

Hills residents on board of best non-profit

Charles Corrier, Emily McSweeney and Theresa Orsak-Rich, all of Farmington Hills, are trustees of the Upshaw Institute for the Blind, recently named "Best Managed Nonprofit for 2000" by Crain's Detroit Business.

Upshaw Institute was selected based on its sound management policies and a vision toward future growth through its endowment. The institute will receive public recognition at Crain's Newsmaker Luncheon with the Economic Club of Detroit and Detroit Women's Economic Club on Feb. 14.

Upshaw Institute for the Blind has provided rehabilitation and consultation services for seniors age 60 and over who are blind or visually impaired since 1961. Additionally it distributes information and offers special programming. For information call (313) 272-3900.

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BUSINESS NEWS

Local kids win computers

Zaconta recently awarded new computers to area students and their schools for those who submitted a winning essay in their annual contest. The subject of the essay encourages students to predict the future of computers and how they will continue to revolutionize the world.

Farmington and Farmington Hills had the following winners:

1ST PLACE

■ An HP Pavilion 6736 Personal Computer with monitor for home and for the school: Daniel Bruder - Beechview Elementary, Melissa Morof - Warner Middle School, Mallory Mecham - Dunckel Middle School, Jessica Crawford - Farmington High School, Brian Doughty - North Farmington High School, Katie Benedict, Anne Nicole and Margaret Leyman - Mercy High.

2ND AND 3RD PLACE

■ Five weeks of computer camp: Nyssa Rabinowitz - East Middle School, Samantha Halberstadt - Farmington High School, Jessica Lindsey - Warner Middle School and Joseph Kasas - Farmington High School, Alison Kranz and Abbey Fembert - Mercy High School.

An awards ceremony was held Dec. 20 at the Doubletree Guest Suites in Southfield.

When asked why Zaconta decided to offer students the opportunity to write an essay to win a new computer, Sam Sura-peneni stated, "I wanted to do

something to encourage our local youth to get excited about computers and the future of technology in our community. What better way than to give away free computers. Now the kids will have the opportunity on a daily basis, to enhance their computer skills and hopefully, one day, make a choice to pursue a career in the information technology industry."

Zaconta is a leading U.S. based, global provider of IT consultants specializing in providing e-business services, CRM/ERP Solutions and professional IT consulting services. Zaconta headquarters is in Southfield.

Named to USCAR post

Bob Culver of Ford Motor Company has been named United States Council for Automotive Research executive director for a two-year assignment beginning Jan. 1.

Culver and his family live in Farmington Hills.

USCAR was formed in 1992 by DaimlerChrysler, Ford and General Motors to leverage the three companies' research and development efforts.

Prior to his appointment, Culver served as policy and business strategy manager, Partnership for a New Generation of Vehicles at Ford.

Culver said his experience working with the PNGV program as well as his work with

the Ford Research Lab prepared him for his new position.

"USCAR stands as a model for conducting pre-competitive research. I am very excited to be joining the USCAR team," he said.

Under his tenure, Culver hopes to continue and expand the collaborative efforts at USCAR.

"Collaboration is an effective way of leveraging our own resources and we must be ever-cognizant of new opportunities. Within the limits of the USCAR charter, we should not limit ourselves to where we already are," he said.

Culver joined Ford in 1968 as a quality control engineer in the climate control division and held several positions in that division leading to principal engineer in 1977.

Following this initial assignment, he served as a staff planning associate on the engineering and research staff and led the formation of the company's corporate technical information system.

In 1989 he was appointed project manager in manufacturing strategy and planning and became planning manager in the Ford Research Laboratory in 1992. He received a bachelor's degree in chemical engineering and a master's degree in business administration from the University of Michigan in 1968 and 1976 respectively.

Justice from page A3

But by having him handle malpractice suits, that's an area where the legal and medical come together. He sees things that are just and unjust."

Rental has done his share of investigating, but the medical kind. He obtained his medical degree from the University of Michigan and did his residency at the University of Minnesota. He has written more than 50 scientific articles and teaches at

the University of Michigan Medical school. His specialty is the throat and he works with a number of professional singers.

His interest in singing was one reason for choosing his unusual specialty. "It's a small area of medicine, but very important," Rental said.

The doctor is looking to have the first and third books in the Dailey series published. The third, "Blood Games," concerns

the use of a paralyzing toxin.

Rental and his wife, Ellen, live in Bloomfield Hills. His daughter, Sam, works for an Internet company in New York. His son, David, is a sophomore at the University of Michigan majoring in political science.

Though he doesn't want to rush things, Rental admits he has the perfect candidate to play Dailey in a movie version - the gracefully aging Harrison Ford.

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