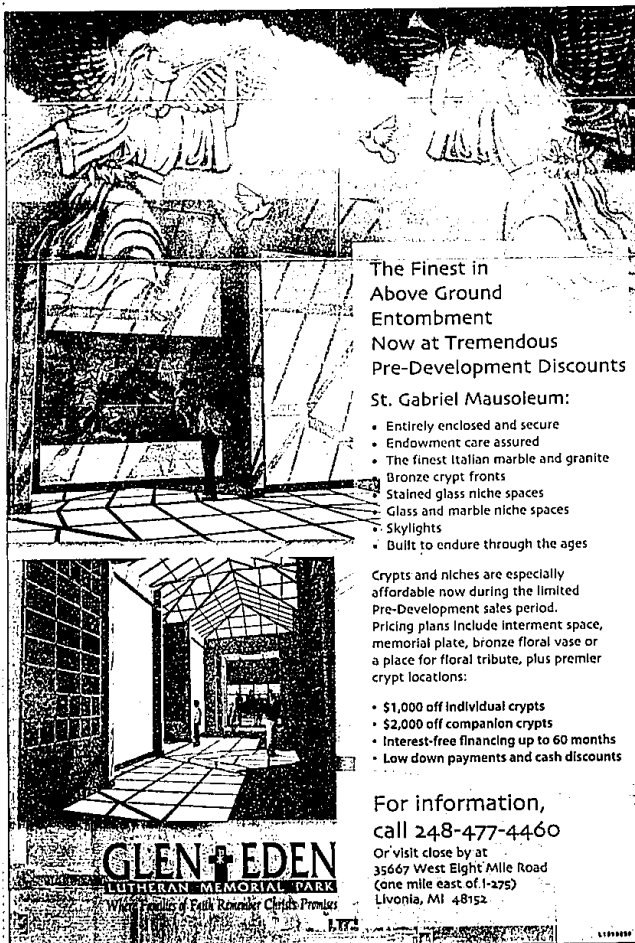


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Many respond to Hills call for firefighters, classes start in April

By PAUL R. PACE
STAFF WRITER
ppace@ohiohomecomm.net

The Farmington Hills Fire Department received a good response to its request for people willing to be considered for jobs as paid, on-call volunteer firefighters.

About 100 people attended an information meeting last month held by the department.

"We had a pretty good turnout," said Fire Chief Rich Marinucci.

Paid, on-call firefighters are vital to the community, the chief said. "Without them we can't

provide the protection we can."

There are about five paid, on-call firefighters at each fire station, but the department wants to increase those numbers. Two weeks ago, 56 of the paid on-call applicants took a written test.

"We've been doing interviews, and we make the choices based on where people live," the chief said.

He said it is important each station have a certain number of volunteers and that the people who volunteer live near the station in order to get to the emergency equipment in time.

"If you don't live close, we can't

get you on a truck," he said.

Marinucci said the next step is to plan a class in middle of April and complete background checks on the applicants. Those selected will start training sometime in June.

It usually takes about a year to complete all the training, the chief said.

The department pays for all training and offers other benefits such as worker's compensation and supplemental insurance.

The starting pay rate is \$12.66 per hour and step increases lead the top hourly pay to \$18.18.

Classes geared toward parenting 'highly abled'

The Farmington Training Center is holding a series of six classes entitled, "Parenting Classes for Families of Highly Able Students."

The classes will emphasize practical "take home" techniques and skills to increase understanding of the social and emotional needs of highly able students and their families, as well as strategies to reduce underachievement.

"It's a class for parents of kids who are able learners, but who are having school problems such as underachievement from a lack of challenge, or self-discipline," said Elizabeth Hammer, Coordinator of the Delta Gifted Program, Farmington Schools.

The class is open to parents of children from pre-school age to high school, and parents need not reside in the Farmington District to participate.

Classes are Mondays: April 15, 22, 29, May 6, 13 and 20. Spring Session One is held mornings, 9:30-11 a.m. Spring Session Two is held evenings from 7:30-9 p.m.

In-district registration fees are: \$30/single, \$35/couple; out-of-district fees are: \$45/single, \$50/couple. Weekly handouts and a book are included in the registration fee.

For more information call: 248-489-3599.

FARMINGTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS INVITATION TO BID

Farmington Public Schools will accept sealed bids for a roofing project bid at various schools until 1:30 P.M., Friday, March 22, 2002 at the Lewis Schulman Administration Center, 32500 Shiloh Road, Farmington, MI 48336, addressed to Paul Hain 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 will not consider or accept a bid received after the date and time specified.

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. Fax proposals will not be accepted.

Bidders are encouraged to attend a prebid meeting on Wednesday, March 13, 2002 at 10:00 A.M. at the Wm. Grace Elementary School construction trailer, 29040 Shiloh Road, Farmington 48336.

Published March 3 and 10, 2002

Womencenter seeks entries for art exhibit

The Womencenter at Oakland Community College's Orchard Ridge campus in Farmington Hills is looking for entries for its 15th annual juried women's art exhibit, "From Our Perspective."

The exhibit runs from May 13-31 in the campus' Smith Theatre Gallery. Accepted artists will be recognized at a public awards reception and open house at 7 p.m. May 16.

The exhibit will be juried for cash prizes and is open to women artists nationwide. The prizes are Best of Show, \$600; second place \$300; third place, \$175 and honorable mentions, \$50.

Submitted works must be both original and recent. All media are accepted except jewelry, video and performance. Artists are required to provide slides of their work for jurying, and up to three works may be submitted.

"From Our Perspective" is presented by the Womencenter, a facility that provides educational and supportive resources for area women.

For more information and an entry brochure, call the Womencenter coordinator Arlene Frank at (248) 522-3642.



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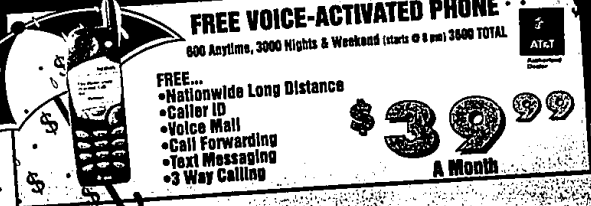
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