'Count your blessings,' local leaders urged

By Norcen Flack staff writer

Modern times require a hectic schedule for community leaders. But they were told Tuesday that before getting discouraged, "count your blessings."

More than 170 people attended the 23rd Community Leadership Prayer Breakfast, spensored by the Farmington Area Jaycees, at the Botsford Inn, Farmington Hills.

"Our prayer breakfast allows people of the community to come together and count their blessings."

31d John Sule, Jaycees preside enpress ngettinde to the people and businesses that have belped us in the past."

Gary Jonna ylee president of Jonn.

past."
Gary Jonna, vice president of Jon-na Construction in Farmington Hills, was guest speaker. The Farmington Hills zoning board of appeals chair-man said everyone must contribute to the health and welfare of the com-

to the health and welfare of the community.

"Life is a self-fulfilling prophecy, and you usually get what you expect in the long run," he said.

"We are all motivated by our currently dominant thoughts and move in the direction of that which we dwell upon. That is why it is important to dwell on the rewards of success and not the penalties of failure," Jonna said.

FARMINGTON HILLS council-man Terry Sever served as master of ceremonies. He credited the Jaycees for dedi-

re credited the Jaycees for dedicated community involvement — Founders Festival projects, the Christmas tree lighting ceremony, the Easter egg hunt, the Halloween haunted house, youth and elderly as-sistances

haunted nouse, youth and electry as-sistance.

Jerry Ellis, a Farmington Hills at-terney and parks and recreation commissioner, was named Distin-guished Citten for his volunteer work with community youths.

"It's no wonder why thousands of kids in our community call bim 'Un-cle Jerry,' "Sever said.

Ellis has coached soccer and bas-ball teams since 1977 and has volun-teered for many parks and recre-ation activities. In 1889, he became president of the North Farmington/

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- Gary Jonna

West Bloomfield Baseball Associa-

West Bloomicio Buscouri rescueltion.

"There are a lot of community leaders here, and I just want to say that when you plan your community activities, don't forget the kids, because they can't step up and they don't have the money to support their ideas," Ellis said.

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BOTSFORD GENERAL Hospital, celebrating its silver anniversary in Farmington Hills, was named Distinguished Business for offering continued community service. The award was accepted by hospital exceutive Ed Bestrer.

Botsford has received several community beautification awards and has participated in the Founders Festival and Farmington Hills year 2000 planning project. It sponsors Festival and Farmington Hills year 2000 planning project. It sponsors festival and Farmington Hills year 2000 planning project. It sponsors continuous support to the Jayces were given to 11 businesses: Hartiford & Raliff Inc., Galiapher Fire Equipment Co., Structural Coatings, Metrovision, Goes Sales, Browning Ferris Industries, the Swedish Club, Alexander Hamilton Life Insurance Company, Your Attle, H. A. Smith Lumber and Supplies and Clam Diggers Restaurant.
Frank Rashid of Farmington Hills received an Outstanding Service award for allowing the Jaycess to turn a building he owns into a haunted house for Halloween.



Gary Jonna was the quest speaker at the prayer breakfast.

ganization and its 43rd anniversary in the Farmington community. Their prayer breakfast is patterned after the presidential version held in Washington.

The local prayer breakfast was in-ltlated in 1968 by veterinarian and former mayor John Richardson, Farmington Mayor Shirley Richard-son's husband.

Mayor Richardson recalled assisting her husband with the invitations for the first prayer breakfast and said no women were invited that year.

"It is really nice to see so many women community leaders in atten-dance today," Mayor Richardson said, "For me, that is a great plea-sure."

Mayor Richardson declared Jan. 21-27 as Jaycee Week in Farming-ton. She said the Jaycees are "a vital

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PRE-INVENTORY

We'd rather MARK THEM DOWN than count them

part in the development of our young leaders."

Farmington Hills Mayor Pro Term Aldo Vagnozzi, who announced a similar proclamation for his elly, at Spectre of Adat Shalom Synagogue Fox's behalf. He thanked the Jaycees for "bringing us (community leadfor "bringing").



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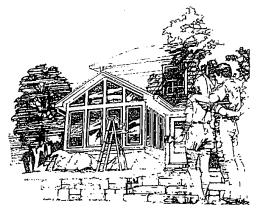
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