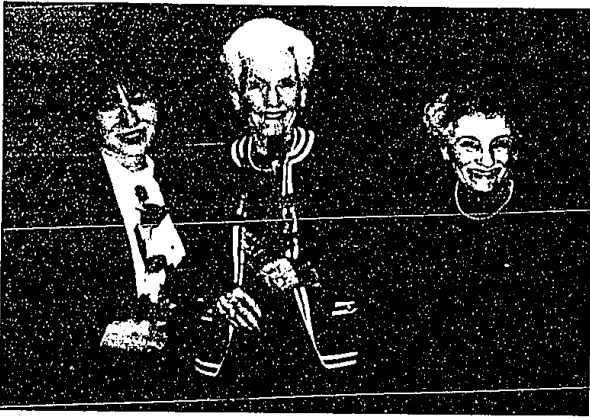


Friends of education honored



Delta Kappa Gamma: From left, Arlene Johnson, Joy Gunn and Zelda Race, members of the Farmington Clarenceville chapter of Delta Kappa Gamma International, were honored as "friends of education" for their volunteer work in the school library, tutoring, reading to children and providing extra hands wherever needed. Delta Kappa Gamma is a society of women educators.

YMCA from page B1



Gary Jonna and Bush's ability to work well with other organizations has been pivotal to the Y's continued success.

"He's a great manager and motivator, he networks well," Jonna said. "He has shown tremendous leadership. He is masterful at cooperating with other institutions - hospital groups, libraries, the schools - instead of competing with them."

Bush, who came to Farmington from the downriver YMCA in Wyandotte as assistant executive director in April, 1980, was running the show two years later.

"The challenge is always fresh," he said. "Part of our philosophy is to work with all parts

of the community to eliminate duplication of services. It just makes good business sense."

He oversees a staff of 150 workers, 21 of which are fulltime employees.

"Success has a way of building on success," he said.

An avid racketball player, Bush applies the same philosophy to business as to that sport: you're only as good as your last game.

"We must continue to move forward, to focus on meeting needs of our community and membership. We've seen our population shift from high growth to slow growth, a more mature market. The median age is rising. We have to know who we're serving to serve them best. We'll have to shift our programs to meet the needs of older adolescents and baby boomers."

The Y primarily serves residents or workers in the communities of Farmington, Farmington Hills, West Bloomfield and Novi, although it counts 90 zip codes on its mailing list.

New board chairman Susan Webb says her focus will be "to strengthen programming to meet the needs here. We have a family concept, to reach out to everyone."

Webb is vice president of



Susan Webb human resources for Jervis H. Webb, a designer and installer of material handling systems, in Farmington Hills.

"My emphasis will be on seeing the inclusiveness grow. We're interested in determining true needs and meeting them," she said.

The facility is open more than 100 hours per week, Monday through Friday from 6 a.m. to 11 p.m., Saturday 7 a.m. to 7 p.m., and Sunday noon to 8 p.m. Babysitting is available on site for kids 6 and under and a kid zone play area can occupy 6 to 10 year olds while parents work out or swim.

Fiesta time at YMCA on May 15

A Fiesta time open house is planned for the Farmington Family YMCA on May 15 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Sponsored by Botsford General Hospital and M-Care Senior Plan, there will be a treasure

hunt with prizes, free aquatic arthritis exercise classes, low impact motion exercises and a healthy lunch.

Free foot and blood pressure screenings will be available and a Botsford physician will lecture

on avoiding exercise injuries and choosing correct footwear.

An information fair will offer information on Medicare HMOs, Oakland County recreation, YMCA walking club and nutrition.

Use of the YMCA facilities will be available for the day. Bring workout clothes, towel and swimsuit. Reservations are required and lunch is included. Cost is \$5 for ElderMed/YMCA members and \$8 for non members. The YMCA is at 28100 Farmington Road. Call 653-4020.

Elks name leader

Farmington Elks Lodge No. 1986 recently named Robert Beauchamp 1996-97 Elk of the Year. Denise O'Mara was named Spouse of the Year by Richard Mullen, officer of the year.

Winners were chosen by the outgoing exalted ruler, Stanley Chavey.

Calling look alike moms and daughters



Mom-daughter: Liz Wooden and daughter Caroline are entering a mom/daughter look-alike contest sponsored by Farmington area Community Women.

Have you been told your daughter looks just like you? The Farmington area Community Women are sponsoring a mother/daughter look alike contest.

First prize is a pastel portrait of the winning child by Ann Arbor artist Ilona Brustad. Special second and third place prizes will also be awarded.

The \$5 entry fee will be donated to Seedlings, a non profit organization dedicated to providing quality, low cost braille books for children. Often times contemporary books are not available in braille, but with this financial support, printing equipment, materials and supplies can be increased to meet the demand.

Mothers with daughters 10 years and younger can enter. Send a photo and a \$5 check made payable to Seedlings to: Liz Wooden, 32414 Heathstone, Farmington Hills 48334. If you would like your photo returned, please include a self addressed stamped envelope with your entry. Deadline is May 17.

Tiny Tot Series
Saturday, May 3, at 11:30 am & 1:30 pm
at Mercy High School, Farmington Hills, MI
Songs, Stories, and Silly Sounds
Three beloved elements of childhood—songs, stories and silly sounds—are featured in this lively performance by the DSQ with sparkling narration by Rhonda Becker.
Detroit Symphony Orchestra
Lon Shul, conductor
Rhonda Becker, narrator and host
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Nicoll from page B1

The lure of additional benefits at no increased cost to Medicare subscribers has effectively forestalled any opposition. What happens down the road as "for-service" cost escalate is another story.

Though opposition to any form of universal health care is strong in the United States, public support of the Medicare program is high among all age groups. Maintaining the system is a priority with citizens and legislators alike. Moving Medicare subscribers into managed care

plans offers one means of curtailing the cost of the program and preserving its benefits, within a framework that is consistent with the American belief in the value of free enterprise.

Managed care is not without its perils, however, especially for older women. It contains built-in incentives for providers to cut costs by limiting services or denying access to expensive diagnostic procedures and treatments. Women age differently from men, living longer, with more chronic diseases,

including arthritis, osteoporosis, lupus, diabetes, multiple sclerosis, and cancers of the reproductive systems. Access to mammograms, Pap tests, bone density screening, and other preventive services are vital to their long-term good health.

Recent surveys on quality of care reveal that chronically ill Medicare beneficiaries in HMOs had worse outcomes than those in traditional Medicare. Difficulty in gaining access to services was cited as the reason. Older women can protect themselves against this outcome by becoming educated consumers of managed care, learning all they can about HMO rules, options for specialty care, and grievance and appeal procedures before joining a plan.

By providing preventive and screening services to women, Medicare HMOs can remove the financial barriers to adequate care that women, with their lower incomes, frequently encounter. But quality of care must be assured. To that end, the Older Women's League (OWL) is asking Congress and state legislatures to provide all managed care participants, of whatever age, the following assurances:

Timely access to appropriate medical care; wide choice of physicians; elimination of incentives to deny or limit care; access to complete, reliable information; and effective grievance procedures and public accountability.

This Mother's Day, join OWL in urging your representatives to assure quality managed care, not only to the mothers of America, but to subscribers of all ages.

OWL is a national volunteer organization that advocates for social, economic, and political equality for mid-life and older women.

(Virginia Nicoll is president of the Michigan chapter of OWL.)

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