

MEDICARE
Monday, Aug. 7: "Catastrophic
Medicare Bill and Ways to Combat
the Effects," seminar bosted by fi-nancial consultant Andrea Kotche
with guest speakers at 7 p.m. in Carl
Sandberg Branch Library, 30100
Seven Mile Road. No charge.

• FREE IMMUNIZATION Wednesday, Aug. 9: The Oakland County Health Division offers an im-munization clinic for Farmington

and surrounding areas from 9 a.m. to noon at Clarenceville United Methodist Church, 20300 Middlebelt, south of Eight Mile. A parent or le-gal guardian must accompany a child under 18 years of age.

● 5-6-7-8 DANCE

• 5-8-7-8 DANCE
Wednesday, Sınday and Friday,
Aug. 9, 13 and 18: "5-6-7-8 Dance,"
performance by Summers Arts Frogram students, at 6 p.m. Aug. 9, 27
p.m. Aug. 13 and at 6 p.m. Aug. 19, 17
p.m. Aug. 13 and at 6 p.m. Aug. 10
wilalec Sinith Thester, Orchard
Hidge Campus, Osland Community
College, Tickets are 86, or 85 for semiors, reserved at the box office, 4717700.

● BACK TO SCHOOL FASHIONS Thursday, Aug. 10: "Worlds to Ex-plore," back-to-shool fashion show for teens at 7 p.m. in Jacobson's, 37500 Six Mile, Livonia.

• WEST SIDE STORY

Friday, Wednesday and Saturday, Aug. 11, 16k and 19: "West Side Sto-ry" performed by students in the musical theatre classes of Summer musical theatre classes of Summer Arts Program at 8 p.m. each night in Smith Theatre, Orchard Ridge Cam-pus, Oakland Community College. Tickets are \$7 or \$6 for students and

O OPEN HOUSE

© OPEN HOUSE

Wednesday, Aug. 12: Kotila
Chiropractic Family Life Center
bots open house 9 am. to 5 p.m.,
28800 Eight Mile Road. Free scolosis
screening, free exam and X-rays for
new patients, food, clown and entertainment. For more information,
contact Christine at 471-0440.

e A LION IN WINTER
Saturday, Tuesday and Thursday,
Aug. 12, 15 and 17: "A Lion in Winter," staged at 8 p.m. each night in
Wallace Smith Theatre, Orchard
Ridge Campus, Oakland Community
College, Tickets are \$8, or \$5 for senlors and students at the box office,
471-7700.

MEIGHBORHOOD WATCH
Wednesday, Aug. 16: Nelghborhood Watch orientation meeting at
7:30 pm. in Farmington Hills City
Council Chambers, 31555 11 Mile,
corner of 11 Mile and Orchard Lake
Road. Any realdent of an existing or
newly established Nelghborhood
Watch subdivision who has not yet
attended an orientation meeting is
urged to attend. For further information, call 473-9840.

Ham radio operators converse with the world

By Robecca Haynes

HEY TALK WITH people from Europe, South America, the Swiet Union, Indonesia, Australia and many other places around the world, and they don't even run up their telephone bills.

phone bilts.

They're amateur radio operators, otherwise known as bams, and there are thousands of them in the Detroit area. Some do it just for the fun of talking to interesting people, while others also enjoy lending ald during emergencies and helping families who are separated by large distances communicate with each other.

the Catalpa Amateur Radio Society, which includes members from all over Oakland County.

"I used to listen to the short wave radio when I came home from school," the Troy resident sald. "My father died when I was quite young and I knew he had been into radio and I thought it would be a nice thing for me to do.

"So one day I asked my barber if he knew anyone who was a radio op-erator," Benedict sald, adding he was about 12 at the time. "He gave me two names and it was these peo-ple who got me started."

the are separated by large distanc-s communicate with each other.

Dave Benedict is the president of

"There are five classes and you have to pass tests to achieve them," he said. "The tests involve morse code and electronic theory."

A NOVICE is the lowest class, fol-

A NOVICE is the lowest class, followed by technician, general, advanced and the highest, extra class. "The class of your licease tells you what bands you can operate, with the more desireable bands reserved for the higher classes," Benedict said. "Most people don't use morse code, they use voice, but you still have to know it."

Radio amateurs mostly monitor themselves, said Birmingham's Dr. Earl Weston, who became licensed as a ham in 1946. Other radio amateurs know him as W8BXO, his station call letters.

"There are some official observers who just sit and listen, they don't save any messages," Weston said. "Mostly I think we're pretty honest people who monitor ourselves." If of interested in it way back when my father built a radio and started hearing the amateurs talk," On whe'n is a code that means you he said, laughing. "It just seemed that I never had the time and the money to do it at the same time, what with medical school and the war."

Ham radio itself isn't expensive.

Ham radio itself isn't expensive, Westin said. It adds about the same amount to the electric bill as would playing the stereo. The major cost comes in purchasing the necessary

comes in purentaing the necessary equipment.

A transcelver, which is a receiver and transmitter combined, runs about \$1,000 for a top-of-the-line new model, but good used ones can be found for about \$300, Weston said. This is the major piece of equipment needed to send and receive messag-

ALTHOUGH THE doctor bought a large beam antenna and installed it atop a telephone pole behind his house, he says it's not necessary to be able to communicate effectively.

be able to communicate effectively. An inexpensive wire-type FM radio antenna can be sufficient. Many people around the world that Weston talks to use this type of antenna. Each day of hamming brings something new. "If I wanted to spend a half bour on the radio 17 select the frequencies that come in well at that time of the day." Benedict said. "Then I'll listen and tune around until I hear

call them.

"It's a lot like going fishing," he said. "You never know who you'rel going to talk to. Sometimes you call CQ, which is a code that means you want to talk to anyone who is listening.

"You might get a young kid bown from school or a housewife or a retired person, they really come from all walks of life — that's what makes it so interesting," Benedict said.

makes it so interesting," Benedict said.

One typical day at W8BXO included brief conversations with with Peter Curtls, a ham from Cardiff, South Wales, and John Hillyer, from Stamford, England, who Westin caught at eat time. Other calls came in from Indonesia, Brazil, Phoenix, Ariz, and Arlington, Texas, all in a span of about a half an hour.

ASIDE FROM the entertainment value, both Benedict and Weston run what are called phone patches. These patches are used to help people who aren't ham radio operators speak with friends or relatives who are long distances away and have no access to telephone lines but can access a local ham radio. "I run them a lot for missionaries in South America who want to speak to their families here," Weston said. Hams also help out when bad weather is in the area. "Whenever we have severe thunderstorm warnings the Stywarn net activates right away." Benedict said, explaining that Skywarn is a specific

frequency used to communicate severe weather information to a county control station. "Those of us Skywarn are trained in meteorology and are taught what to look for, what it means and what we should and shouldn't report. A lot of the times the warnings you see on TV have come from local hams." Weston has also belped during several emergencies, including the Mexican earthquake. A letter from the president of Ford, Mexico is among his most prized possessions. The gentleman, who was in Detroit for meetings when the earthquake hit, was "

tiernan, who was in Derviro its meetings when the earthquake hit, was thankful for information Weston was able to find that not only had the man's son survived unharmed, but the Ford plant had as well.

THE DOCTOR also sends messag-es and runs phone patches regularly for people who's loved ones are flown to the Detroit area from many -foreign countries for intensive medi-cal treatment. Just recently he was keeping one mother, whose daughter had become paralyzed and was being treated at Mott Children's Ropital in Ann Arbor, in touch with her husband back in a small country in

husband back in a sman country as west Africa.

"You learn so much about geography and other countries," Weston aid. "Once I talked with a direct descendant of the man who started the muthry on the Bounty.

"It's a debateable point as to how we not the rickname of hams," he

"It's a debateable point as to how we got the nickname of hams," he said, laughing. "Basically you meet a lot of really nice people who'd rather spend their time learning and doing this than sitting in a bar."

A real 'bash'

Fox Theatre plays host to DIA benefit

will be a theatrical evening cash bar and music by Top Drawer day, Aug. 15, when the Fash in the Fox's Grand Lobby.

The show will start at 7 p.m. with

The annual fundraiser for the De-troit Institute of Arts is sponsored by the DIA's Founders Junior Council, JL. Hudson's and Northwest Air-lines. Proceeds help to support pro-grams and buy acquisitions for the art museum.

The evening will begin at 5 p.m. with a silent auction, hors d'oeuvres, Breast

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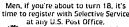
incehole Desk Reg. \$389.95 Sale \$329.95

(800) 645-6376

cash bar and music by Top Drawer in the Fox's Grand Lobby,

The show will start at 7 p.m. with the fashion show, choreographed and directed by Myron Johnson, artistic director of the 16-member Minneapolis-based Ballet of the Dolls. The show will include a special appearance by actress Joan Collins, known for heer role as the devious Aleats in the TV series' Dynasty.

A live auction, conducted by Du-Mouchelle Art Galleries and feature



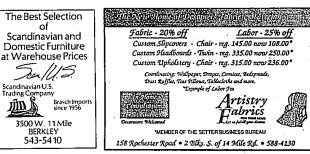
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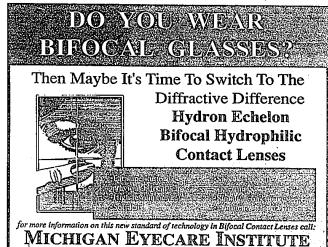
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