

## INKWELL

**Inkwell provides information about education issues and people in the Farmington area. Mail information to: Inkwell, The Farmington Observer, 21898 Farmington Road, Farmington 48336 or send information via fax to 477-9722. Please include a daytime phone number on your news release. Items will not be taken over the phone.**

## BROWNIE ACTION

The wrath of hurricanes Andrew and Iniki compelled some very young residents of Farmington Hills to take action in recent weeks.

Brownie Troop #1973 from Beechview Elementary had collected two cargo vans full of bedding, diapers, toiletries and clothing to be distributed to those hit hardest by the storms. Members of the troop are: Elizabeth Abajay, Jenna Charbonneau, Nicole Killias, Alicia Kosis, Andrea Pecynski, Andrea Seeny, Alana Stuart, Ashley Wexler and Stephanie Zak.

They received special help from Hawkins Manufacturing of Hamburg, Mich., which donated to the cause. The Salvation Army in Farmington Hills is handling the shipment of the donated items.

## WRITERS CONFERENCE

A Mercy High School will attend

Oakland University's 31st Annual Writers' Conference on Oct. 10. Tiney Marsh of Southfield, a Mercy High School student, was one of six Oakland County high school students chosen to attend the conference based on excellence in creative writing. This is the first year students have been invited to attend through the May Kay Davis Student Writers Endowment, offered in memory of a Detroit Women Writers member.

The conference is co-sponsored by the Detroit Women Writers and the OU Division of Continuing Education.

## HURRICANE RELIEF

During the week of Sept. 8-11, Forest Elementary School hosted a Hurricane Relief Project for the victims of Hurricane Andrew.

Each day of the week, students were asked to bring in at least one particular item including socks, canned goods, toothbrush and toothpaste and used clothing. On Friday afternoon, all the items were delivered to the PACE Warehouse on Haggerty Road in Farmington Hills, where the company had agreed to ship items to Florida.

Andrew hit southern Florida and Louisiana, leaving 250,000 homeless. Teachers took the opportunity to talk with their students about

the disaster as part of the school day.

## PLAYGROUND IMPROVEMENT

The building of the playground at Gill Elementary School didn't end with construction in June. Volunteers came out on Sept. 19-20 to put some finishing touches on the and do preventative maintenance on the playground for the season.

Fillers asked volunteers to "bring your good sense of humor and rakes, shovels, hammers, electric screwdrivers, sanders and circular saws" for the two-day project.

Gill parents say the playground has been one of the most popular things at the school — it's used constantly by those in and out of the Gill community.

## FAMILY SEMINAR

An evening seminar for families is being sponsored Oct. 1 by Farmington Youth Assistance.

"An Evening With Pat Hurley" will be held at 7:30 p.m. at the Farmington High School Auditorium, where the nationally known humorist will explain better communication between parent and child in the following areas: respecting each other's rights, the freedom to fail, applying consistent standards, building self-esteem, dealing with peer pressure, modeling for excellence.

Admission is free.

Hurley has spoken to more than 4,000 schools and to more than 4 million parents and teenagers since 1970. For further information call 489-3434.

Farmington Youth Assistance is sponsored by the Oakland County Probate Court, Farmington Public Schools and the cities of Farmington and Farmington Hills.

## TOWN HALL MEETING

Another Town Hall Meeting has been scheduled by Farmington Public Schools to continue gathering input for the district's master plan for education.

The meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, Nov. 4, at 7:30 p.m. in the Power Middle School cafeteria. Parents and residents are welcome to attend.

The topic will be "Presentation of Student Profile and Frameworks." Assistant superintendent Judith White will describe the type of student Farmington wants to graduate from its school system, focusing on eight areas: collaborative team member, effective communicator, healthy individual, knowledgeable thinker, lifelong learner, quality producer, responsible citizen and thoughtful problem solver. Call 489-3327 for more information.

## Synagogue plans move to West Bloomfield

By BRIAN LYSAGHT  
STAFF WRITER

West Bloomfield's newest synagogue will begin building on a 10-acre Maple Road site by the year's end.

Congregation B'nai David will "put a shovel in the ground in November or December," said synagogue president Larry Traison.

"Construction should take us 12-14 months. We are hoping to be in the new building by the end of 1993 or the beginning of 1994," Traison said.

The West Bloomfield Board of Trustees approved plans for the new building Sept. 8. Members bought the property, west of Halsted, three years ago and donated it to the congregation.

The 19,000-square-foot building will have a 300-seat sanctuary, with capacity for another 300, and a

kitchen and social hall seating 300. B'nai David has 325 families, Traison said.

The 100-year-old congregation is moving from a larger building south of 10 Mile on Southfield Road, which has been its home for 36 years. It is the latest journey for the congregation from its first permanent home on Adelaide Street in Detroit.

When B'nai David moved to Southfield in 1957, it was a step ahead of its members, many of whom still lived in Detroit, Traison said. This time, the congregation is following its members.

"A goodly number of our congregation lives in West Bloomfield, Farmington Hills and nearby," Traison said. West Bloomfield offers B'nai David the opportunity to grow, he added.

"Being in West Bloomfield, we

have the ability to attract the unfilled. We're hoping to attract newer and younger members," Traison said.

"You have to go where the people are who will provide the next generation or two generations," said architect Kenneth Neumann. Neumann Smith and Associates of Southfield are designing the new synagogue, one of four the firm has completed or is working on.

The new building will use elements of the Southfield temple, including stained glass and gold tiles, to give it a familiar feel.

"We're not going to match the old building in looks, but hopefully in spirit," said Neumann. "It'll be serene and quiet and a good place for prayer."

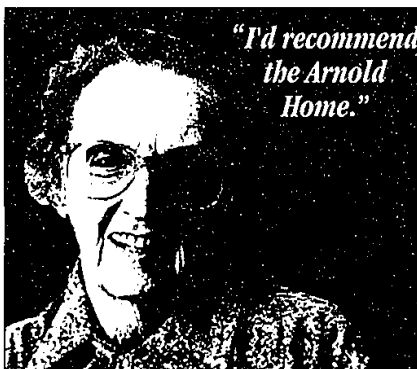
B'nai David's Southfield synagogue is a city landmark that Mayor Donald Fracassi called "one of the

jewels of our community."

The City of Southfield bought the 45,000-square-foot temple for \$1.45 million and plans to convert it into a cultural center. The purchase agreement requires the congregation to leave the building by March 1994, Traison said.

The synagogue, which celebrated its centenary in May, is currently raising money for the new building and for an operating endowment.

The congregation's first home was a rented hall on Hastings Street on Detroit's east side. Founded as Congregation Beth David, the Adelaide Street building was its first permanent home, beginning in 1900.



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