

NEWS

FARMINGTON NOTES

Coming from Brazil

The Buckner family of Farmington will welcome a new "daughter" next month — Elaine Hwang, a Youth For Understanding international exchange student from Brazil. Hwang, who will be a student at Farmington High School, will live with the Buckners during the academic year. As a member of the family, she will participate in family activities, including vacations and household chores. While sharing the culture of Brazil with her host family and schoolmates, she will learn about U.S. culture. YFU, established in 1951, claims to be one of the world's oldest and largest nonprofit international exchange organizations. About 4,000 U.S. families open their homes to YFU students each year.

She's appointed

Janet Etlike Schull, a Farmington Hills resident, is one of nine appointed by Gov. John Engler to the State Mental Health Advisory Council on Deafness. Schull is a Community Services caseworker for the hearing impaired in Pontiac. She replaces Brian Veenhuis of Flint for a term expiring in 1994.

He's the president

Brad Wasserman was recently elected president of the Men's Club of Adat Shalom Synagogue in Farmington Hills. A graduate of the University of Michigan, Wasserman earned a master's degree in taxation from Walsh College in Troy. He is a CPA with the accounting firm of Woronoff, Hyman, Levenson and Sweet in Southfield. He resides in West Bloomfield with his wife and son Daniel. Serving with Wasserman on the Men's Club Executive Committee for the coming year are vice president Burt Aaron of West Bloomfield, treasurer Michael Weil of Southfield and secretary Marcus Bass of Livonia.

Church cannery fills host of needs

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints believes in taking care of those in need, which is why the church's cannery is now available to community groups interested in canning food for the needy.

BY SUE MASON  
STAFF WRITER



A cannery is not something you would associate with Farmington Hills. Farming there today is probably more along the lines of a backyard garden. But be that as it may, there's a cannery in the Oakland County community.

Its machinery sits silent at present, waiting for the arrival later this summer of peaches that will be cleaned and canned with syrup and as jam under the Desert label.

You won't find that label in grocery stores. It's exclusive, but don't confuse it with gourmet. The brand includes everything from granola, noodles and macaroni and cheese to tuna fish, beef stew, beef chunks, flour and rolled oats.

The shelves it can be found on are in a warehouse beside the cannery. This place on Enterprise Court is part of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

The church believes in helping needy people help themselves by providing the necessities for those in need. The cannery and warehouse, called the Bishop's Store-

house, are part of a coordinated system of church farms, canneries, storerooms, thrift stores, social service and employment programs for members.

It isn't a dole; members perform work — cleaning and repairing goods for the thrift stores, processing food, even polishing church pews — in exchange for the help. It is a "workfare" form of welfare that preserves and provides self-esteem.

Part of that system is reaching out beyond members to those in need.

Reaching out

"We're part of the community and are responsible for the community," said Nils Johannsen, agent state representative. "We've been concerned about taking care of our own, but we're large enough now to take care of the community."

The church has made the cannery available to community groups willing to can food for food banks and soup kitchens, good meals for representatives of some of Detroit's more visible programs — Gleaners Community Food Bank, the Capuchin Soup Kitchen and Salvation Army.

"Any non-profit group can use the facility free of charge," said cannery manager Dale Duhl. "They pay for the cans and boxes; we have a manager on duty, supervisors trained at Purdue University as U.S.D.A. (U.S. Department of Agriculture) inspectors, and a mini lab to check every batch."



Comparing contents: Dale Johnson, community relations director of the Salvation Army's Eastern Michigan Division, checks the contents of a container of Desert dry milk while touring the Bishop's Storehouse.

See CANNERY, 15A

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