

NEWS

FARMINGTON NOTES

FHS team shines

Make room in the Farmington High School trophy case . . . the school's pompon squad has something to add. The FHS pompon team, coached by Karen Johnson-Maxey, earned a Grand Champs trophy after competition at the Mid American Pompon camp recently at Saginaw State University.

The 19-member team earned firsts in nightly performances and original routine performance, while taking a second place in kick line.

The team consists of seniors Michelle Bartlett, Kelly Dudley, Sherra Kurtz, Sarah Ringstrom and Devon Woodruff; juniors Nicole Berling, Tracy Finlayson, Katya Gravenor, Alyssa Menke, Cheryl Smith, Kelly Smith and Joan Wilson; sophomores Aimee Cameron, Kim Cornwell, Julie Glover, Danielle Hasan, Lauren Helisek, Katie Seed and Kristen Treat.

Ringstrom and Woodruff are co-captains.

Additionally, seven Farmington girls were selected to the Mid American Pompon all-star team. It will perform at such events as the Thanksgiving Day Parade, Detroit Drive championship game and a college football bowl game.

The Farmington all stars are Finlayson, Helisek, Kurtz, Ringstrom, Seed, Kelly Smith and Woodruff.

All about parenting

The Family Education Committee of Farmington Youth Assistance will offer two parenting classes beginning in September.

"Children: The Challenge" for parents of elementary-school-age children will start Monday, Sept. 19, and run Mondays for 10 weeks from 7:30-9:30 p.m.

"STEP/Teen" (Systematic Training for Effective Parenting) will begin Thursday, Sept. 29, and run from 7:30-9:30 p.m. Thursdays for 10 weeks.

All classes will be held at the Ten Mile School in Farmington. Registration fee is \$20 per person and \$25 per couple, books and materials included. To register, call Farmington Youth Assistance at 489-3434.

Items for Farmington Notes may be mailed to the Farmington Observer, 21898 Farmington Road, Farmington 48336, faxed to 477-9722 or dropped off at the newspaper office.

Cops: Retiring police chaplain has got the goods



"He's been there for officers when they needed him," says a Farmington Hills detective of the Rev. Richard Karr, retiring police chaplain. Karr served the department for 15 years.

BY BILL COUTANT
STAFF WRITER

Farmington Hills police have a spot to fill, but they'll have trouble dipping into the ranks for a replacement.

The Rev. Richard Karr, the Hills police chaplain, is retiring. He was honored Aug. 17 for his 15 years of service to the department.

"He's been there for officers when they needed him," said detective Tim Swanson, who presented Karr with a plaque from the Police Officers Association. "During the Flight 255 tragedy, when there were shootings, with (the late detective) Bert Cook, he was there."

Karr, who retired as pastor of Northwest Baptist Church in Farmington Hills, became the department chaplain in January of 1979. During his tenure, he has been available to department members, their families and citizens. He has volunteered in excess of 700 hours a year to the program.

Karr also served as secretary of the Michigan Police Chaplains Association, edited the association's newsletter and was regional director of the International Conference of Police Chaplains.

Karr and his wife Yvonne are retiring to Chattanooga, Tenn., to be closer to their daughter Sheryl and her family. Karr said he planned to make contacts in the Volunteer

State and resume his avocation as a police chaplain there.

"I love this, and I wouldn't want to do without it," he said after the ceremony.

"I didn't come for the excitement," he said. "I came because God wanted me to. It was a great experience. I tried to honor God at every chance."

Swanson related a story that Karr took in good humor: The chaplain went to a hospital to visit a female patient toward dinner time.

The woman was asleep so the chaplain waited by her bed patiently. But as it was near dinner time and he was hungry, he saw a jar of peanuts that had been left by the bed for the woman.

As she slept, he grabbed the jar and had a few peanuts. She continued to sleep and the famished chaplain continued to eat until the peanuts were gone.

When she awoke, the two had a conversation, but the chaplain confessed that he felt guilty for having eaten the peanuts. The woman replied, "Oh, that's all right. I've already sucked the chocolate off them."

Hills police Chief Bill Dwyer presented Karr with a watch with the department's shield as a token of appreciation.

"The department is going to miss him," Dwyer said.



Heartfelt farewell: Retiring Farmington Hills police Chaplain Richard Karr (left) accepts congratulations from another police chaplain, Ralph Rebandt, in ceremonies last week in the city council chambers. Karr, who served as chaplain for the past 15 years, is moving with his wife, Yvonne, to Tennessee to be closer to their daughter and her family

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21' Round	\$70	\$49	18x32' rect	\$80	\$56
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28' Round	\$120	\$84	20x40' rect	\$130	\$95

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For more information call OCC Admissions at 540-1549

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