

# Odyssey teams thrive on solving problems

And you think you have problems? Teams at the Odyssey of the Mind local showcase Saturday, Jan. 30, will be up to their elbows in them.

The event takes place 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Farmington High School, 32000 Shawansee. Odyssey of the Mind is a problem-solving program in which students try to come up with creative solutions to different scenarios.

For example, one of the six different problems for teams (of five to seven students) to solve in-

volves building a balsa wood structure to support as much weight as possible. The time limit is eight minutes.

Also, the students are given a spontaneous problem that day.

"That tests their ability to think on their feet," said Sylvia Kambouris, who is parent coordinator for "Odyssey of the Mind."

This is the 10th year for the program, which is presented by Farmington Public Schools. The program is open to children kindergarten through 12th grade.

Teams from Beechview, Forest, Highmeadow, Hillside and Lakeland and Power will display their problem solving skills Jan. 30. Students from St. Fabian and Our Lady of Sorrows also will participate.

The showcase helps prepare Farmington students for the competition against other Oakland County kids on Feb. 27 at Waterford West High School. Winners from their proceed to the state competition in Mount Pleasant, and from there, a world competition.

## RECREATION NEWS

Each week, the recreation division of the Farmington Hills Department of Special Services presents a synopsis of upcoming activities in this column. For further information regarding programs, call the recreation office at 473-9570. For city council agenda items, call the Newsline at 476-3639.

**■ PRESCHOOL ACTIVITIES**  
A variety of activities for preschoolers ages 1½ to 6 are being offered at the new Day Camp Building in Heritage Park. The activities range from dance, art, and music to tumbling, cooking and toy camps. All activities will begin the week of Jan. 18. Refer to the recently distributed program brochure or contact our office at 473-9570 for information.

**■ CHILI GOLF OPEN**  
If you love golf, you'll love this event. A nine-hole golf tournament will be Saturday, Jan. 30, at

the San Marino Golf Course. A shotgun starting format will be used beginning at 10 a.m. After completing your round of play, you can eat a hot dog and bowl of chili to warm you up. Fee is \$15 per person with a registration deadline of Jan. 26. Awards based on registration.

**■ EUCHRE TOURNAMENT**  
Get your partner and register for the euchre tournament at the Heritage Park Day Camp Building 7-10 p.m. Friday, Jan. 29. You will play a "round robin" format that will allow you to play the entire evening. Awards will be based on the number of teams that register. Refreshments provided. Pre-registration required by Jan. 26. \$10 per team.

**■ DADDY-DAUGHTER DANCE**  
A memorable evening is awaiting dad and his daughter from 7:30 p.m. on Friday, Feb. 12, or Saturday, Feb. 13, at the Mercy Center. This fun-filled evening includes dancing, refreshments, corsage for daughter(s), boutonniere for dad and a picture of the couple. Pre-registration is required as space is limited. Fee is \$15 per couple and \$7.50 per additional daughter.

**■ WEEK-END SPECIAL**  
In cooperation with the Mercy Center, a parent/child evening program of cross-country skiing, hot chocolate and swimming will be offered from 6:30-9:30 p.m. Friday, Jan. 29, in the Mercy Center. Fee is \$5 per person and registration is required at the Recreation office or Mercy Center.

## Dolls of history



Cultural awareness: Detroit public school teachers Bertha Cook and Betty Smith (above) gave a presentation Monday — Martin Luther King Jr. Day — to students at Wood Creek Elementary School in the Farmington District. The display of hand-crafted African Tribal Dolls and African-American Personality Dolls is designed to heighten awareness for the role of African Americans in the growth of American.

## Hills OKs 14 Mile culvert

The Farmington Hills City Council approved an emergency measure to replace a clogged culvert that goes under 14 Mile Road east of Pine Cone Drive between Haggerty and Halsted.

City Manager Bill Costick said water has flooded 14 Mile and during the past week a salt truck had to be used every two hours to keep a wide area of water on the road from freezing.

State Wide Excavating of Wixom was low bidder on the project at \$21,160. Work will begin Monday to replace the clogged, 16-inch culvert with a new 36-inch culvert. Traffic will be restricted to one lane on 14 Mile between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m.

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