

Commission looks at tower issue

Farmington Hills planning commissioners will consider changing the city's height restrictions for antenna towers at 7:30 p.m. tonight.

Some of Farmington Hills' subdivision associations have promised to attend the public hearing to voice their opposition to a push from local radio operators seeking to have the city's zoning ordinance amended.

If the zoning ordinance is amended,

radio operators will be able to build an antenna to a maximum of 75 feet. Currently, ham operator towers are restricted to 25 feet.

When 24 local radio operators presented a petition requesting the ordinance change, city council members in January voted 4-3 to refer the request, without recommendation, to the planning commission.

This is the second time ham radio op-

erators have requested an ordinance change. In 1979, planning commissioners denied the request by unanimous vote.

In the last few years, however, the Zoning Board of Appeals has granted at least seven variances to erect antennas taller than 25 feet.

But radio operators contend that even though variances have been granted, "there exists no uniformly ap-

plied standard by which applications for variances are judged."

Subdivision residents, on the other hand, prefer allowing the ZBA to grant variances rather than changing the ordinance.

Changing the ordinance, they claim, would allow radio operators to put up antennas without benefit of neighbor's input. Before a variance is granted, neighbors are asked for their comments.

YMCA highlights

The Farmington Area YMCA provides a variety of services for youth and adults in the community. Further information may be obtained by calling 553-4020 between 9 a.m. and 10:30 p.m. daily.

SPRING T-BALL — T-ball is a fast action game very similar to baseball. The ball is placed on a tee to insure that each child has the opportunity to hit the ball. No walks, no strike-outs, no disappointments. A program designed for each individual to develop fundamental baseball skills along with team work. The importance of fair play, per-

sonal values and fun is stressed. Grades 1, 2 and 3. Register March 12 until April 2. Games begin May 5. Practices begin the week of April 16. Fee is \$15 for members and \$21 for non-members.

MEN'S FLOOR HOCKEY — The YMCA floor hockey league is a special non-checking league whose objective is to promote hockey skills, fitness and fun. All games are played on Tuesday or Thursday evening after 10:30 p.m. The league is open for all players 18

and over. Team fee is \$250. Deadline is March 16.

MEN'S BASKETBALL LEAGUE — The YMCA is offering two men's basketball leagues. The organized format includes eight league games plus tournament, 20-minute halves, 4-on-4 play, registered officials, scorekeepers and weekly standings. Sunday evenings after 6 p.m. \$215 complete team. Deadline is March 19.

STUFFED EASTER RABBIT —

This darling bunny stands 15-inches tall and can be made from fabric, fake fur or old quilt material. Please bring sewing machine if you have one. Thursday, March 29 and April 5, 12:30-2:30 p.m. Fee is \$8 for members and \$10 for non-members.

YOUNG ADULT WEIGHT LIFTING — Power, toning, strength are the goals of this special two-times-a-week class for ages 13, 14 and 15. A co-ed program. Monday and Wednesday, 3:45-4:30 p.m. Fee for members is \$16 and non-members \$22.

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Second opinions welcomed.

Charles R. Young, D.P.M.
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