

**IDEAS**

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skateboard safe for Bob, their crash dummy. They built a safety device and tested it on an obstacle course, where Bob suffered through a number of tumbles.

Campers used Alka Seltzer to make rocket cargo, created a safety seat for an egg and safety devices for water balloons. The balloon passengers were sent down a ramp, dropped from a table and catapulted from a swing. The teacher was Ronalee Henderhan of Northville High.

■ **Potion Notion** — Campers made a germ-killing gel and chose a scent for their sanitizers. Kids designed and tested their own fire extinguishers. They learned about hydrogen, oxygen and carbon dioxide gas and what each of them do to fire. They discovered that cabbage juice can be used to tell if a food is an acid or a base. Campers figured out how to neutralize an acid or a base. The teacher was Kim Collins of Woodcreek Elementary.

■ **The Me to Your Leader** — Students began their adventure of trying to make contact with aliens before they leave the galaxy. They learned how to create a command station using their new knowledge of planes and joints, then added an antenna tower and a tele-



Seven-year-old Breonna Riley of Farmington Hills, closely examines the insides of a phone.

ELIZABETH CARLIDGE | OBSERVER

scope to see and hear aliens. Campers also created space helmets and shoes. The teacher was Katie Callahan who will student teach this year at Farmington High school. Eleven camps were offered

in the metropolitan Detroit area this summer. Camp Invention is a program of the National Inventors Hall of Fame, based in Ohio. National sponsors are Ford Motor Company and Roadway

Express. Abbott Laboratories is the lead regional sponsor. The program is offered in partnership with the United States Patent and Trademark Office.

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**MENTAL HEALTH**

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poor medical care, homelessness, and so forth.

Another misconception is that people with schizophrenia have "split personalities". Actually, the latter is an entirely different category of mental illness and is relatively rare. As another type of schizophrenia, which shows how bizarre the disorder can get, is called catatonia. In this, the individual becomes and remains motionless for short or very long (years) periods of time. Their bodies become wax-like and if someone raises the person's arm up in the air it will stay there until another person goes and pushes it down.

Interestingly, we all "hallucinate" at night when we sleep. Our remembered dreams are voices and visions not too unlike those of a schizophrenic hallucination. The difference, however, is that in schizophrenia the dreamlike activity of the mind occurs while one is awake. Imagine trying to live life like that.

There is no single or well-understood cause of schizophrenia. Biological versus psychological theories continue. Growing evidence exists showing that individuals with an inability to cope with and handle certain stressors combined with a genetic and biochemical vulnerability can succumb to a schizophrenic breakdown. It has been reported that the first-degree biological relatives of a person with schizophrenia have a 10 times greater risk of developing the same disorder than the general population does.

Similarly there is no "cure" yet for this disorder. Newer medications are being developed which have lesser side-effects than older medications and crude electric shock treatment. These are allowing people with schizophrenia to leave hospitals and have more community reentry either back with their families or in structured, residential rehabilitation facilities.

Medication treatment dampens and in some situations con-

trols the outward symptoms of schizophrenia but underlying problems certainly persist and much intensive outpatient psychotherapy can be beneficial in the resocialization of individuals with this illness. And, there are some non-medication, psychotherapeutic treatments available from mental health practitioners with much advanced training and understanding of this very debilitating and often times frightening disorder.

Family support and understanding for an individual with schizophrenia goes a long way in improving the prognosis and degree of humane functioning. Intervention in assisting one of their own.

Too often, individuals with this class of mental illness become alienated from families, disregarded by many facets of society, and are left hopeless with a greatly shortened life expectancy. As more family awareness grows, so will community awareness and we are beginning to see more schools offering community awareness programs about schizophrenia so that earlier interventions can be made and, as a society, more tolerance can come from understanding.

Resources:  
■ The National Alliance for the Mentally Ill (703) 524-7600

■ The Michigan Psychoanalytic Institute of Farmington Hills (248) 851-3380

■ Rose Hill Psychiatric Center in Holly, Michigan (248) 634-5530

Leonard J. McCulloch is a Diplomat of the American Psychotherapy Association and Board Certified in Trauma. He is Director of Psychological Services at Bree Rehabilitation Services in Farmington Hills. His monthly column, "Our Mental Health," appears the first Thursday of every month in the Observer and Eccentric. He can be reached at (248) 474-2763.

**EWI**

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Community College District, EWI is similar to organizations that provide networking opportunities for males. "Men have done it for years," she said. "They have the old boys network and now we're giving women the opportunity to do the same thing."

Like Muscat and Grier, company representatives to EWI find personal and professional inspiration at monthly meetings in which other high-powered females are invited to

speak about issues relating to today's professional businesswoman.

At a chapter meeting held on July 17, Barton Malow Vice President and Farmington Hills resident Sheryl Malbath spoke on how to succeed in a male-dominated environment and how to keep life in perspective.

In June, the keynote speaker was State Attorney General...

"To hear her story was very inspiring," Muscat said of Granholm's talk. "To me, her personal story as a woman, a

wife, a mother and a professional businesswoman just let me know there is a balance."

According to Grier, membership in EWI is beneficial on several levels. "I have developed relationships all over the world," she said, noting an educational conference she attended in Amsterdam.

Grier was also thankful for the opportunity EWI has provided her to develop as an individual.

"I've honed my leadership skills as a president," she said, explaining that being president of her chapter in 2001 was

"like running a corporate business."

But according to Muscat, the lure of the organization is the individuals.

"I tell everyone that it's amazing that after a busy day at the office it is refreshing to attend an evening meeting of EWI," she said. "I leave EWI meetings energized, inspired and ready to take on anything. The energy of the women that belong to EWI and the firms they represent... I can only characterize it as awesome and contagious."

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**COMMUNITY CALENDAR**

**SUMMER FUN**

**Grandparent/Grandchild Picnic**  
The 25th annual Grandparent/Grandchild Picnic will be held at 11 a.m. Tuesday, Aug. 6 at the Cookle Center in Farmington Hills. Call (248) 473-1830.

**KID STUFF**

**Josh Casey Show**  
The Josh Casey Variety Show will be held 2 p.m. today, Aug. 1 at the downtown Farmington Library.

**Book Talk**

A book discussion for fourth and fifth graders will be held on Saturday, Aug. 10 at the downtown Farmington Library. For more information call (248) 474-7710.

**CLUBS**

**Embroiderers Meet**

The Farmington Hills Embroiderers Guild will meet at 9:30 a.m. Wednesday, Aug. 7 at Faith Covenant Church in Farmington Hills. (248) 426-7250.

**NEW VOICE**

**DAVID**

Mr. and Mrs. Kurt David of Farmington announce the birth of their first child, Emma Elizabeth David on June 29, 2002. She weighed 6 pounds and was 19 3/4 inches long. Maternal grandparents are John and Marianne Zarosley of Howell and paternal grandparents are Kent and Geraldine David of Gaylord. Great-grandparents are Virginia Hamilton of Brighton, Helen Zarosley of Canton and Mary Johnson of West Branch.

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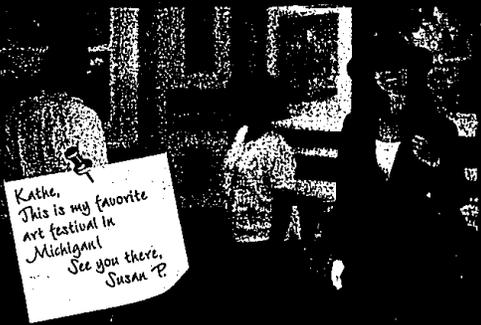
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