

Working mothers ponder the child care question

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"She never once got up for us when I was little, but she came every day at 7 a.m. to care for the kids so I could do the internship and be licensed. Shortly after, we found a housekeeper who stayed five years."

Bolton would work every day of the week, then stay home every other night, but hers were difficult trade-offs, and she hasn't forgotten though her boys are half grown now.

JANET PONT, director of the Beth Haydel Nursery School, says that Congregation Shaarey Zedek has parenting classes for parents who are "juggling the physical and emotional needs of their kids."

"We're also investigating feasibility of younger day care (infants) in a program to be supervised by the Conservative Jewish Movement," Pont said.

A recent recipient of her master's in preschool and parent education, Pont will shortly begin work on her doctorate at Wayne State University.

"There is a trend right now for all day kindergartens, but this is for need rather than education," she said. "The needs of parents have changed drastically, but the needs of children are to be children. Play is a child's learning. Overall, children need to develop self-esteem."

"Many children in day care are quite resilient and sometimes even more independent than others, but we have to look at long range results."

Today's working parents shop for day care even before conception.

Finding just the right place to have a child nurtured is tedious and demanding, but vital.

Shelly Moss Brooks, who heads the child development department at Oakland Community College, hasn't learned about day care in the Ivory tower, but as a working mother, a former nursery school owner, and a quality home day care provider. She estimates she has raised more than 10,000 children.

"I practice what I teach, and I try to do it well," she said. "Kids are special and so are parents. Some of our children are spending 11 hours a day in child care, so it is vital to work at developing their self-esteem and security."

Brooks contends that day care is especially advantageous for only children. She figures that some parents drive a long way to the center, usually on the way to or from their job. "I'm seeing a lot of father involvement. Maybe mom's on a business trip."

Brooks believes that family centers offer children a view of normal family life, that employers should be conscious of the stress over child care and can benefit from taking a part in the solution of these problems, and alleviating work place stress.

"Flex time is wonderful. Part time workers have the best of both worlds," she said.

Speaking in Southfield in 1972, Mary Dublin Keyserling, an economist from Washington, D.C. labeled her talk on day care for preschoolers "the number one item of unfinished business of the American people."

As we approach the new decade of the 1990s, American parents are still asking: "Who will care for my child?"

Making decisions

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7594) before bringing in their children.

• Rent-a-Mom. This program, run by Health Care Professionals of Southfield, provides nurses aides on

an hourly basis to care for sick children in your home.

You might also consider contacting a baby-sitting or nanny agency, if your child just has the sniffles. Many of these agencies have short-term, hourly fees.

Bonding helps keep mother, baby in sync

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Early indications that something in the relationship is just not clicking show up in emotional problems for the child and slowed development.

A tendency in the small child to be more aggressive and less likely to follow rules, while his or her language skills are generally highly advanced, also point to problems.

"Infants can be depressed," Tardiff said. "And once in a while we see a baby who is just not an engaging or loving baby. The mother gets upset, pulls away and it becomes more of a struggle to fit and grow together."

"We've relied for so long on verbal communication. It takes a lot of training to see the subtle clues that the baby is giving, and he is giving them constantly. We have to respond appropriately so mother and baby keep in sync."



Ann Coyle

Center marks 20th year

Editor's note: For 20 years the doors of The Community Center have been kept open through the work of men and women who volunteer to serve as its directors. The Farmington Observer introduces the members of the 1989 board to readers as part of the center's 20th anniversary year observance.

Wendy Strip Sittsamer has resided in Farmington Hills with her husband Murray for four years. A member of The Community Center Farmington-Farmington Hills board of directors for two years, she has chaired the community relations committee and has served on the executive committee.

Through her involvement, she would like to make more people aware of the historic facility that is unique to the area as well as the many programs it offers. She would also like to see the center continue to play a leadership role in the arts community.

As executive director of the Farmington Downtown Development Authority, she shares her limited free time with a variety of professional and civic organizations, such



Wendy Strip Sittsamer

as the Professional Women's Network Farmington-Farmington Hills and the Farmington Optimists. In 1988 she chaired the Farmington Area Arts Commission's "artist in residence" program. She is currently vice-chair of the public facilities and services task force for the Farmington Hills Year 2000 plan.



RANDY BOHST/staff photographer

Fall Fashion Gala

Models for The Community Center's Fall Fashion Gala and Luncheon are Diane Rickard, Judy Antioch and Shirley Bondy. The event opens at 10 a.m. Wednesday, Sept. 27, for boutique browsing and shopping, followed by lunch and then a parade of fashions by Jacobson's in the Novi Hilton. Rickard's cheetah-print top with straight black skirt and Bondy's jersey knit jumpsuit with leopard trim are both from the Signature Collection. Antioch's royal blue knit is from the Designer Salon. Tickets for the event, a fund-raiser for The Community Center, are \$23, available by calling the center, 477-8404.

club circuit

CITY OF HOPE, a national medical center for cancer research and treatment, is forming a City of Hope Young Professionals Chapter with evening meetings in Southfield. Those interested may call the City of Hope office, 443-2250.

HILL AND DALE GARDEN CLUB meets at 7:30 p.m. tonight in Farmington Hills Branch Library, on 12 Mile Road east of Farmington Road.

The club opens the season with "Fruits and Vegetables - The Dilemma" and also can bring Blue Ribbons. Jeanie Lunn will show how to exhibit fruits and vegetables in a flower show.

She is a master flower show judge, an accredited gardening consultant and an accredited landscape design critic with the Federated Garden Clubs of Michigan. She has also completed Michigan State University's Extension Service Master Gardener program. Educated in Europe, Lunn is a conservator and outside trails docent for Matthaei Botanical Gardens.

This program is open to the public without charge.

Inquiries are taken by Nancy Passfield, 624-8073.

RESOLVE OF MICHIGAN, a group offering support and information for those with infertility problems, meets at 7:30 p.m. Friday in Woodland Medical Center, 41935 12 Mile Road, Novi. Subject for the meeting is "Adoption."

Inquiries are taken by Marcia Ranger at 569-6903 evenings.

WESTSIDE SINGLES meet for a dance party at 9 p.m. Friday, Sept. 15 in Livonia Elks, Plymouth Road east of Merriman; and at 8 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 16 in Radisson Hotel, Northville Road, south of Five Mile in Plymouth.

Admission at the door is \$4. The hotline number for Friday night is 562-3170, for Saturday night 277-4242.

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF RETIRED PERSONS, Farmington Hills Chapter 2088, opens the season at 1 p.m. Friday, Sept. 15 in Farmington Hills Branch Library, 12 Mile Road east of Farmington Road. Activities available in Farmington Hills Senior Adult Center will be held.

The meeting is open to all people over the age of 50 from all surrounding communities.

UNITED SCLERODERMA FOUNDATION hosts its annual Walk-for-Scleroderma beginning at

10:30 a.m. Saturday, Sept. 16 at Hooper School, Adams Road, north of Maple in Birmingham. Inquiries are taken by the foundation's Southeastern Michigan Chapter, 334-9860.

DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION, Quakertown Chapter, meet at 12:30 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 16 in Farmington Hills Branch Library to celebrate Constitution Week (Sept. 17-23).

Constitution Week chairman Zelma Dolph has installed a display in the library, which include's the chapter's donation to the library, the book "Historic Women of Michigan." A second copy has been donated to the DAR Library in Washington, D.C.

The chapter has also given a copy of the Constitution, in Braille, to Carole Hund, head librarian of the Oakland County Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped, based in the Farmington Hills library.

Pocket sized copies of the U.S. Constitution and Constitution Week booklets will be given to members and guests who attend the meeting.

The business meeting will be followed by the showing of a short film, "Portrait of a Daughter," produced by the National Society DAR, which shows the many facets of the organization.

Guests are welcome. Inquiries are taken by Bea Rodacker, 477-4453.

CONGREGATION BETH ACHIM MEN'S CLUB paid-up membership brunch is set for Sunday, Sept. 17 in the synagogue. Speaker for the day is Rabbi Martin Berman, the synagogue's new associate rabbi.

Inquiries are taken by the synagogue office, 352-9370.

WOMEN OF NORTH FARMINGTON open the season 11 a.m. Monday, Sept. 18 in The Community Center, 24705 Farmington Road. Lunch is catered by Denise Kuhl of Hener Catering.

Program for the day is "Everything New is Old Again." Gloria Check will tell how to make use of all the items that are taking up room in closets and drawers. Guests are welcome. Cost is \$14. Reservations are taken by Beth Rice, 1-363-2737.

THE COMMUNITY CENTER VOLUNTEER GUILD hosts its annual salad luncheon for all guild members and for potential guild members at noon Wednesday, Sept. 20 in the center, Farmington Road north of 10 Mile. After luncheon speaker is Bill Costick, Farmington Hills city manager, who will talk about the recycling centers in the city.

There is no charge, but members as well as guests must make reservations on or before Monday, Sept. 18, by calling the center, 477-8404.

FARMINGTON NEIGHBORS CLUB meets at noon Wednesday, Sept. 20 in Glen Oaks Country Club. After luncheon speaker is Mary Ann Coram from Hudson's 12 Oaks.

Reservations are taken by Mary Anita Melugh, 477-6523 or Dorothy Kraft, 553-7226 until 4 p.m. Friday, Sept. 15.

MICHIGAN ASSOCIATION FOR CHILDREN AND ADULTS WITH LEARNING DISABILITIES, Farmington Area Chapter, meets at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday Oct. 20 in Farmington Hills Branch Library, 32737 11 Mile Road.

Topic for the evening is "Learning Disabilities," with a group discussion and a video tape.

All meetings hosted by the chapter are open to all interested persons without charge.

Inquiries are taken by Judy Bergman, 661-4554 or Nancy Thomas, 474-7773.

All club news and announcements for this column are to be addressed to: Club Circuit, Farmington Observer, 33202 Grand River, Farmington 48024. The information must arrive before noon on the Monday before Thursday publication.

The special full color ad will appear in all the major teen beauty magazines: Seventeen, Teen and YM. Beginning in September, the ads will run every month this year.

Women's classes offered in Hills Church of Christ

Two classes for women are offered this fall by Farmington Hills Church of Christ, at 36500 11 Mile.

A class taught by Jane VanBrocklin, in session now, centers around Sandra Humphrey's book "What Do You Communicate," which is a guide to practical relationships. This class meets at 7:30 p.m. Wednesdays in the church fellowship hall.

Joanne Benedict leads the class,

the products which have been specially formulated to meet the problems of teenage skin," said Marilee Ebner, senior product manager of the brand. "They contain a clinically tested ingredient to clear blemishes and help prevent new breakouts so every teen can show off their Great American Face."

The special full color ad will appear in all the major teen beauty magazines: Seventeen, Teen and YM. Beginning in September, the ads will run every month this year.

Men, if you're about to turn 18, it's time to register with Selective Service at any U.S. Post Office.



It's quick. It's easy. And it's the law.

YUM!
TASTE'S GREAT EVERY MONDAY

TASTE'S GREAT!
Every Monday