

IN BRIEF

Volunteers needed

Volunteers are needed to help with the programs in the Farmington Hills Senior Center.

Those who decide to help would serve in programs such as Senex, which provides respite care for seniors in the center; home chore, where volunteers help with light tasks in seniors' homes; outreach, which involves driving seniors to appointments; and nutrition, packing and delivering meals.

The center serves about 400 seniors, officials said. Volunteers should contact Maggie Lorida at 473-1822.

Named secretary

Wayne Breneman, owner of Impact Promotions Inc. in Farmington Hills, was recently elected to serve his second one-year term as secretary of the board of directors of the Specialty Advertising Association of Michigan.

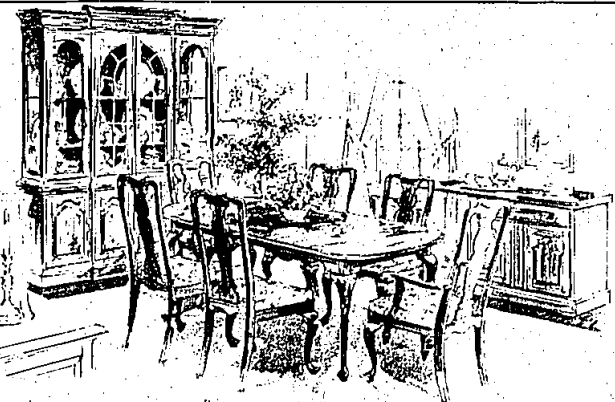
SAAM is a professional non-profit organization of distributors and suppliers dedicated to supporting the specialty advertising industry. Their goals are to promote integrity and professionalism through education and training.

Breneman established his own distributorship six years ago. Impact Promotions is a family business with his wife, Toni, assisting with administration, research and program ideas. They are the parents of four children ranging in age from 4 to 12.

He's on board

Brian Connolly, a Farmington Hills resident and CEO of Providence Hospital in Southfield, has been elected to a three-year term on the board of trustees of the Michigan Cancer Foundation.

The foundation provides research in the causes, treatments and prevention of cancer and related diseases for health education and patient services programs for residents of southeast Michigan.



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Top firefighter, police officer honored

For the first time in the history of the Farmington Hills police and fire departments, the recipients of the 19th annual VFW police officer and firefighter of the year awards are both women.

Bonnie Scott, who has served as a police officer since August 1990, and Lea Strickfaden, a 12-year veteran firefighter, were honored in February by Post 2269 Brodhead-Farmington Hills at their annual awards ceremony.

Scott began her career in Farmington Hills as a cadet in August 1988. Exactly a year later she was promoted to police officer. She graduated in the top one-third of her class at the police academy and has since earned an associate's degree in criminal justice from Schoolcraft College.

Strickfaden is credited with being the first woman to successfully join the fire department. Joining the department in March 1980 marked the continuation of a family tradition. Her father also was a firefighter.

ACTIVE IS the word to describe Strickfaden who has received her basic fire fighting training, is a state-licensed emergency medical technician, and has completed requirements for fire officer I. In the past year she has attended classes on hazardous material awareness and operations. And Strickfaden is also a state-certified instructor for the Michigan Fire Fighters Training Council.

Strickfaden has taught classes on fire fighting and emergency medical services for the department and 13 classes for cardiopulmonary resuscitation techniques for the public in just the last year.

Farmington Hills police Chief William

Dwyer called Scott a worthy recipient of the VFW award, particularly for the professional handling of an incident on April 2, 1991.

At 3 a.m., Scott was patrolling the south section of the city when she saw a man trying to break into a business near Eight Mile and Farmington Road. Scott immediately requested back-up units and continued to watch the man. She saw the man enter the building and exit with items he had stolen.

Scott immediately apprehended and arrested the man for breaking and entering a business. Later on July 2, the man pleaded guilty to the charge and was sentenced to one year in the Oakland County Jail and two years probation on two counts, including the breaking and entering and habitual offender, second offense.

VOLUNTEERISM is also a part of Strickfaden's career with the fire department. She has volunteered for the Police Department Open House, tours of the city's fire stations, visits to preschools and elementary schools, parades, Oakland County Emergency Medical Services Day, and Walk-America. Strickfaden also joined the department's clown troupe and has entertained children while delivering fire safety messages.

Fire Chief Richard Marinucci said Strickfaden is more than qualified to have received the VFW award for her hard work with required duties in the department, as well as her extra-curricular and volunteer help. "Lea has been quick to provide help wherever needed and has been a valuable member of the fire department team."



Farmington Hills firefighter Lea Strickfaden (left) and police officer Bonnie Scott are the first women to be honored by the VFW Post 2269 Brodhead-Farmington Hills as the 1992 firefighter and police officer of the year.

City approves 5-year recreation plan

A five-year recreation plan for Farmington proposes key improvements to the city's park system and calls for a continuation of a joint recreation program with neighboring Farmington Hills.

Approved by the Farmington City Council in mid-February, the plan offers an overview of the community, its needs, and details park improvements for both Shlawassee and Drake Parks.

The report details 151 acres of open space in the city, including city, schools, churches and other areas used for recreation by area residents. "That's pretty substantial for a city our size," said City

Manager Robert Deadman.

Proposed park improvements include:

- Replacement of 35-year-old concrete tennis courts at Shlawassee Park, which were overlaid with asphalt in recent years and are cracking.
- Construction of a new basketball hall court in Shlawassee Park.
- Construction of sand volleyball courts in both Shlawassee and Drake Parks.
- Renovation of equipment storage and restroom buildings in Shlawassee Park.

• Resurfacing the parking lot on the north side of Shlawassee Park, plus updating landscaping around it. Also, revamping the lot to better handle its winter function as a community skating rink was proposed. The city is proposing to light the area, as well.

• Park equipment and landscaping in both parks should be replaced or refreshed in a rotating schedule, according to the plan.

Also being considered jointly with Farmington Hills are two possible routes for bike paths and the remodeling or replacement of the senior citizen recreation-

at facility.

The reported \$295,750 improvement program is expected to be funded partially by city money and partially by state grants.

With the median age for the city at 42 years, the report suggests that Farmington "should ensure that recreational facilities and transportation are available and suitable to older persons."

City councilwoman JoAnne McShane said she was happy the recreation plan "encourages seniors and all ages of participants, which is important. It's a good plan."

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