



STAFF PHOTOS BY SHARON LEMIEUX

Getting involved: Participants include (from left) Farmington Hills police inspectors Richard Niemisto and Thomas Goodwin, Stephen Jones of Computware, the Rev. Richard Iwick of Trinity Episcopal Church, and Mary Myers of Real HOPE, a Royal Oak race relations group.

Addressing the forum: Evelyn Spears (right) speaks to the forum that includes (from left) William Dwyer, Farmington Hills police chief; Shirley Richardson, Farmington councilwoman; Judy Antishin, Hills resident; and Bill Costick, Hills city manager.



Hearing comments: Larry Moloney listens to comments about interracial marriages.

Forums focus on dialogues as ammo against racism

By LARRY O'CONNOR
STAFF WRITER

The subject is racism. The solution is all talk.

That was the message from Evelyn Spears of the Institute for the Healing of Racism of Mid-Michigan, which encourages dialogue as a course of action.

Spears spoke Tuesday in a forum sponsored by the Farmington/Farmington Hills Multicultural/Multiracial Community Council at the Farmington Training Center.

The meeting is the first of what will be an ongoing program.

The next forum is 8 a.m. Tuesday, Dec. 14, at the training center.

Spears, who is an economist, provided community leaders in attendance a framework on how to conduct such dialogues.

"I'm reminded of a quote from Martin Luther King," Spears said. "Men hate each other because they fear each other; they don't know each other, and they don't know each other because they are separated from each other."

That's where the talking begins.

The model for discussion developed by the institute includes topics on unconscious racism, the differences between prejudice and racism and the stereotypes that fuel racism.

Through free and open discussion, Spears feels the roots of racism can be exposed and explored. Which is why in such exchanges calling someone a racist for their beliefs is not tolerated.

"Racism is a very emotional issue," Spears said. "You have to have an environment for dialogue that supports comfort and structure."

Spears established the insti-

tute earlier this year, patterning the organization after one in Houston, Texas. Similar groups have sprung up in Detroit, Saginaw and Grand Rapids.

The Farmington/Farmington Hills council works in a similar vein. The group has sponsored community forums this past year.

Open forums planned for the second Tuesday of the month are designed to build on those and will tackle topics of race and cultural diversity. Upcoming speakers include Deborah Wright Taylor and Ann Wettlaufer of the Oakland County Center for Open

Housing 8 a.m. Dec. 14 and the Rev. Charles Adams of Hartford Memorial Church 8 a.m. Jan. 11.

The council is also looking into a dialogue program akin to the one proposed by the Institute for Healing Racism.

"I champion the individual approach. I'd like to approach this one person at a time to change their attitudes," said Ann Therese O'Sullivan, who is a Farmington Hills resident and member of the council.

Some people don't realize they were a prisoner of their conditioning."

Tuesday's meeting was well-attended by representatives from the cities of Farmington and Farmington Hills and Farmington Public Schools.

The council would like to tap the resources of numerous congregations and homeowners associations in Farmington area to reach more people, O'Sullivan said.

"Last night I was at a meeting and someone said sometimes it's like preaching to a choir," O'Sullivan said. "That's OK too. It reinforces what we're doing and it re-energizes us in helping other people."

City public services chief named

Meet the new boss: Kevin Gushman has been named director of public services for the city of Farmington.

Gushman, 39, replaces long-time director Earl Billing, who retired earlier this month. His appointment with a starting salary of \$46,516 was approved by the Farmington City Council at its Nov. 1 meeting.

"It's a challenge," Gushman said. "I'm looking forward to it."

Gushman has served as an assistant to Billing for nine years. City manager Frank Laubach said Gushman is well-versed in the department's operation.

As assistant director, Gushman has supervised projects and maintenance operations, including the

recently finished sewer improvement project and pumping station.

"The project is completed, but with a new pumping station on line we're still learning the system. We're still tweaking the system," Gushman said.

Prior to 1984, Gushman worked as a senior inspector for roadway construction and a sewer inspector for the engineering firm O'Grady, Hill and McChiment. There, he was involved with overseeing construction sites as well as construction drawings and surveys and training inspectors.

Gushman is married to Vicki. They have two children and live in Commerce Township.



Kevin Gushman

Hills resident wins Fulbright grant

John S. Ellis, a Farmington Hills resident and Boston College student, has been awarded a Fulbright grant to study in the United Kingdom.

Ellis, son of Dr. and Mrs. Robert W. Ellis, is a 1984 graduate of North Farmington High School and received a bachelor of science degree from Eastern Michigan University in 1990.

He is currently a doctoral candidate studying British and Irish history at Boston College, where he held the position of teaching assistant. Ellis has also served as a research and administrative assistant for the Ann Arbor Historic

District Commission and as a substitute teacher in the Willow Run School District.

In addition to the Fulbright grant, Ellis has been awarded scholarships from the National Welsh-American Foundation and the National Welsh Gymnastics Canu Association. He will study Welsh history at the University College of Wales in Aberystwyth.

Ellis is one of approximately 2,000 U.S. grantees who will travel abroad for the 1993 academic year under the Fulbright program. Established in 1946 under congressional legislation introduced by former Sen. J. William Ful-

bright of Arkansas, the program is designed to increase mutual understanding between the people of the United States and the people of other countries.

Under the Fulbright Program, some 5,000 grantees were awarded each year to American students, teachers and scholars to study, teach and conduct research around the world, and to foreign nationals to engage in similar activities in the United States.

Individuals are selected on the basis of academic and professional qualifications, plus their ability and willingness to share ideas and experiences with people of diverse cultures.

Reading expert to lead workshop Nov. 20

Motivation and reading expert Mary Bigler will be the keynote speaker in a workshop for parents of elementary school children. It will take place 8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 20, at the Farmington Training Center, 33000 Thomas, Farmington.

Bigler, who is with Eastern Michigan University, will share

ideas on how parents can help their children become better readers. She has been a guest on TV and an advisor to government, business and education.

The workshop is sponsored by Farmington Public Schools, Farmington PTA and Farmington-area parents. Cost is \$10 per

person, \$15 per couple. Lunch for adults is \$4.50 and for kids \$2. Free child care will be available.

Lunch reservations must be made in advance. Registration forms are available at all elementary schools or by calling Terry Leland of Farmington Public Schools at 489-3333.

For the total lighting requirements of your home—Brose suggests the extraordinary lighting fixtures of MAXIM, a tradition of beautifully distinctive products and high quality for over 20 years. From classic to contemporary, the MAXIM line enables you to create a lighting environment completely compatible with your life style. Look for the MAXIM mark of excellence at Brose!

Fall Lighting Sale

10% OFF

Our 40%-50%
Already Discounted Prices

SALE LASTS 10 DAYS ONLY!

Lighting Fixtures For Every Decor • Wiring Supplies and Light Bulbs

BROSE
ELECTRICAL
CONSTRUCTION, INC.

37400 W. 7 MILE ROAD
LIVONIA, MI 48152 • (313) 464-2211

MON., TUES., WED., SAT. 9:30-6:00
THURS., FRI. 9:30-5:00