

Open house will spotlight alternative middle school

**BY TIM SMITH
STAFF WRITER**

The Farmington-based Southwest Alternative Middle School Monday night will show parents what it's all about, just a little more than one month into its first year.

An open house is scheduled for 6:30 p.m. Monday in Room 1 at Farmington Training Center, 33000 Thomas St., where the program is housed during 1998-99.

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ATTENTION:

theater groups, schools and charity organizations

Laurel Park Place would like to donate props, used in past display and Christmas setup to a group(s) who would put it to good use. If your group is interested in any of these items, a written response must be received by Friday, October 16, 1998 including a paragraph indicating who would benefit from such a donation, and how it would be put to use. Also, please indicate first, second, and third choices of props and quantities, along with contact name, address and phone numbers to:

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Attn: Prop Giveaway
37700 W. Six Mile Road
Livonia, Michigan 48152

22 Harlequin clown rings with porcelain faces and hands. 4' ring, clown sits inside. Teal, Pink and Gold.

4 Harlequin upright clowns with post support

34 12" Harlequin clown ornaments

16 13" gold ornaments

16 2' high drums. Comes with gold fence posts to make into a fence

24 Hanging french drum cut outs

24 Lifesize ballerina figurine and mechanical base

An abundance of Christmas ceiling banners

If you would like to see these items, a showing has been set for Tuesday, October 13th at 10 am and 5:20 pm. Please report to the management office at Laurel Park Place at these times only.

The Oakland Schools' endorsed consortium opened Aug. 24, with the task of providing a year of "meaningful quality educational experience" to youngsters ages 11-14 who have

struggled in traditional school settings.

Farmington Public Schools is one of five districts sending students to the "school of choice" center, run by Director Russell Averill, with those students being willing participants to attend. Those youngsters are from 15 middle schools.

Recently, Averill briefed the Farmington school board about the center - which is sharing space with high school students in the Farmington Alternative Academy. There are about 60 students enrolled into both the middle school and high school alternative schools.

"We want to get kids in school and make it a positive experience," Averill said. "Because a lot of these kids have had negative experiences, since they just don't function real well in a larger school setting."

The idea is for students to get re-energized about going to

school, said Averill, listing self-esteem and conflict resolution among featured areas of attention. Others include applying technology to real-life situations, working with adult role models and academic remediation.

During the first month, Averill said parents have been enthusiastic and supportive about the center. More of that excitement might come through at the open house.

"They're really excited that there's an opportunity like this," Averill said. "They're looking for an alternative for their child and we're working real hard to make it a viable option for them."

The less-than-desired logistics of middle schoolers and high schoolers sharing the same wing of classes at the Farmington Training Center are something Averill and Farmington Alternative Academy coordinator Diane Duthie are dealing with.

Schedules are adjusted so that

the two alternative programs aren't dumping kids into the hallway at the same time, Duthie said. Middle school kids also don't eat lunch with the high school students.

The need to share the facility was almost an emergency situation, said Farmington schools Superintendent Bob Maxfield. He noted that the SWAMS had a facility lined up in Walled Lake, but the deal fell through following a fire marshal's inspection.

"There would have to be extensive and costly renovation" to that facility, Maxfield said. He said there remain hopes that a more-suitable central location will be found for the program, perhaps before the 1999-00 school year.

Besides Farmington, districts with students attending the center are Huron Valley, Novi, South Lyon and West Bloomfield.

FREE LEGAL ADVICE

Attorney Robert J. Bosick, with over 20 years experience, will give a talk on **WILLS** and **PROBATE** that answers the following questions:

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- What are great practical ways to avoid probate with real estate & stock?

A question and answer session will follow.

No fee for this community education event.

Monday, October 5, 1998
7:30-8:30 p.m.

Southfield Parks and Recreation Building
Room 224

Located on the North Side of the Southfield Civic Center 101 Mile and Evergreen

For Assistance, call (248) 559-8130

FARMINGTON BUSINESS SCENE

Franchise Seminar

Potential franchisees can learn about opportunities in entrepreneurship from 6:30-9 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 26, at the Holiday Inn Livonia, 17123 N. Laurel Park Drive.

The event is sponsored by A&W Restaurants, Inc. of Farmington Hills, Children's Orchard of Ann Arbor, Fantastic Sam's of Livonia, Molly Maid of Ann Arbor, 7-11 Convenience Stores, Ziebart Tidy Car of Troy and

Target Lending. Call (248) 699-2000, Ext. 9196.

Colorist gets promotion

Grace & Wild Digital Studios of Farmington Hills has announced the promotion of Rob Randall to the position of senior colorist.

Randall is a graduate of Wayne State University and has been with the company for four years.

Painting & Bodyworks

Painting & Bodyworks is a nationally ranked 247 vehicles, third best total for centers in its category, during a national "All-Star" competition.



Chuck Kadado

Hills resident named board exec.

Farmington Hills resident Chuck Kadado, chief executive officer of AMEX International Trading Company, is the newest member of the board of the Detroit Executive Corps.

Amex International assists United States manufacturers who want to do business in the Middle East.



Colorist Rob Randall

Center tops painting chain

The Farmington MAACO Auto

Forum from page A1

the Farmington Training Center. Community representatives will respond to the issues and concerns raised at the Oct. 8 forum.

For additional information, call the office of Farmington schools Superintendent Bob Maxfield at 489-3339.

In the late 1980s, the Farmington/Farmington Hills Multicultural/Multiracial Community Council began meeting informally as a group of parents, police, school and city officials to discuss religious, racial and cultural differences.

Since early 1990, representa-

tives from Farmington Public Schools, students, the Farmington and Farmington Hills city governments, the religious community and other interested citizens have been meeting on a regular basis.

In 1993, the council sponsored its first open forum on multicultural and multiracial diversity and since then has worked toward providing a program that would truly reach out to citizens and offer a monthly opportunity for communitywide exchange.

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Dentistry in the 90s
by Herbert M. Gardner, D.D.S.

HELPING WOMEN AVERT TOOTH LOSS

Women commonly experience tooth loss as they get older. On average, women lose about 12 permanent teeth by age 65, and about half of women over the age of 75 have lost all their teeth. The good news is that older women may be able to avert tooth loss by engaging in hormone replacement therapy. This notion is based on analysis of the record of nearly 300 women between the ages of 72 and 93 who participated in the Framingham Heart Study. It was found that those who used hormone therapy at some time retained more of their teeth than those who never took replacement hormones. The longer women took the hormones, the fewer teeth they lost.

This column on hormone replacement therapy has been brought to you by LIVONIA VILLAGE DENTAL ASSOCIATES in the interest of better dental health. Even the subtlest change in your smile can make a dramatic difference in the way you look and feel. And when you feel and look good, you project a confident self-image. We're located at 19171 Merriman Road, where we think you will be delighted with the treatment and counsel you receive. Please call 478-2110 to schedule an appointment. Smiles are our business.

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Beata Weiermiller, MD, is a specialist in Obstetrics and Gynecology, treating women of all ages. She has a special interest in adolescent gynecology, laser and laparoscopic procedures, and urogynecology. Dr. Weiermiller earned her medical degree at Michigan State University College of Human Medicine, and completed her internship and residency at Indiana University Medical Center. She is a member of the American College of Obstetrics and Gynecology, and is fluent in Polish.

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Arthritis Today

JOSEPH J. WEISS, M.D. RHEUMATOLOGY
18829 Farmington Road
Livonia, Michigan 48152
Phone: (248) 478-7880

ACHING ALL OVER WHEN ARTHRITIS IS IN THE JOINTS

The problem with arthritis is that when your joints are inflamed, you may ache all over and feel fatigued throughout the day.

A person not informed on the matter may tell you that you are upset or depressed. Another response you are likely to hear is that because of lack of exercise you have lost stamina or from prolonged sitting become out of shape.

Such explanations fail to grasp that arthritis, particularly rheumatoid arthritis affects the whole body. The basis of joint inflammation is the formation of chemicals that irritate the cells of the joint lining. These irritating substances do not remain confined to the joint, but are carried by the blood stream throughout the body.

The tissue and cartilage result from the effect of these chemicals, called cytokines, upon brain centers and muscle fibers. Treatment does not depend on more rest but on controlling your arthritis to prevent the production of more cytokines.

The difficulty your physician faces is that the medications available for arthritis are of slow and uncertain onset. In contrast, you need relief now. Steroids, either by mouth or injection, are the means by which doctors try to bridge the gap between need and time.

Use a number of solutions in medical care, this approach does not always work. What you need not lose sight of, is that your mood, fatigue, and joint pain are related and what helps the joints will help all of you.

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