

around Farmington

All announcements for this column must be mailed to around Farmington, Farmington Observer, 21898 Farmington Road, Farmington 48336.

Deadline is noon Monday for the Thursday publication and noon Thursday for the Monday publication. Requests for announcements will not be taken over the telephone.

● **PHOTO EXHIBIT**
Monday through Monday, Dec. 24-31: Exhibit of photographs taken by Monte Nagler, named Artist in Residence for 1987 by Farmington Area Arts Commission, from 3-9 p.m. in gallery in Novi Town Center, Grand River and I-96.

● **ADOLESCENT EDUCATION**
Wednesday, Jan. 2: Eight week Adolescent Education Series designed for high risk adolescents includes alcohol and drug education and skill building, beginning at 3:30 p.m. in Farmington Area Advisory

Council, 23450 Middlebelt Road, Fee is \$8 per session. Complete series is advised. Registration and inquiries taken by the council office, 477-6767.

● **ADULT EDUCATION**
Thursday, Jan. 3: Registrations taken through Jan. 21 for free high school completion classes and free Saturday or evening GED (General Education Diploma) preparation classes offered through Farmington Adult Education in Farmington Community School, 30415 Shawwassee. Office hours are 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. daily; and from 5-9 p.m. Monday through Thursday. Inquiries taken by calling the school, 469-3333. Classes begin the week of Jan. 21.

● **ELECTRONIC CONTRASTS**
Friday, Jan. 4: "Electronic Contrasts," art exhibit of new technology in image making, opens with reception for the artists from 5-7 p.m. in Birmingham Bloomfield Art Association, 1516 S. Cranbrook Road, Birmingham. No charge. Exhibit continues through Jan. 26.

Kenbrook students entertain seniors

Students from Kenbrook Elementary School furnished the entertainment for the pre-Christmas party in American Houses this month. Caroling, tree trimming, gift giving, puppet shows and plays are some of the highlights for December parties that take place in 14 American Houses in southeast Michigan.

The residents of these houses have established exchange programs with elementary school children in their communities.

Get-togethers include presenting musical productions, visiting, reading stories, playing games and tutoring.

-On the Town-
DINING & ENTERTAINMENT

4 DAY "FLOOR SAMPLE" CLEARANCE
THRU SUN., DEC. 30

- DUTAILIER
- VIRGINIA HOUSE
- ROBINSON
- NURSERY
- CHILDRENS
- DOUBLES

3337 Auburn Rd. 1 Mile W. of Adams 853-7440

THE BUTCHER, THE BAKER, THE CANDLESTICK MAKER...

Just a few of the businesses a new homeowner needs after moving in. In fact, the list is endless. So why not help the new families in your community find your business more quickly by sponsoring the Getting To Know You program in your area. Join the finest merchants, professionals and home service companies welcoming new homeowners with our housewarming gift and needed information about exclusive sponsors. Try us and see why Getting To Know You helps both the new homeowner and YOU.

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WELCOMING NEWCOMERS NATIONWIDE
To become a sponsor, call (800) 645-6376
In New York State (505) 632-9400

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of Windsor

January Sale Prices Now in Effect

Shop and Compare
Discover the advantage of shopping **ARPINS** for quality and value

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- No Sales Tax
- Full Premium on U.S. Furids
- Fur Specialist for 65 Years

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1-519-253-5612
Hours: Starting Dec. 12, M-F 9-8, Sat. 9-5, S-O

Childhood programs meeting high standards

Now in its fifth year of operation, the accreditation program of the National Academy of Early Childhood Programs has become accepted nationwide as a standard for quality of early childhood programs. The program is a division of the National Association for the Education of Young Children.

Since 1986, 1,400 centers throughout the U.S. have been accredited; 3,710 are currently enrolled in a self-study, first step in the process. In Michigan, there are 39 accredited centers and 104 engaged in self-studies.

Accredited centers must meet more than 80 criteria in 10 categories. A validation is good for three years, with interim reports submitted annually by the center. Thus, a

center is constantly evaluating its program.

In the past year, other organizations in conjunction with the NAEYC, have also set up accreditation programs.

A branch of the National Council of Churches, the Ecumenical Child Care Network, has recently set up its own accreditation process to complement that of the NAEYC.

THIS PROGRAM program is intended for use by churches or synagogues with a weekly early childhood program.

According to EECN director Margery Freeman, the purpose is to help establish a good relationship between the early childhood program and the host church or synagogue.



child care
Marcie Walker

"Even a good program can be diminished if there is a poor relationship with the church or synagogue. The program may be independently run, but they need to have open lines of communications and understand the mission of the church or synagogue," she said.

Examples of problems that might arise from problems such as sharing space with a Sunday school.

"They often don't know each

other, and you can end up with a situation where cabinets are locked or 'do not touch' signs are posted everywhere," said Freeman. "This can affect a program and cause children to not feel welcome."

Additional issues include the differences in salaries and benefits between other congregational employees and those in the early childhood program.

Also, according to Freeman, these programs are often loosely sponsored by the church or synagogue, and congregation members might assume that certain religious teaching was part of the program when, in fact, it was not.

The EECN accreditation process involves a self-study in areas as finance, program structure, communication and administration. A nominal fee is charged.

A validation visit is not part of the process, since most goals are accomplished on paper.

A commission is being set up to review the paperwork and, if accredited, they will receive recognition from the National Council of Churches.

A book about the program, "Congregations and Child Care," is available through the NAEYC (800-424-2460) or EECN (212-870-2664).

Photographer has best looking pet

Farmington Hills resident Gary Carlson has taken the first prize in the Best Looking Pet category in the Pets and Their People Pageant photo contest.

There were just under 1,000 entries in the contest sponsored by Entertainment Publications Inc.

Another Farmington Hills resident, Michelle Warrington, took the third place spot in the Most Creative Picture category.

Entertainment, the original discount leisure and travel coupon book, sponsored the contest to kick off its newest book, "Pets and Their People," which offers nearly \$5,000 worth of savings on supplies, veterinarians, boarding, training and other products and services for pets and their owners.

'Hey Santa' promotes the spirit of giving

"Hey Santa -- Is My Name on Your List?" is a new song played these past couple of weeks, released by Yessian Music in Farmington

Hills. The song is sung by Randi Kaye, an 11-year-old girl, who is asking Santa not to forget "the little people without" during the holiday season.

Though the tune is not for sale, the creators are hopeful that it prompts the spirit of giving in behalf of the less fortunate.

The music and production is the work of Dan Yessian. Words to the song are by Doug Powers, from D'Arcy Masius Benton & Bowles Creative Department.

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They are our neighbors in a world that grows smaller every day.

Through CCF, you can sponsor a neighbor's child. The cost is \$15 a month - just \$2 a day - to help a poor child in Asia, Africa or Latin America - a child who has virtually nothing.

Please pick up your phone now and dial the toll free number below. Be a good neighbor by helping an innocent child.

Christian Children's Fund, Inc.
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