

# Area Jaycees' Family Week again recognizes home life

BY TIM SMITH  
STAFF WRITER

It's a busy world where family time occasionally gets short-changed. But during this Thanksgiving week, the Farmington Area Jaycees are giving families their due.

Today through Saturday, it officially is Jaycee Family Week in the city of Farmington. A resolution proclaiming the special week was adopted by council members at last Monday's regular meeting.

Requesting the resolution on behalf of the local Jaycees was chapter president Christa Murphy. She later elaborated about the importance of getting the city's backing.

"The significance of having the city recognize this is it validates the importance of Jaycee Family Week," Murphy said. "Not only within our organization, but in the community."

"The importance of the family unit is being observed this week by Jaycees throughout the United States, according to the reso-

lution.

Murphy said there are about 75 men and women in the Farmington Area Jaycees, all between ages 21-39. They live in and serve both the cities of Farmington and Farmington Hills.

"Some are married, some are single," she explained. "Some have families, some do not. So, as we take time out of our family lives to give to the community, it's significant for the community to say 'Take time out for your family.'"

The Cornucopia Ball, a benefit for the Farmington Hills Community Foundation for Children, Youth and Families, which Murphy attended on Nov. 16 at the William Costick Center, was called an example of how the community values family values.

"Everyone that was there seemed to have a focus," Murphy said, "on upbringing and programs for children in our community. There were a lot of parents there, people concerned for their families."

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abiding interest and commitment to the community we serve."

Dr. John Richardson expressed similar feelings, though punctuated by his typical off-the-cuff humor. Plaza Veterinary Hospital has been in Farmington since 1961.

His is the second longest operating business in the area behind 39-year-old Farmington Shoe Repair, which the veterinarian is quick to point out.

"When I walk in there, I ask 'Andy (Konjarovich, owner), how are you feeling?' I really mean it because I want to be number one," said Richardson, drawing laughs. "I don't think I'll ever pass Andy; He looks pretty healthy."

Richardson served on Farmington City Council, including a term as mayor, and helped establish the city's Uptown area on Grand River, near Orchard Lake, which continues as a

vibrant business district.

Richardson was cited for promoting healthy pet ownership and offering tours of his veterinary hospital to schools and scout groups. He also runs the popular Pet Show event during Kids Day in the Park as part of Founders Festival week.

Richardson is turning the business over to his longtime partner Dr. David Carron. He and wife, Shirley, also a former Farmington council member, have moved to Waterford.

"I've always told our children, 'You're judged by who you associate it with,'" Richardson said. "I'm associated with a great bunch of people here. I've learned if you want to soar with eagles, you don't hang around a bunch of turkeys."

The Farmington/Farmington



Entertaining: Kirsten Haglund sings "Somewhere Over the Rainbow" during dinner, drawing enthusiastic applause.

Hills Chamber of Commerce has clawed its way back from the doldrums of the 1960s. Strong turnout for Thursday's dinner was evidence, with 150 people at Relish Grill.

"We grew more in members than many chambers have in total," said Pope, chamber board director. "We had a good year."

## Hills lights up Nov. 25

The city of Farmington Hills kicks off the holiday season by hosting its fifth annual Holiday Lights Ceremony at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 25, in front of city hall.

Festivities include a holiday sing-along and seasonal reflections, the official tree lighting by Mayor Aldo Vagnozzi and, of course, a visit from Santa Claus.

Children can visit with the jolly man and enjoy refreshments in the new fire station following the ceremony.

## Man with knife robs Hills gas station

A man armed with a knife made off with \$200 during a robbery at a Shell station on Orchard Lake Nov. 19.

Around 8:45 p.m., a man walked into the station and asked the female cashier for directions to Northwestern Highway. He returned 15 minutes later, saying he still couldn't find the highway.

When asked, he said he was

looking for Seven Mile Road. She gave directions and he left again.

He quickly came back inside and said, "I need some money." He came around the counter and showed her a folding knife, which he didn't open. She opened the cash register and fled to Roosevelt's Bar nearby to phone police.

A witness said he saw the cashier run out and then saw the

robber enter the driver's side of a burgundy color mid-1980s GM-type vehicle and speed off on southbound Orchard Lake, running a red light.

The robber was described as black, 5-foot-10 to 6-foot tall, more than 250 pounds. He had crooked teeth and an overbite, the police report said. He was wearing a green pullover sweat shirt and black jogging pants.

**SPOTLIGHT ON**

## Orthodontics

by Josephine Finazza, D.M.D.

### ON THE PERIODONTAL FRONT

According to the American Dental Association, 75% of adults have some form of gum disease. This problem, caused by the buildup of plaque on tooth surfaces, is of concern to orthodontists because periodontitis can damage the underlying support structures that hold teeth in place. As a result of gums and bones loosening hold, teeth begin to shift around in the mouth. In severe cases, teeth fall out and leave open spaces that invite further bite disruption. There are also cases of crooked teeth, which make it difficult to brush and floss effectively enough to prevent plaque buildup. To overcome this vicious cycle, the dentist, periodontist, and orthodontist may collaborate to create a treatment plan that improves oral health.

Did you know that brushing your teeth does far more than simply protect against cavities? It provides essential stimulation to the gums which acts as one of your best preventions against gum disease. The combination of proper brushing and flossing is the key to preventing periodontal disease. Taking preventative measures now can help you avoid the cost and pain of future problems. If you've been experiencing sore and/or bleeding gums, call THE ORTHODONTIC GROUP, 19223 Merriman (442-8885). The initial consultation is free.

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