

Amazing: Ball co-chair Joanne Smith, Councilwoman Nancy Bates and Channel 7 anchor Diana Lewis look at one of the dollhouses auctioned.

Cornucopia from page A1

which is why we charge this amount," Smith said. "We do one big annual splash. And the ball is an introduction to the holiday season."

Harry Hairston, Channel 50 anchor, emceed the live auction, while Channel 7 anchor Diana Lewis served as the honorary chairwoman of the celebration.

This is the second year Diana served as our honorary chair and she is a warm and loving person," Smith said.

Entertainment was provided by the Mark Phillips - of Harrison High School Marching Band fame - Band. The meal was catered by Gourmet Express with wine donated by John Ginopolis and the bar by Page's restaurant in Farmington. Former state Rep. Jan Dolan made the table decorations of cornucopias filled with seasonal flowers.

The event was supported by a series of patrons, benefactors and major sponsors. Colorful crystal globes were given to the event's major sponsors.

"This is all done through volunteers and it doesn't get done unless the volunteers put in a lot of time," said Richard Daguanno, foundation chairman.

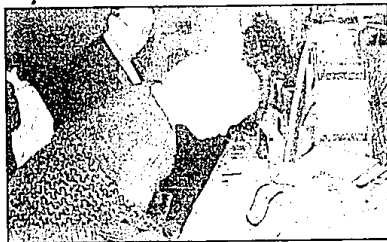
"I'm so grateful to everybody," Smith said. "Anybody who chairs something like this goes through all the emotions of elation, self-doubt, frustration, stress and love."

Foundation honorary hosts and benefactors included: Botsford General Hospital, Botsford Health Continuum, Botsford Professional Staff, Farmington Observer, Fourteenth Avenue Cartage, JEBCO Investments LC, Jim and Bea Ryan and Family, TRW Foundation.

Foundation patrons and contributors included: Detroit Edison, Hubbel, Roth & Clark, Italo American Condominium, Metro Bank, Plante & Moran, Time Warner Cable, U.R.S. Griner.

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Nightlife: Lee and Paul Blizman on the dance floor during the Fourth Annual Cornucopia Ball at the William Costick Activities Center. Music was provided by the Mark Phillips Band. Phillips is the director of the Harrison High School Marching Band.



Taking a chance: Sally LePla-Perry and husband Jim Perry bid in the silent auction.



Mingle: Richard Daguanno, chairman of the foundation board, Dianne Hersey and board member Ty Tarr chat during the nightlong event.

Guard for Gill to be hired

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Farmington city and school officials credit Longacre Elementary School parents who have volunteered in recent years to help youngsters cross busy Gill Road at Arundel. But, they agree the time has come to turn the job over to a trained, adult crossing guard.

Last week, the Farmington City Council unanimously approved the recommendation of the city's traffic and safety board to hire an adult crossing guard. That person would work the corner every morning and afternoon, earning an annual salary of \$5,000.

"We'll get one as soon as we can," said Farmington Public Safety Director Gary Goss following the council meeting. "We should be out there shortly."

Goss, also on the traffic and safety board, noted that applicants must be 18 years old, be reliable and know the school and surrounding area. One day of training will be required. The guard will be stationed at the crosswalk between 8:15-8:45 a.m. and 3:45-4:15 p.m. every school day.

"It's going to make it easier on a lot of mothers who have been volunteering," Goss said, about the impact of the decision. "It (also) will provide more consistency and protection in the morning."

Longacre principal William Smith, who said he was happy with the council's decision, explained that, although moms and dads were able to help children cross in the afternoon, mornings were a different story.

"Young kids pretty much had that corner all to themselves" in the morning, Smith said. "And that's when traffic is more heavy, more complex."

Smith added that the hiring "reinforces for me the cooperation and response we get from being in Farmington. The public safety department is fantastic."

Longacre parent Dan Penning said council's decision supported how those in the school community felt. The intersection warranted a full-time crossing guard.

"We have committed parents out there helping children cross," Penning said. "But having some-



Safety: A crossing guard will be hired for the Gill Road crossing that leads to Longacre Elementary School.

one who everybody recognizes is in charge is very significant."

Penning and Smith added that having a crossing guard will alleviate pressure on those safety patrol children who have assisted their classmates across Gill.

"This is a natural progression, something that's needed for the safety of our kids and we feel very, very good about it," Penning said.

The recommendation from the traffic and safety board followed a lengthy review of the intersection, to find out whether an adult crossing guard was needed.

According to the study, between 21-47 Longacre students between ages 5-11 use the crosswalk every day, and 83 youngsters are designated walkers and could use the location.

Between 8:15-8:45 a.m., when Longacre students are going to school, an estimated 100 vehicles

passed through the intersection, at an average speed of 38 miles per hour. The corner, meanwhile, also is where a bus stop for Our Lady of Sorrows is located.

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In a report from Farmington City Manager Frank Lauhoff to council members, "Other evaluations of the intersection included gap studies that are designed to determine if the flow of traffic presents adequate time for the students to safely cross from curb to curb. These studies indicate that adequate gaps are becoming less frequent as traffic increases."

Farmington already has an adult crossing guard working at Sorrows, said Lauhoff.



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