

St. Fabian Junior Girl Scout Troop #2902 will support the service members on the Coast Guard Cutter CHASE as part of its community service project. They will provide each crew member with a box of cookies and a handwritten letter. These gifts will be purchased with the profits from selling cookies to family, friends, parishioners and the community.

Troop sets sights on Bronze Award

It has been a patriotic year for the St. Fabian Junior Girl Scout Troop #2902. What began as a desire to earn the "United We Stand" badge has evolved into a quest to earn the Bronze Award, the highest available to these fourth and fifth graders. The Bronze Award is bestowed after completing a 15-hour community service project, designing a Girl Scout sign, and earning a Junior Aide Award and two additional badges.

The community service project, which was conceived by these 23 girls, is to support the service members on the Coast Guard Cutter CHASE. They will provide each crew member with a box of cookies and a handwritten letter.

These gifts will be purchased with the profits from selling cookies to family, friends, parishioners and the community. Troop #2902 will also include a videotape they made at SWOCC, the cable

commission station, that explains this project. Although the Bronze Award is given to individuals, this troop has made it a group effort to work towards this goal by offering and participating in an array of activities which have included sending Christmas cards to parishioners and their family members serving in the armed forces, learning the sign language for God Bless America, creating patriotic posters and more.

Kenbrook student wins Open House Poster Contest

BY PAUL R. PRICE
STAFF WRITER

Showing there's a positive link between police officers and kids, Gina Donar, 10, won the first place prize in the 16th annual Open House Poster Contest for the Farmington Hills Police Department.

Gina's artwork will be reproduced on about 4,000 fliers announcing the popular event, which invites families in the community to visit the department, the people who work there and enjoy activities.

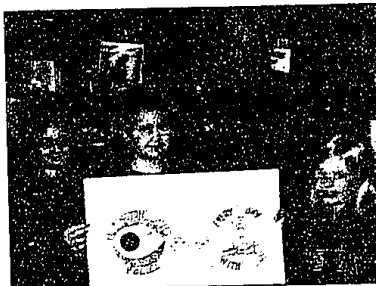
The 16th Annual Police Department Open House runs from noon-9 p.m. Sunday, May 4, at the Police Headquarters at 11 Mile and Orchard Lake.

The second place winner in the contest is Hannah Cheryan, of Southfield Christian School and third place is Courtney Cole of

Flanders Elementary Schools. On Friday, the girls and their parents were invited to Police Chief William Dwyer's office where they were given several gifts, including stuffed animals, police patches and pins. The prize money in the contest is \$150 for first, \$100 for second and \$50 for third.

Gina, a student at Kenbrook Elementary School, said she worked five days on her poster.

"I really like what the police have done, and I thought I



Farmington Hills Police Chief William Dwyer stands next to this year's winners of the 16th annual Open House Poster Contest to promote the department's Open House on May 4. Center is first place winner Gina Donar holding up her poster. Left is second-place winner Hannah Cheryan and to the right is third-place winner Courtney Cole.

should pay them back (by drawing the poster)."

Hannah, 9, and Courtney, 7, also said they were inspired to do the posters to honor the work the officers do for their community.

All prizes will be awarded at the Open House at noon at the showmobile. The Arts Commission and the Police Department have each donated 50 percent of the prize money.

A visit from the Oakland County Sheriff's Department's

Mounted/ Marine division, the Farmington Hills Canine Division, MSP SWAT vehicle, the Farmington Hills Fire Department, the U.S. Secret Service, Air Force F16 (miniature) and McGruff, the Crime Dog, are among the open house highlights.

There will also be fingerprinting for children, radar-activated pitching and other games.

2003@homecomm.net | (248) 477-5450

Early Childhood staff trains for literacy profile

In June of 2000 Farmington Public Schools Early Childhood Staff began intensive training in use of the Michigan Literacy Progress Profile.

By June of 2003, all three early Childhood staff will have over 95 percent of staff fully certified, with a minimum 33 hours of training.

The MLPP is a set of 11 tools designed to follow a child's progress in literacy learning from preschool through the third grade. The assessments are not used to compare children but rather to inform instruction, letting teachers

know what a child can do and where more instruction is needed.

In addition to 18 hours in use of the assessments, staff members attended 15+ hours learning about Emergent Literacy, Balanced Literacy and Instructional Strategies for including Literacy activities into a developmentally appropriate, play-based curriculum.

Staff committees updated the Farmington Public Schools Early Childhood Curriculum to include literacy outcomes. Staff members have also written and submitted activities designed for classroom use that will help

every student achieve the literacy goals. These activities (as well as others) are shared during monthly collaboration meetings.

The Early Childhood staff is committed to updating their own education in order to provide the best learning environment possible for the district's youngest students.

For more information, contact the centers: Farmington Community School - (248) 489-3373, Alameda Early Childhood Center - (248) 489-3808 or Fairview Early Childhood Center - (248) 785-2059.

Program offers aid to military families

State Representative Aldo Vagnozzi (D-Farmington Hills) will soon be contacting organizations across Farmington and Farmington Hills to ask them to join Operation Adopt-A-Family, a statewide effort to support the families of soldiers who have been deployed to Iraq and other nations in the Middle East.

"It's impossible for a soldier fighting for our freedom to do so effectively if they're struggling to get by back home," Vagnozzi said.

"Operation Adopt-A-Family will give our troops the peace of mind of knowing that their families are receiving much needed assistance while they're serving their country overseas. It's the least we can do."

Operation Adopt-A-Family will provide help for Michigan families in three ways:

■ Local organizations will be enlisted to help alleviate hardships directly resulting from the deployment of a spouse or parent.

■ Partnerships will be formed between local organizations and public service groups within communities to maintain an "adoptive" relationship with the families of Michigan's deployed personnel.

■ Support will be generated from the general public and the Legislature to provide funding for a Family Support Network.

The program will also offer information on ways individuals and organizations can help if they are not in a position to

Adopt-A-Family.

These include making contributions to the Army, Navy, Air Force, Coast Guard, USO and American Red Cross emergency relief efforts.

"Throughout our proud history, Americans have been known for stepping up and pitching in during times of crisis," Vagnozzi said. "Today should be no different. With the current war with Iraq, we must do everything we can to serve our communities and assist our fighting men and women and their families."

Vagnozzi's Operation Adopt-A-Family is patterned after a statewide effort by State Senators Laura Toy (R-Livonia), Valde Garcia (R-St. Johns) and Michelle McManus (R-Lake Leelanau).



More reasons to come out & play at Casino Windsor!

Head to Casino Windsor and take advantage of these great promotions, where the U.S. currency exchange gets you more play time and more chances to win. We're just a few minutes away, but worlds apart in comfort and style.

A NIGHT WITH CANADA'S SHOWBIRD

Chrysler Theatre, Cleary International Centre
Call 1-800-367-9181 for tickets, prices starting at \$29. MAY 5 - MAY 6

Style Entertainment in the Showtime Lounge!

TERMINATOR: A salute to the superstars - APRIL 15 - MAY 10
RHYTHM EXTREMES: A rhythmic explosion of sound - MAY 13 - JUNE 7
Tickets for these great shows are just \$10 U.S. Call 1-800-991-8888 to order tickets.

Get More Play Time for your U.S. dollar!

Exchanging your U.S. currency gives you more cash in your pocket, more play time and more chances to win. Exchange rates fluctuate daily, but over the last year have averaged approximately 90%. That means for every \$1.00* you exchange, you receive about \$1.50**

Win your share of \$60,000^{USD} Cash!

Sign up for any one of our fun and exciting entry fee slot tournaments. Our next tournament is May 28th and costs just \$3.37**/\$225** to enter. Register by calling 256-7878, or visit us for more information.

Luxury for less - room rates just \$69^{USD}

Enjoy a mid-week getaway (Sun-Thurs) in our world-class four-diamond hotel for \$69^{USD}. Book early - limited availability. This great room rate is available until April 30, 2003. Rates are per night, plus taxes, double occupancy.

10X ODDS ON CRAPS

It's the hottest game in town and 10 times odds makes it sizzle. Only Casino Windsor can take the most exciting game around and make it even hotter. 10X Odds on Craps only at Casino Windsor.

For information on these and other reasons why you should visit Casino Windsor this winter call 1-800-591-7777.

CASINO WINDSOR
www.casinowindsor.com

Massale

Buy 2 & save

5 to 25% off

SECOND DRESS

to create your mystery dress

dressbarn

misses & women sizes 4-24

Prices are subject to change without notice. See store for details.