# Show examines unusual medicine

BY LARRY O'CONNOR
STAFF WRITER

According to a New England Journal of Medicine report, one in three Americans uses alternative medicine.

That intrigues Dr. Philip Singer, who has done his own investigation of the subject.

The medical anthropologist and Oakland University professor has put together an ongoing series, "Complementary Health Therapies," which is being shown on MetroVision.

The series covers a wide variety of alternative medicines, including spiritual healing, acupuncture and homeopathy. Singer filmed the project at National Service Hospitals in England, where some of these unorthodox methods are practiced.

Singer, a Southfield resident, interviews doctors, therapists and patients. The documentary is neither pro nor con.

"My view as an medical anthropologist is describing, as accurately as possible, things as they are," said Singer, who teaches in OU's School of Health Science. "So I'm not coming out on one side or the other. I'm just describing what is taking place."

"Complementary Health Therapies" is a timely topic.

Americans made 425 million visits to unconventional medical practitioners, according to the New England Journal study. That compares to 388 million trips made to primary care physicians.

Many of the people using such methods fall into the 25-49 age range, Singer said.

Also, the National Institutes of Health recently opened a office dealing with the research of alternative medicine.

Singer's series coincides with the PBS series "Healing and the Mind," dealing with the same subject.

Unlike his work, though, Singer said the program hosted by Bill Moyers takes a positive view of alternative medicine. Also, Singer notes that he paid $10,000 out of his own pocket to produce his documentary.

"From watching the PBS series they will draw the conclusion: Indeed, if you're not satisfied with your primary care physician — and many people are not — you can go to one of these unconventional doctors," Singer said.

"If you watch the one on SWOCC (Southwestern Oakland Cable Commission), you will know there are things going on that are interesting . . . and need to be looked at.

"If they're shown to be worthless, we should not support them."

Last year, Singer went to Devon, England, to videotape the project. He received a fellowship after writing to the University of Exeter, which offers master's and doctorate degrees in complementary medicine.

Singer noticed a cultural difference in how it's practiced.

For example, the British used spiritual therapies in a low-key manner, he said, whereas in the U.S. such methods take "MTV look" of televangelism.

The programs vary in length from 20 minutes to nearly an hour and half. Six are edited. More are on the way.

Todd Whitman co-produced the series. He said response so far has been positive.

"People are very concerned with health issues in general," Whitman said. "Some people feel, 'I don't care if I got to stand in a bucket of guacamole; if it cures cancer then thank you.' "

Singer credits Whitman and MetroVision for taking his work beyond classroom material stage.

He offered the program to Channel 2, but they wanted to edit it into a two-minute segment. Singer pitched the idea to Lark Samouelian of MetroVision.

Singer's a big promoter of public access. He co-hosts "Bagels and Talk," a general topic discussion show on MetroVision.

"Really, community access is the technological town hall of the 21st century," he said.

SHARON LEMIEUX/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

**Editing process:** *Lark Samouelian (left), Todd Whitman (seated) and Dr. Philip Singer look over some film in the Farmington Hills studio.*


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## FARMINGTON SCHOOLS INVITATION TO BID

Farmington Public Schools will accept sealed bids for door replacement until 1:30 P.M., Monday, March 15, 1993 at the Lewis Schulman Administration Center, 32500 Shiawassee, Farmington, Michigan 48336, addressed to Beverly Hausman at which time they will be publicly opened and read for presentation to the Board of Education at their next regularly scheduled meeting.

The Board of Education reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids or to waive any informalities therein; or for reasons of establishing uniformity, to award the contract to other than the low bidder.

A bid bond or certified check for 5% of the bid must accompany our bid proposal form which may be obtained from our purchasing department. Bid specifications will be available on March 8, 1993 at the above address. Any questions should be referred to Mr. Dick Hollowell at 489-3440.

JOSEPH A. SVOKE, Secretary
Board of Education

Publish March 4 and 8, 1993

## PUBLIC NOTICE
## CITY OF FARMINGTON HILLS
## CANCELLATION OF CITY COUNCIL MEETING

PLEASE BE ADVISED that the regular city council meeting scheduled for Monday, March 8th has been canceled.

The next meeting of the City Council will be held on Monday, March 15, 1993 at 7:30 p.m. in the City Council Chambers at the Farmington Hills, Municipal Complex, 31555 Eleven Mile Road, Farmington Hills.

KATHRYN D. DORNAN, City Clerk

Publish March 1 and 4, 1993

## CITY OF FARMINGTON
## COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS
(Summary)

A regular membership of the Farmington City Council was called to order by Mayor Hartsock at 8:00 p.m. on March 1, 1993, in Council Chambers, 23600 Liberty Street, Farmington, Michigan. Notice of the meeting was posted in compliance with Public Act 267-1976.

PRESENT: Campbell, Hartsock, McShane, Richardson, Tupper.
ABSENT: None.
OTHERS PRESENT: Director Billing, City Clerk/Treasurer Cantrell, City Attorney Donohue, Acting Director Goss, City Manager Lauhoff, City Engineer Mariner, Deputy Clerk Schmidt, Adm. Assistant Schultz.

Minutes of the previous special and regular meetings of February 1, 1993, special meeting minutes of February 15, 1993, Joint Farmington/Farmington Hills Council/Library Board meeting minutes of October 12, 1992 and February 11, 1993 were approved as written.

Minutes of other boards were received and/or filed.

Council approved the use of Grand River on May 31, 1993 for a Memorial Day Parade.

Council authorized the American Legion Auxiliary to conduct a Poppy Day Sale on May 13-15, 1993.

Council authorized City assistance to conduct the 29th annual Founders Festival July 15-17, 1993.

Council denied Common Ground's request for a contribution concurring with legal advice.

Council adopted a resolution to condition City of Farmington support for entry of telephone industry into cable television like service upon such entry being subject to the same requirements as are imposed on cable television operators.

Council authorized payment No. 27 of $10,485.36 to Posen Construction, Inc., amended Change Order No. 9 of $206,553.00 to Dan's Excavating, and authorized payment of $13,194.00 to Black & Veatch Engineers, for work completed on Sewer Improvement Project.

Council introduced Ordinance No. C-601-93 amending Chapter 35, Zoning, to regulate reception antenna facilities.

Council adopted a Mission Statement, Policies and Goals document.

City Manager discussed Detroit Edison improvements; the Caddell Drain Erosion Repair Project, and grant application for Shiawassee Park improvements.

Council scheduled a Public Hearing to be held on March 15, 1993 at 8:00 p.m. to review the grant application for Shiawassee Park.

Council referred review of the ordinances pertaining to the parking of commercial vehicles to the Planning Commission.

Public comments were heard.

Council comments and announcements were heard.

Council appointed JoAnn Scronen and William Ray to a 4-year term on the Downtown Development Authority, Dave Mariner and William T. Ingalls to a 2-year term on the Construction Board of Appeals, Charles Carvell and Nancy Leonard to a 3-year term on the Farmington Historical Commission, and James Lanigan to a 4-year term on the Farmington Community Library Board of Trustees.

Council agreed on May 24th and 25th, 1993 for Mayor Exchange Day with the City of Grand Blanc.

Council scheduled meetings with City Boards and Commissions.

Council set joint meeting with Farmington Hills Council on May 19, 1993 to discuss budgets of jointly funded agencies.

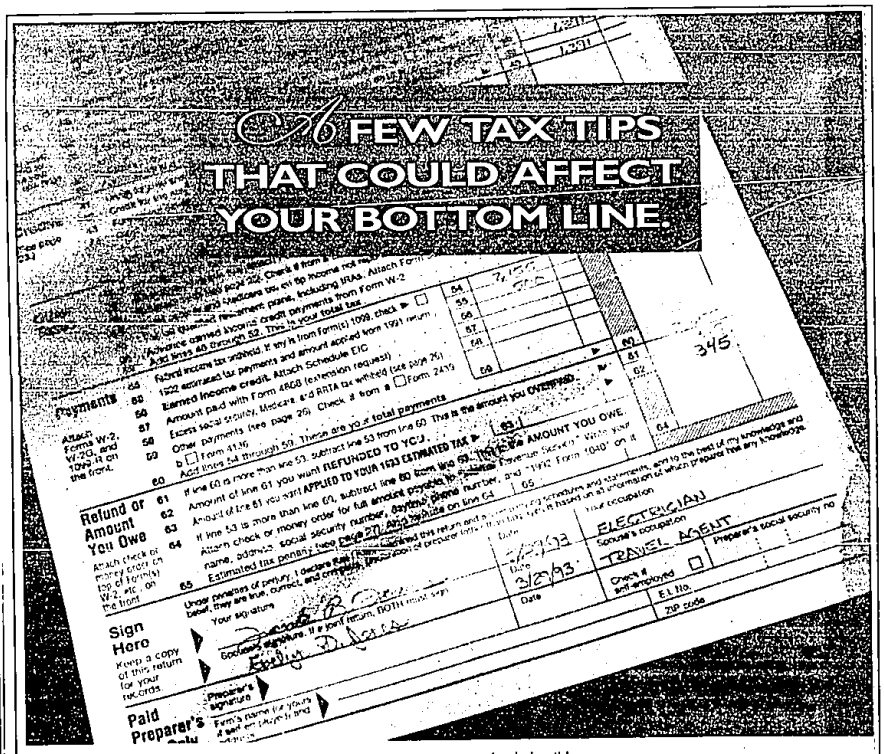
Council received and filed the financial reports for General Fund and 17th District Court, seven months ended January 31, 1993.

Monthly bills were approved for payment.

Meeting adjourned at 10:08 p.m.

WILLIAM S. HARTSOCK, Mayor
PATSY K. CANTRELL, City Clerk/Treasurer

Publish March 4, 1993


Here, courtesy of the IRS, are some ways to increase your tax refund, or decrease your tax bill, on your 1992 return:

**Earned Income Credit.** You may be entitled to a credit of up to $2,211 if your adjusted gross income is less than $22,370 and you have a qualifying child.

**Selling Your Home.** You may be able to postpone the tax on part or all of your gain, or maybe even get greater breaks if you're 55 or older.

**Casualty Losses.** Losses suffered from events such as fires, tornadoes, hurricanes, floods and car accidents may be deductible.

**Elderly or Disabled.** You may be able to claim this credit if you're 65 or older, or if you are retired on disability and were permanently and totally disabled when you retired.

**Electronic Filing.** This won't save you money, but will get you a refund faster, usually about three weeks after we receive the return.

There are many more credits and deductions you should know about. Call us toll-free at 1-800-TAX-1040 for answers to any tax question. See your tax package for details on any of the money-saving tips above.

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