

Block grant program targets senior citizens

Senior citizen programs again will be the recipient of the city of Farmington's share of Community Development Block Grant Program money.

The Farmington City Council Nov. 15 adopted a resolution to earmark \$32,816 in block grant

money to benefit senior programs.

Of that amount, half will help pay for the programs, which are based out of the William Costick Activities Center on 11 Mile Road.

The remaining portion will be

used for capital improvements to the Costick facility, said Farmington City Manager Frank Lauff.

Only one person spoke during a public hearing preceding the council action. He asked if block grant money could help senior

citizens pay for home repairs. Lauff said there is a separate Oakland County program available for such cases.

Although it is federal money, the Community Development Block Grant Program is administered by Oakland County.

Farmington Community Chorus presents winter concert Dec. 17-18

The Farmington Community Chorus will present its 20th annual winter concert - It Must be the Holiday Season - Friday, Dec. 17 and Saturday, Dec. 18.

Performances will be held at Mercy High School Auditorium, located at 11 Mile and Middlebelt roads in Farmington Hills. Curtain time is 8 p.m. each

evening.

Traditional holiday favorites, as well as rarely heard and contemporary seasonal selections, will be performed by the 80-voice chorus under the direction of Steven SeGraves. Piano and keyboard accompaniment will be provided by Susan Garr.

The Perfect Blend, a select

group made up of 12 voices, will also perform. Solos, duets, and small ensembles will complete the evening's program.

The winter concert always includes an audience carol sing and a visit from Santa Claus for the younger members of the audience.

In past years, the concerts

have been sold out. Tickets for either the Friday or Saturday performances are available from any chorus member or from the Farmington Hills Department of Special Services. For information, to order tickets, CD's and tapes, call Harry or Dixie Doerr at (248) 788-5322.

Cheap from page A1

Livonia Trophy, who is interested in Y2K and is making preparations that can be recycled into everyday life.

Set aside food in cans or sealed glass jars. "Put away canned things that are fully cooked," suggests Lois Thieleke of the Michigan State University Extension Service. But be sure it's food you normally use. "Store foods you can incorporate in your cooking later," Thieleke said. Peanut butter and jelly will store well in a cool place. Honey stores beautifully. "Pretend you're on a camping trip," Thieleke said. "Kids like salsa and chips." Set aside a case or two of soda pop.

"Have things in the fridge for a salad," Thieleke suggested.

It's a good idea to cut down any dead trees you have, said Wilson. "And I've heard about filling your bathtub with water a couple days before the New Year."

Fill your car's gasoline tank after Christmas. That way you have a source of warmth, transportation, a radio (and perhaps a telephone).

Fill your snow blower's gaso-

line tank after each use.

Buying a battery-powered radio was Bill Cassell's first step in getting ready for any possible Y2K problem. Cassell, director of the Information Technology Management Association, put together a Y2K personal diary to help people prepare for all but the most violent Y2K reactions. Cassell can be reached at bcassell@itma.net.

Cassell recommends partially filling your bathtub just before Christmas and then filling it a couple days later. Why so early? Would the water supply be enough for everyone in the U.S. to fill their tubs on Dec. 31, 1999?

Make sure you have fresh batteries for your radio. You can even buy a wind-up radio that needs no batteries.

The American Red Cross wants people to be sure they have a flashlight or two. A flash-

light, too, needs fresh batteries. Many cellular telephones are battery powered. Is your cell phone battery fresh?

Check the weather-stripping around your home. Fix it if needed. Likewise, check the caulking around your home.

Don't count on candles. The Red Cross warns against using open flame, especially if communications with the Fire Department are dead.

If you smoke, buy a carton or two of cigarettes before the first of the year.

Withdraw some cash from the bank. Keep it (safely) around your home. If nothing happens, put it back in the bank to pay off those holiday bills.

"No adventurous travel for me. I plan to watch the (New Year's) ball drop on my TV," Cassell explained.

If you use a Visa credit card, also get a MasterCard or a Discover card or an American Express card, just in case.

Put aside a two-week supply of personal medication. If the medication needs to be cooled, find the ice chest. Before the new

year, set your refrigerator to make extra ice cubes to keep the medicine cool.

A box of bandages and disinfectant cream are handy.

Do you have your vaccination records, as well as those of your children?

If you have a propane-fueled grill, fill the tank. If you have a charcoal grill, buy charcoal.

If you have made other preparations, make sure you know how to use them. It does no good to have a gasoline-powered generator if you are not confident you know how to hook it up and run it - or if it has an empty gasoline tank.

If nothing happens, you can look back on these preparations smugly, having spent very little money. Use up all the things you stored in day-to-day living - except for the bottled water. Let your heirs wonder what to do with it.

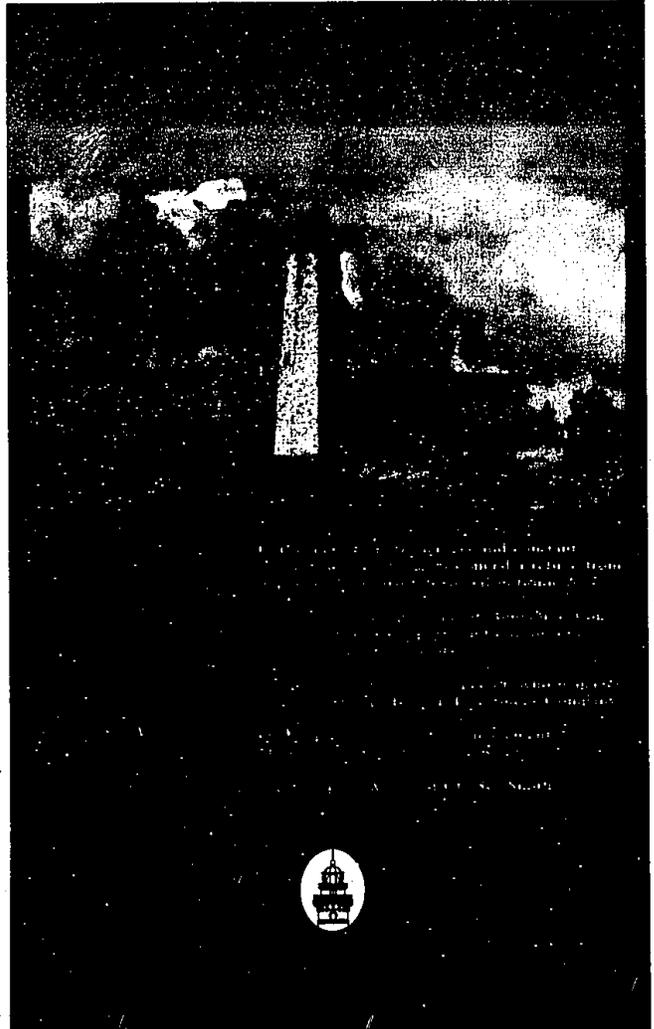
Library's note: The following is an update of happenings at the Farmington Community Library. For more information, contact the Hillside branch at (583) 0300, the downtown Farmington branch at 474-7770. Library programs and events may also be found on the library's home page at www.farmlib.org

Children's Area

- Now ready for public use: A new color Xerox machine is available at the main library. Prices for 8 1/2 x 11 are \$1 and 11x17 are \$1.50. Prints may be paid for by using dollar bills or coins.
- A CD-ROM collection has been unveiled and is ready to circulate at both the main library and Farmington branch. Selections include computers, business, college preparation, history, language instruction, art, science and medicine. CD-ROMs circulate for one week. There is no charge to check out these items. There is an overdue fee of 20 cents per day. These collections were purchased by the generous support of the Farmington Friends of the Library.
- The Farmington/Michigan History Room has been relocated to the lower level at the main library. The collection is available for in-library use only during regular library hours.
- Genealogists take note! Family Tree Maker is the newest CD-ROM addition to the main library's adult services department. Family Tree Maker allows users who have already done their research to input their personal family tree. The software can also link users to Internet genealogy sites on the World Wide Web. Sign up to use this software at the Adult Information Desk. Two-hour time slots are available.

Programs/Classes

- The Picnic Puppets will present The Golden Snowflake, a puppet show about the meaning of gift-giving at the Farmington branch at 7 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 8, and at 7 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 8 at the main library. The program is sponsored by the Farmington Friends of the Library.
- Time is running out! The millennium is fast approaching so don't miss out on offering one of our Internet and other computer programs soon. Classes are offered at both branches of the library. Registration is required for all Internet and computer classes.
- World Wide Web Basics and World Wide Web Basics 2 are hands-on classes offered every week on Wednesday and Saturday mornings at the Farmington branch, and Thursday evenings and Saturday morning at the main library.
- Volunteer instructor Michael Lewis conducts Beyond Point & Click, a series of computer sessions on topics including e-mail, privacy and security, virus and PC invasions, and more at 2:30 p.m. and 7 p.m. every Wednesday at the main library only.
- Learn How to Find Stuff on the Web in our search engines class at 7 p.m. Monday, Dec. 20 at the main library.
- Finding and Printing Magazine Articles by using the Info Trac Search Bank will be demonstrated at 9:15 a.m. Thursday, Dec. 16 and the main library.
- Using the Library Catalog will teach users how to locate materials, place holds and renew books at 9:15 a.m. Friday, Dec. 17 at the Farmington branch, and at 9:15 a.m. Thursday, Dec. 23 at the main library.



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