

## ETIQUETTE CHAT ROOM



MARGIT ERIKSEN

### Follow guidelines for an enjoyable rehearsal, dinner

**P**reparing for a wedding is an exciting (and exhausting) time for those planning their ceremonial rites for the coming months. Deciding on attendants, photographers, flower arrangements, guest lists, wedding cakes, all the wedding attire, honeymoon locations, out-of-town guests, dinner menus, and wedding rings, in addition to all the other myriad details that need attention, is very time-consuming even though some things are done months (even years) in advance.

Yet one very important part of all this preparation takes place almost at the last minute, in fact, just the day before the actual ceremony. That is the wedding rehearsal and dinner.

Even though this event is more relaxed and casual than the actual wedding, there are certain guidelines that are necessary and need to be followed.

#### AT THE CHURCH/TEMPLE REHEARSAL

The only people who need to appear at the rehearsal are the bride, the groom, their attendants and the bride's parents. Since the groom's parents do not take an active part in the ceremony, it is not necessary for them to be present, however, as a courtesy they are usually invited by the bride and her family to attend. If this is the case, they do not contribute or make suggestions in any way as they are merely observers.

The purpose of the rehearsal is, of course, to practice walking down the aisle to pace yourself, learning where to stand at the altar, and going through a quick briefing of the ceremonial rituals. It is essential that the organist be present to play at this time so that those in the wedding party can mark their music cues.

It is also important to remember that even though the rehearsal is a casual affair, you are in a house of worship and should dress accordingly. Proper attire does not include shorts, torn jeans or T-shirts. Everyone in the party should be aware that the rehearsal is an important occasion and should arrive on time, avoid any horseplay, and listen carefully to the clergyman giving instructions. This is necessary in order for everything to go smoothly on the day of the wedding and to make the ceremony flawless.

#### THE REHEARSAL DINNER

Traditionally a dinner follows the wedding rehearsal and, although it can be given by a relative or perhaps a good friend of the bride or groom, it has become an accepted custom that it is hosted by the groom's parents. This is generally given as a small token of appreciation to the family of the bride who have done most of the preparations for the wedding.

This affair can be as formal or informal as wished — all the way from a sit-down black-tie dinner to a cook-out on the beach. Separate invitations are sent to the immediate families of the bride and groom, members of the wedding party along with their husbands, wives, live-in companions and fiancés. However, no casual "dates" are included. Invitations also are sent to close friends and relatives who are coming from out of town for the festivities.

The invitations themselves are generally quite informal and could simply be handwritten notes. Telephone invitations are acceptable, however, a written one serves as a reminder of the details of the event such as place, time, address, etc.

If the dinner is a formal affair, the seating arrangement is similar to the wedding dinner itself with the bride always sitting to the right of the groom. The best man then sits next to the bride and the maid of honor beside the groom. The wedding attendants are seated next to them. If the event is more casual, seating may be by choice.

Table decorations are kept simple — bowls of flowers on the tables are usually all that are needed. Any entertainment or games may be added to the event to make it an enjoyable evening.

The rehearsal dinner is usually a perfect occasion for the bride and

Please see ETIQUETTE, C9

## Locks of love

### Hills girls, salon team up to help sick kids



During: After stylist Jennifer Burdock makes the big cut, Charlotte Rath gets a good look at her donation.

BY SUE BUCK

STAFF WRITER

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Before and after photos were the order of the day at Allianza Salon in Southfield Monday.

Customers who wanted to help the Locks of Love program took advantage of complimentary \$40 haircuts which were offered by salon owner Brenda Lutman. The Locks of Love program accepts hair donations to make wigs and hairpieces for children.

Charlotte Rath, a Farmington Hills 10-year-old who just finished fifth grade at Highmeadow Common Campus, donated her long hair after it was cut.

"Charlotte wanted to do it, I took the initiative and turned it into an event," said Brenda Lutman, the salon owner. "Charlotte came to us and said she wanted to help out little children."

Mom Renne Rath was proud of both Charlotte and her sister Olivia, 8, who also cut her long hair after mulling over her decision.

"I asked Olivia why she decided to cut her hair and she said, 'I started thinking about other kids who didn't have hair and I thought they might like my hair,'" Rath said.

Donated hair must be long enough to get into a ponytail.

#### Wigs for kids

Children or adults can donate hair as long as it is free of chemical processing. That means no bleach or perms for at least six months.

Wigs for children cost \$3,500, a high price for some families who are struggling to pay medical bills, Lutman said.

"It takes eight ponytails to make one wig," Lutman said.

The hair pieces are created uniquely for children who have lost hair for a variety of medical reasons. The wigs are vacuum sealed so the children can participate in sports like swimming and gymnastics without worry.



Shutterbug: Olivia Rath gets a hug from her mom, Renne, as she snaps a shot of the event.



After: The girls show off their new 'dos.

"It stays on until a doctor unseals it," Lutman said.

Charlotte passed out flyers to 300 Highmeadow students, to her ballet class at Dancing Feats in Farmington and around her neighborhood.

Word of mouth spread among Charlotte's friends Monday as one friend told another. Renne easily counted about a dozen girls who donated their hair.

"It's a positive contribution at their age," Renne said.

The salon, which got a lot of calls, is expected to continue to offer the program and free haircuts on a pre-designated day, she said.

Customers were treated royally. They picked a carnation of their choice, received T-shirts provided by Lutman and enjoyed a buffet meal. "The girls felt very special," Renne said.

For more general information about the program, visit [www.locksoflove.org](http://www.locksoflove.org) or call Lutman at (248)356-3230.



Before: Ashley Hutchinson, 11, Olivia Rath, 8 and Charlotte Rath, 10 pause for a moment before their cuts.

## Teens donate year's worth of hair to 'Locks of Love'

BY SUE BUCK

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Two local teens followed through with an unselfish decision on Saturday, May 25.

Allison Cova, 14, and her friend, Stephanie Guisbert, 14, both Farmington Hills students, donated their hair to Locks of Love, a national program that provides wigs and hairpieces for children who have lost their hair for medical reasons.

Their resolve to make a difference began more than a year ago, when the girls started to grow their hair longer.

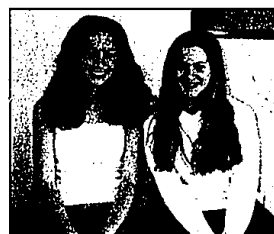
Allison donated about 10 inches of her hair. Stephanie donated six inches.

"These girls did this purely for the

need of other children," said Kimberly Cova, Allison's mother. "They know that their hair can always grow back. Some kids don't have that option."

The girls have also decided to grow their hair again and donate their hair when it gets long enough, Kimberly added. "It is nice to know that there are kids today who are not selfish and care only about what they get. These two are a great example of how kids can be raised to be unselfish."

The teens had their cuts done at Fantastic Same at Nine Mile and Farmington Road in Farmington. According to manager Penny Moody, the hair goes first to the company's regional office in Livonia, then to Locks of Love.



Loving donation: Farmington Hills students Allison Cova, 14, and Stephanie Guisbert, 14, donated their hair to Locks of Love.

## Eagle Scouts are honored

On Sunday, May 5, at an Eagle Scout Court of Honor, Boy Scout Troop 110 awarded scouting's highest honor to (clockwise from upper left): Alexander Smith, Matthew Ehrlich, Brian Doughty and Collin Work.

Alexander Smith of Farmington Hills will be a senior at Harrison High School in the fall. He joined Scouts in 1990 and has served as Patrol Leader, Assistant Patrol Leader, Assistant Senior Patrol Leader and Troop Guide.

Matthew Ehrlich of Farmington Hills will be a senior at North Farmington High School in the fall. He joined Boy Scouts in 1990. His troop leadership positions include Quartermaster and Senior Patrol Leader.

Brian Doughty of Farmington Hills graduated from Harrison High School and plans to attend Michigan Technological University in the fall. He began his scouting career in 1989 and his troop leadership positions include Patrol Leader, Senior Patrol Leader and Troop Guide.

Collin Work of Farmington Hills also graduated from Harrison High School and plans to attend Michigan State University in the fall. His Troop 110 leadership positions include Den Chief, Patrol Leader and Senior Patrol Leader.



## JCC begins its \$8.5M renovation

The Jewish Community Center of Metropolitan Detroit will start an \$8.5 million renovation to the D. Dan and Betty Kahn Building on the Eugene and Marcia Applebaum Jewish Community Campus in West Bloomfield.

Construction is scheduled to begin in mid-July, and will last approximately 12-14 months.

The construction, \$7 million of which is earmarked for the building's south (sports and fitness) wing, is part of a multi-year plan which also includes the relocation in the Kahn Building of the agency's administrative offices, the addition of the Harry and Jeanette Weinberg Judaic Enrichment Center and the relocation and redesign of the Henry and Delia Meyers Memorial Library.

This project is the latest phase of a \$33 million renovation plan designed to propel the JCC into the future. Other recent projects include extensive renovations to the Kahn Building's Samuel and Miriam L. Hamburger and Louis and Ethel Hamburger Exhibition Hall, the Marion and David Haulman Hall and Auditorium, the Sarah and Irving Pitt Child Development Center and the recent addition of the Milk & Honey of West Bloomfield restaurant and the Inline Hockey Center.