

On-site child care a boon to parents

A Southfield-based accounting firm has taken steps to help its employees deal with their parenting and child care concerns.

Plante and Moran, with 550 staff members in Michigan and Ohio, responded to the requests of its employees in fall 1988 by setting up a Parenting Tightrope Action (PTA) committee.

The PTA, which is jointly run by partners and staff members, addresses issues of concern and helps establish company policies in such areas as parental leave, child care and work schedules.

"WE NEEDED to establish a program that would help parenting staff members return to work after the birth of a child," said Mary Jenkins, director of public relations for Plante and Moran.

"The mission of the PTA committee is to enable staff members to balance their roles as parents and professionals."

As a result, a policy was issued that now permits up to 11 weeks of parental leave after the birth or adoption of a child.

Both male and female staff members are entitled to this leave. The committee also provides day



child care
Marcie Walker

care information for new parents and sponsors parenting seminars, during which time the company provides baby-sitting facilities.

FOR THE past two years, Plante and Moran has also provided a fully financed, on-site child care program at the Southfield location on Saturdays during tax season.

"Because of the heavy overtime schedule from January through April," Jenkins said, "we wanted to find a way to make the situation easier on our working parents."

"This makes it possible for the parent remaining at home to also have some time for him or herself."

"And the children love it! Some of them are actually disappointed when Mom or Dad doesn't have to work on Saturday."



The oil painting called Doug is typical of the portraits done by Joyce King. Her work will be on display in The Community Center throughout the month of July.

Center marks 20th year

Editor's note: For 20 years the doors of The Community Center have been kept open through the work of men and women who volunteer to serve as its directors. The Farmington Observer introduces the members of the 1989 board to readers as part of the center's 20th anniversary year observance.

A resident of Farmington Hills for 23 years, Ben Marks has contributed to the community in a number of ways. He was a founding member and chairman of the Council of Homeowners Association of Farmington Hills and a member of the Farmington Hills Charter Committee. In 1987, he served as the mayor

of Farmington Hills, and he has been a Farmington Hills city council member for the past five years.

Marks has been on The Community Center Farmington-Farmington Hills' board of directors for two years. In his position as capital campaign chairman, he single-handedly organized a capital fund drive that raised \$170,000 in nine months — just \$30,000 short of the center's \$200,000 goal. Part of the monies raised have already been used for the renovation of the center's amphitheater. The remainder will be used for major interior improvements of the center.

He and his wife Shirley have been married for 46 years. They have four daughters and five grandchildren.

Oil paintings exhibited

Farmington artist Joyce King will be July's "Artist on Display" in The Community Center Farmington-Farmington Hills. Her collection of traditional oil paintings will be exhibited throughout the center's upper and lower levels until the end of the month.

Guests may tour the center and see King's exhibit free of charge. The Michigan historic site is open 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday through Thursday and 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday.

King's works are predominantly landscape scenes. Specializing in portrait painting, she will also include her portrait of Thomas Jefferson in the exhibit.

A member of the Farmington Artist Club for 20 years, King is currently illustrating "Famous Black Americans" for Partner Press Inc. publishing company.

She has taught several oil painting classes in the center over the years and will lead the workshop "Oil Painting" from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, July 15. Cost is \$24 per person.

Registration for the workshop is made by calling the center, 477-8404.

The Community Center Farmington-Farmington Hills is at 24705 Farmington Road, north of 10 Mile Road. It is an independent, non-profit organization that provides programming and services for adults and youth. The Center is also available as a rental facility.

club circuit

CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT COUNCIL, County of Oakland, has elected its officers for the 1989-90 year. Among the incoming officers is Deborah Macon, president of the League of Women Voters, West Bloomfield-Farmington Branch. She will serve as treasurer.

President of the council is Meri Pohutsky, director of the Sanctuary Runaway Shelter. Her vice president is Barbara Comilio, an Oakland County Probate Court administrator.

The board of directors manages the affairs and policies of the non-profit organization composed of concerned individuals and organizations who share the common goals of treating and preventing child abuse.

CONGREGATION BETH ACHIM MEN'S CLUB vice presidents Mark Rafey and Don Davis have announced the club programs for the season.

There will be several complimentary brunches, with programs. Social and fund-raising events on the agenda are an art auction, a Las Vegas Night, a bowling party and a Baseball Night at Tiger Stadium.

Civic awareness and contributions will be part of the club activities with visits to Borman Hall and Prentiss Manor during Hannuka, and volunteer work in Sinai Hospital Easter Sunday. The club's Shabbat Weekend is scheduled in March.

Questions are taken by Ed Kohl, 469-5935 at home; or 592-5933 at work.

FARMINGTON SINGLE PROFESSIONALS host a dance from

7:30 p.m. to 1 a.m. Friday in Clarion Hotel, 15 Mile Road east of Orchard Lake Road. Guests are welcome. Fee for non-members is \$5 at the door. The singles hotline number is 425-9663.


WESTSIDE SINGLES meet for a dance party at 8 p.m. Friday in Livonia Elks Club, Plymouth Road east of Merriman. Admission is \$4 at the door. The singles hotline number is 562-3170.

TRI-COUNTY SINGLES meet for a dance party at 8:30 p.m. Saturday, July 1 in Monaghan Knights of Columbus Hall, 18401 Farmington Road. The singles hotline number is 842-7422.

EPILEPSY SUPPORT GROUP meets at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, July 6 in Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, 19100 Ford Road, Dearborn. Inquiries are taken by Helen Gleichauf, 532-5692.

FRIDAY SUPER SINGLES meet for a "Summer Romance" party at 7:30 p.m. Friday, July 7 in Kinley Inn, Woodward and Long Lake Road, Bloomfield Hills. Admission is \$3 at the door. The singles number is 649-4184.

All club news and announcements for this column are to be addressed to: Club Circuit, Farmington Observer, 33203 Grand River, Farmington 48024. The information must arrive before noon on the Monday before Thursday publication.



MEET YOUR FEET

Dr. Daniel Salama, Podiatrist.

Feet Facts: Heel Pain

Heel Spurs: Family foot function is a primary cause of heel pain; over a period of time, excessive irritations lead to heel spurs. Heel pain may occur from too much stress on the heel bone from walking, running, jumping or landing on hard surfaces, or when the plantar fascia is inflamed. Even too much stress within a short period of time (as in sports participation) can create heel distress. Unrelieved, excessive tissue stretching causes inflammation that pulls little pieces of bone away from the heel. Podiatric treatment, such as taping, strapping, heel cushions and orthotics, can relieve these symptoms and correct structural deficiencies or muscle imbalances.

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