

JAYCEES

FROM PAGE A1

she's built confidence in her public speaking and organizational skills.

"I hope to carry that over into the work place," she said.

Under her leadership, she hopes the group will become even more involved in helping the community.

"I also want to know how we can improve our membership and find out more of what members want," she said. "We hope we can develop more balanced programs that fit the needs of everybody."

Also newly elected this year to the Farmington Area Jaycees board are:

Greg Fernandes, chairman; Shavyn Wilson, secretary; Jeanne Lehning, treasurer; Eva Sadowski, membership development, vice president; James Lewis, individual development vice president; Renee Meddams, community development vice president; Mike Buatti, director of marketing; Chuck Chandler, director of management; Ami Sardesai, director of individual development; Kristen Stippich, director of community development; and Amy Smith, chaplain.

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Local Jaycees club seeks new members

BY PAUL R. PACE
STAFF WRITER

The Farmington Area Jaycees added 17 new members in November, said Mike Buatti, director of marketing for the group.

"But we're still on call outs to prospective members," he said.

This just week marked Jaycees Week, and proclamations honoring the group and its good deeds were read aloud at Farmington and Farmington Hills city council meetings.

The only requirement is that members be between the ages

The nonprofit group helps the community, holds individual and professional development seminars and hosts social events.

of 21-39. Members do not have to be Farmington or Farmington Hills residents,

either. The nonprofit group helps the community, holds individual and professional development seminars and hosts social events. Members and guests enjoy such things as movie nights, road rallies, sporting events and dinners.

The two main focuses of the group are leadership development and community service.

Members put together popular area events such as the Spring Egg Hunt, the Children's Shopping Spree, Holiday baskets, honoring the Citizen of the Year and hosting a tree lighting ceremony at the

Governor Warner Mansion.

President Stephanie Bessen said the group also raises funds for the Operation Smile program, which supports the efforts of volunteer doctors to help poor children with facial deformities.

"To learn more, check out the Farmington Area Jaycees' Web site at www.fajce.org. Call them at (248) 477-JCCS.

The group will host an information night at the Grand Cafe on Grand River, just east of Farmington Road at 7:30 p.m. Jan. 22.

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CARDS

FROM PAGE A1

Committee and school administration is inviting Farmington Public Schools to partner with OLS School in a shared time program as part of the continuing OLS School improvement process."

Supporters were asked to print and sign their names, return the cards to the parish or school office, or the collection basket no later than today, Jan. 19. A preview of the Jan. 19 church bulletin shows the deadline has been extended to Feb. 1.

Hurley's Jan. 19 bulletin article doesn't mention the specific number of responses so far, but he indicates a broad cross-section of the parish from long-term members to later arrivals and one person who had children in OLS School years ago.

Hurley, who left Jan. 18 for Rome to take care of archdiocese business, spoke about shared time at each of the Masses Jan. 11-12.

Respondents' names will remain confidential, and Hurley said it hasn't been determined what specific information will be given in the presentation before the public school board at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 11. The meeting, which is open to the public, will be held at the Farmington Public School administration building on Shilwassee.

Also undetermined is whether there will be a breakdown of the card response indicating the number of responses from parents who have children enrolled at OLS school now, compared with other people responding from the entire community.

One parent whose children attend Farmington Public Schools and not OLS School, attended the Jan. 13 district PTA Council forum meeting. She filled out the response card, admitting she had no idea how OLS school parents felt about the shared time issue.

"Though some parents have suggested holding additional fundraisers to generate money instead of instituting shared time, Hurley believes that a nickel-and-dime approach is not the best method because parishioners are expected to be stewards.

"We can't run the school on Twinkie sales," Hurley said.

MAXFIELD SPEAKS

Maxfield said OLS officials are making their case for shared time, and people who are against it will be free to write in and express their opposition.

"They can refuse to send it in. Nobody is being forced to turn this thing in," he said.

Involving responses from the entire parish community is a way to measure the degree of support, Maxfield said.

"I'm not going to make judgment on how they communicate with their community. That's their prerogative," he said. "It will be up to Mr. Watson and to whomever presents to differentiate where the responses came from. If the board has questions they can ask. For all I know, this part of a whole strategy. I can't comment or criticize what they decide to do. That's their prerogative. Parochial and private schools do things differently."

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