

Poison control

Simple measures help keep children safe

How many well-meaning parents aren't prepared if their children swallow a poisonous substance? Make sure you're not one of those parents by following simple tips that are emphasized during the nationally observed Poison Prevention Week, March 20-26. A poison prevention booth will be set up to handle questions during the week of March 20-26 at Maple Drugstore at Grand River and Drake. Medicines, household substances, insect sprays, furniture polishes, stains and solvents are most frequently the cause of ac-

cidental poisoning among children. Also, household and garden plants can cause plant poisoning in children. Syrup of ipecac is essential in treating some poisoning. "It's essential for anyone with children under 6 years old to have syrup of ipecac," according to a Children's Hospital of Michigan spokeswoman. "But you should call your poison control center or doctor before using it, because there are some substances, like bleach, that you would not want them to throw up," she added.

Here are tips to prevent accidental poisoning:
 ■ Lock all household products and medicines in a cabinet.
 ■ Make sure all household products and medicines have child-resistant packaging. This is especially important with grand-children who have visiting grandchildren.
 ■ Keep all products in their original containers. Labels on the original containers often give first aid information if someone should accidentally swallow the product.
 ■ Never refer to medicines as "candy." When left alone, children may locate the bottle and eat

or drink its contents.
 ■ Keep the telephone numbers of your doctor, hospital and local poison control center in a handy place.
 ■ Household products should be stored away from food and medications. Death from accidental poisoning could be the result of a mistaken identity.
 ■ Never leave a cleaning product or medication in sight, even to answer the phone or doorbell. Remember: Children act fast.
 For more information regarding poisoning, call Children's Hospital of Michigan, Poison Control Center, (313) 745-5711.

Mystery story contest provides fun for readers

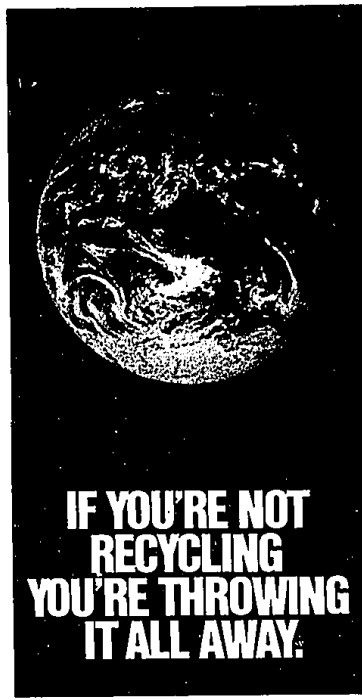
Farmington police Detective Imma Balfoono scratched her scalp, dragged on her cigarette and took a gulp of coffee in one fell swoop of her hand. "Tell me, when did you see him last?" she asked the lanky woman standing in front of her. "Well, it had to be about 3 p.m. Thursday," Jane Fink said, starting at the ground. "I just finished reading my Farmington Observer when the doorbell rang. He stopped by to pick up the last pages of the mystery novel we were writing together. He promised he'd call me later that night."

"But, the phone never rang," Fink continued. Tell us how this mystery should end. The author who writes the best finish will see his or her work published in your Farmington Observer Suburban Life section on March 24. We're looking for the funniest, most novel approach to this spoof set in the Farmington area. The winner will receive a gift certificate from Cadillac Cafe on Grand River between Orchard Lake and Middlebelt roads. A copy of, "Pronto," written by El-

more Leonard, a mystery novelist from Birmingham, also will be awarded just in case the dinner conversation lags. Entries should be between 800 and 1,000 words and must be submitted to The Farmington Observer office, 21898 Farmington Road, Farmington 48336 south of Nine Mile, or by FAX: 477-9722, by March 18. Submissions by Suburban Communications employees and their families will not be considered. A committee of Observer & Eccentric reporters and editors will judge the entries.

Center board selected

Representatives of The Community Center, Farmington/Farmington Hills, invite the public to visit, look around, sign up for a class or two, and consider renting the facility for an upcoming function. A new center board was recently named. Members are: Ben Marks, president and executive director; Blair Brown, vice president; Linda Wantin, secretary; and Marcia Ventura, treasurer. The center is at 24705 Farmington Road. For more information, call 477-8404.



IF YOU'RE NOT RECYCLING YOU'RE THROWING IT ALL AWAY.

A little reminder from the Environmental Defense Fund that if you're not recycling, you're throwing away a lot more than just your trash.

You and your community can recycle. Write the Environmental Defense Fund at: EDF-Recycling, 257 Park Avenue South, New York, NY 10010, for a free brochure that will tell you virtually everything you need to know about recycling.



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Community Women plan spring projects

Farmington Area Community Women are sponsoring Easter giving trees at various locations in the Farmington area. Tags, designated for needy Farmington area families, are chosen from the trees and returned with an Easter basket filled with special treats.

Among the projects, the group is sponsoring a Baby Beautiful Contest.

One prize will be awarded in each age group. Prizes are donated by Farmington/Farmington Hills merchants. Photographs will not be returned. For more information, call Marianne Ellis at 626-9571. Send the photos and donations to BBC, 29047 Ramblewood, Farmington Hills 48334.

minimum donation with each picture. The donation should be made payable to SIDS, Sudden Infant Death Syndrome.

On the back of each picture, include the parents' and child's name, address, telephone number and child's birth date.

The Easter giving trees are located at Metro Bank offices at Grand River and Halstead, Farmington Road and 12 Mile and Grand River between Farmington and Orchard Lake roads; Farmington Hills Library; First Federal Bank, Farmington Road south of Grand River; and Farmington City Hall.

Participants should submit a recent photo of the child with a \$4

PaineWebber asks:

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Join us at one of our free seminars.

Troy MSU Management Center Tuesday, March 15 7:00-9:00 PM	Dearborn Hyatt Regency Wednesday, March 16 7:00-9:00 PM
Livonia Livonia Civic Center Tuesday, March 22 7:00-9:00 PM	

Speakers:
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For reservations call Lynn Riehie at (800) 533-1407 or (810) 737-5467.

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As we celebrate our 6th anniversary, we, representing the 200 staff members of Peachwood Inn and Borden Court, take great pride in knowing that we offer residents and their families the very best of care and services. Providing the finest in Assisted Living, basic and skilled nursing and special care for residents with Alzheimer's and other dementias has and always will continue to be our goal.

We are proud of our impeccable reputation. We are proud to be able to provide unexcelled older adult health care to our community. It has been a very rewarding six years. It has been an honor to know and serve all our residents and their families and friends.

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