

Red Cross offers fire prevention tips

Continued from Page 6

wrap yourself in a blanket or rug and roll on the ground to extinguish the flames. Do not run.

- Devise a family escape plan and practice it until it becomes second nature.

SPACE HEATERS, HEATING STOVES

- Make sure they are in good working condition before using. Never use fuel-burning appliances without proper vents to the outside — they produce deadly fumes.
- Maintain clearance in all directions around the space heater or heating stove. The surrounding surfaces should not be too hot for your hand.
- When refilling an oil unit, avoid overfilling it. Cold oil will expand when warmed and cause burner flooding. Don't fill your heater while it is burning.
- If you are using an approved UL labeled space heater in the bedroom, turn it off before going to bed. If you must leave it on, turn it down to its lowest setting. Open a window. Ventilation prevents suffocation that can be caused by a heater consuming oxygen.

- Use only the proper fuel for each heater. Never introduce a fuel into a unit not designed for that fuel.
- Keep young children away from space heaters. Clothing, such as nightgowns, can be sucked in by a draft created by the heater and ignited.

FIREPLACE USE

- Do not use a flammable liquid to start the fire.
- Keep a metal screen in front of your fireplace. Flying embers start fires.
- Don't use an excessive amount of paper to start the fire. If possible, use kindling. Chimney soot can be ignited by overbuilding the fire.
- Never burn charcoal in your fireplace. Burning charcoal gives off deadly amounts of carbon monoxide.
- When you go to bed, make sure your fireplace is out. Never close the damper with hot ashes in your fireplace.
- If you haven't used your fireplace in a while, have it and the chimney checked before using.

City opposes new grave-marker bill

The Farmington City Council Monday night agreed to send notice to the state Legislature of its opposition to a bill that would prevent moving grave memorials without permission from family members.

House Bill 4363, an amendment to the Cemetery Regulation Act 251, says that a grave memorial that has been installed cannot be moved without permission of the deceased's surviving spouse, child or parent.

If there is no surviving spouse, child or parent, a surviving next of kin must be notified.

The amendment would cause problems for the city when the next of kin cannot be located, said administrative assistant Bob Schultz.

"Many grave sites are 100 years or older," Schultz told the council

shortly before the unanimous vote to oppose the bill.

Schultz told the council that if such a provision had been in place in 1982, when the city-owned Oakwood Cemetery was cleaned up, much of the general maintenance work would have been stalled.

Memorials at Oakwood that were made of steel and soft stone were deteriorated. While headstones were not disturbed, steel and iron benches, fences, broken corner markers and flag holders were removed.

Opposition to the bill through council vote is one method of communicating with the district's representatives.

"It's just our way of making the legislature aware of the unforeseen effects of the bill on municipal governments," Schultz said.

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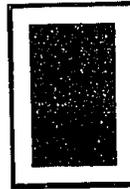
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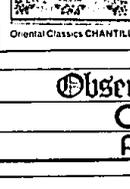
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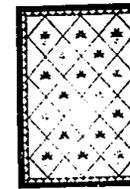
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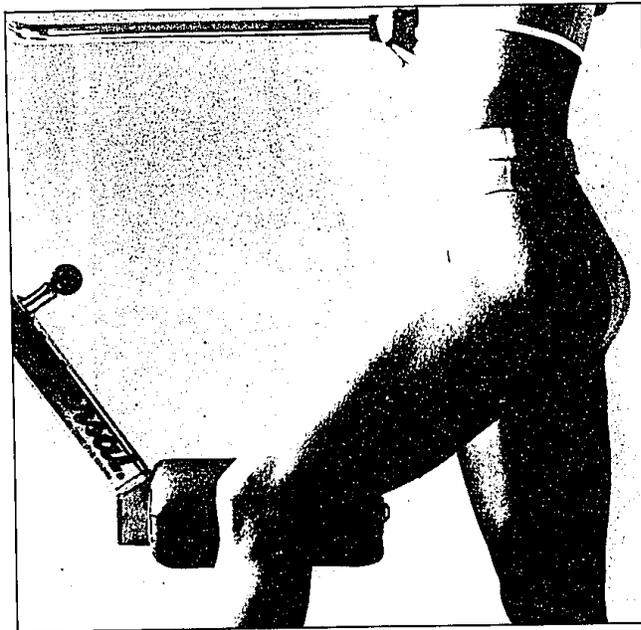
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