

Everyone invited

An invitation is extended to everyone in the Farmington area to join the children and staff of the St. Vincent and Sarah Fisher Center for the third annual tree lighting ceremony at 4:30 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 5, at the center, 12 Milo and Inlaker roads, Farmington Hills.

Hooping' it up

The local competition for the Farmington Elks' 20th annual Hoop Shoot, the national basketball throw shooting contest for youngsters ages 8-13, will begin at 9 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 11, in the gymnasium of Farmington High School on Shilwassee.

FARMINGTON FOCUS

age group with the best scores advance through four tiers of competition to qualify for the national finals at Market Square Arena in Indianapolis, Ind.

Memory Lane

From the Dec. 3, 1953, edition of the Farmington Enterprise: Mrs. Edward Dawson, assistant city clerk in Farmington, was pictured dusting off one of the large Santa Claus decorations to be displayed in downtown Farmington.

Items for Farmington Focus may be mailed to the Farmington Observer, 21898 Farmington Road, Farmington 48336, dropped off at the newspaper office or faxed to 477-9722.

Hills moves toward family ties

By BILL COUTANT STAFF WRITER The Farmington Hills City Council wants to create a commission on children and families without creating a bureaucratic monster.

The council unanimously approved introduction of an amendment on the subject at Monday's regular meeting. This ordinance will create a 15-member commission to focus on the needs of families and children.

That committee, of which Bates and councilwoman Cheryl Oliverio are members, recommended the creation of a commission that would include professionals with expertise in several areas, including health, education and safety, as a permanent commission to advise the council.

Bates said she would like to see the committee remain as an advisory body to the commission, but added that she understands the dangers of more government.

"I'm not wanting to start a bureaucratic kind of thing here," Bates said. And adding another bureaucracy was just what councilman Terry Sever wanted to avoid.

"We need to have controls here," Sever said. "We need to restrict the growth of government."

Council members found that given the broad makeup of the proposed commission, restricting growth was an immediate problem. Councilman Aldo Vagnozzi said the proposed commission would need to have more than 15 members to accommodate the need for representatives from "general citizens of the city, the students of the Farmington area schools, the clergy, the school districts, the juvenile division and/or friend of the court agency of the judiciary, local business, the media, regional and national business, the medical professions, local volunteer agencies, and regional volunteer agencies."

said the commission was not required to have every group represented.

"Insofar as possible," he said, referring to the language of the ordinance. "It's not mandated. This is just a checklist."

Councilman Jon Grant said that while he supports the commission, the costs of space, equipment and other needs should be planned and budgeted. City manager Bill Costick said funding the commission would be part of the regular budget process as it is for other city commissions. Bates said any costs for such a commission will likely be more than offset by the volunteer activities and services it promotes. "The library director (Bey Pappal) tells me that volunteers there account for the equivalent of 8 1/2 full-time positions," she said. "That certainly helps defray any costs."

Pet program needs furry friends

The award-winning Pet-A-Pet program with the Animal Welfare Society seeks four-legged volunteers for visits to nursing homes,

schools, hospitals and children's homes. If interested, call Ruth Curry at 535-0410 or Joann Greens at 404-8944.

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Farmington Observer (USPS 187-840). Published every Monday and Thursday by Observer & Eccentric's Newspapers, 805 E. Maple, Farmington, MI 48309-0910. Second class postage paid at Farmington, MI 48309-0910. Postmaster: Send address changes to Observer & Eccentric's Newspapers, 805 E. Maple, Farmington, MI 48309-0910. Telephone 544-1100.

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A very special weekend for the caregiver. When you need short-term care for your elderly parent or loved one, join Providence and Charter House at the Novi Hilton. We offer a unique weekend respite care program where your loved one will receive quality service in an untraditional environment. Our commitment to quality. Providence and Charter House are committed to delivering quality service and personalized attention. A skilled, highly motivated staff is available 24 hours each day so your loved one receives individual attention in a luxurious hotel setting. And the Novi Hilton is conveniently located near major roadways. A first-class setting. The rooms designated for the program include semi-private accommodations and are secure and handicapped-accessible. A private conference area serves as a dining facility and an activities center, where your parent or loved one will enjoy supervised recreation, including playing cards, reading, viewing movies, exercising, enjoying music and doing arts and crafts. Loved ones may also use the hotel's main dining room. Quality service. Your loved one is supervised by caring and trained professionals. Our staff possesses experience and excellence in providing quality service to older adults. A licensed practical nurse (LPN) is on duty to supervise directly all activities, and a licensed registered nurse (RN) acts as an off-site consultant 24 hours a day. The staff provides care with respect and compassion and will assist your loved one with meeting his or her daily needs, such as bathing, oral care, meals and toileting. Individual assessment. The Providence and Charter House respite care program is designed to serve individuals incapable of independent living but those not requiring 24-hour institutional care. Therefore, each potential participant must be assessed in their homes, free of charge, prior to acceptance in the program. Program information. If you would like additional information or a brochure about the Providence and Charter House respite care program, please contact the Charter Care Corporation at 24500 Meadowbrook Road in Novi. The phone number is 477-2000.

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