

Garden Party raises \$250,000 to aid Sarah Fisher Center

A capacity crowd of 1,200 gathered on the grounds of the St. Vincent and Sarah Fisher Center June 2 to celebrate the Center's 150-year tradition while raising much needed funds for its programs.

Presented by Ford Motor Company, the Gatsby-style event raised approximately \$250,000. Fifty of the area's premier restaurants served hors d'oeuvres, entrees and desserts and offered samples of their creations, while wine vendors featured in the Detroit International Wine Experience offered tastes of the finest wines.

A new twist to the Garden Party was the Best of Show competition. Celebrity judges John Balardo, Owner/Publisher of HOUR Detroit Magazine; Neal Rubin, Columnist, Detroit News; and Robin Schwartz, Reporter, FOX 2 were given the task of rating each restaurant in six categories: Closest to Theme, Color Coordination, Creativeness, Uniqueness, Aesthetics and Food Presentation.

When all of the numbers were tallied, the six winners (in no



Decked out: Development coordinator Laura Covintre and public relations coordinator Rebecca Moss were decked out in 1920s flapper-style for St. Vincent and Sarah Fisher Garden Party celebration.

particular order) were Big Rock Chop House of Birmingham;

Cuisine of Detroit; Latitude of Bay Harbor; Morels, a Michigan Bistro Bingham Farms; Tom's Oyster Bar of Southfield and The Townsend Hotel/Rugby Grille of Birmingham. Each winner received a hand-painted charger plate, made by some of the children at the St. Vincent and Sarah Fisher Center.

Huel Perkins of WJBK FOX 2, served as Master of Ceremonies for the day, while Doug Jacobs' Red Carter Band entertained the guests. A trip to St. Malo, France and Darren McCarty jersey were just two of the many items found in the live auction that also included trips, epicurean and sporting event packages and fine wine.

Sponsors of the 15th Annual Garden Party were Comerica Bank, Detroit Free Press, HOUR Detroit Magazine, J. Walter Thompson, Merchant's Fine Wine, MNP Corporation, Pulse Homes, WJBK FOX 2 and WJR 760 AM.

The St. Vincent and Sarah Fisher Center has provided a safe, nurturing home to children



Garden party-goers: St. Vincent and Sarah Fisher Center's Garden Party celebration Sunday was enjoyed by Sister Theresa Sullivan and Sister Marie Judith, both of whom are associated with the center, and local residents Amy and Dennis Malaney and Lisa and Scott Martin of Farmington Hills and Farmington residents Pat and Kathy Hickey.

in crisis for more than 148 years. Today the Center's programs include Residential Treatment for abused and neglected children, Foster Care and Adoption

services for severely abused children and children with special needs and Marillac Outreach Services for high-risk infants and their young mothers.

Together, these programs provide comprehensive services to over 1,000 infants, youth and families annually in southeastern Michigan.

Jazz singer kicks off summer concert series

The Cultural Arts Division of the Farmington Hills Special Services Department is pleased to announce the third concert of the "Stars in the Park" free summer concert series, on June 20, will feature Kimmie Horne, the dynamic young jazz vocalist from Detroit.

Horne has appeared with The Temptations, Martha Reeves, Stanley Clark, The Neville Brothers and Aretha Franklin, among others, and has become a regular at the Montreux Jazz Festival. Ms. Horne has received standing ovations from audi-

ences throughout the United States, Japan, England, Jamaica, and Canada, and is known for her unique style combining classic jazz, soul, and rhythm and blues.

"Stars in the Park" concerts are presented by the Cultural Arts Division of the City of Farmington Hills Special Services Department. The concerts take place in the natural grassy amphitheater in beautiful Heritage Park, located on Farmington Road just south of Eleven Mile Road.

The concerts begin at 7:30 p.m.; visitors are encouraged to

bring a picnic dinner, lawn chairs or blankets, and the entire family!

Other concerts in the series include Jeremy Kittel, the 2000 U.S. Scottish Fiddling Champion on June 27; Paul Ventimiglia, soft jazz, July 11; the Farmington Community Band on July 25; bluegrass and swing by the Raisin Pickers on Aug. 1; and the Farmington Community Chorus on Aug. 8.

For more information, please call the City of Farmington Hills Cultural Arts Division at (248) 473-1657.

Hills ordinance would allow businesses to have 2 flag poles

BY PAUL R. PACE
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The city of Farmington Hills is looking at allowing businesses to erect two flag poles on their property instead of just one.

An ordinance that has been around since the launch of the city charter states one flag pole is allowed per lot.

Dale Countegan, director of planning and community development, said many companies want to have additional poles to fly the American flag and com-

pany flags that may tout such things as quality awards.

"We're working on amending the ordinance," he said.

"We all appreciate the American flag and we want to work with them on their recognition with awards."

Countegan said the original ordinance was done in line with the city's sign rules.

"They (city planners in the past) probably just envisioned one pole for the American flag, but times have changed and companies have professional

acknowledgments they would like to show off."

Some companies that already have more than one pole likely received a variance from the Zoning Board of Appeals.

The text change request to allow two flag poles per lot for industrial, industrial research and large office districts goes to the planning commission in July and then to the council for final approval in August, Countegan said.

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- No purchase is required to win. To be eligible, just have your entry form marked at each establishment during the evening of the event, Thursday, June 20 between 6PM-9PM and turn it in near the Mustang Raffle car display in downtown Birmingham. Call the Birmingham PSD at 248-433-3550 for an event map today!

Visit www.enjoybirmingham.com, select "news" from the homepage.