TEA

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tant. If you're running it from a tap, let the water pour out for a while before filling the carafe.

"You may even want to use distilled water," Pudlik said. "You can't let the water boil too long, or it will de-oxygenate."

She doesn't come by this information off the top of her head, either. Pudlik has been certified by the Protocol School of Washington in tea etiquette. She received a binder several inches thick containing a wealth of knowledge, compiled by the same people who have provided etiquette training for presidents and their wives, as well as other government officials and dignitaries.

She is also certified through Tea Room 101: The art of owning a tea room. That involved three days of classes taken in Kentucky.

"I have taken this as far as I can take it," Pudlik said. "But there has never come a point where I feel I have been limited in my learning. There's always something more to know."

Knowledge of how to brew tea is only the beginning of the story. Table presentation and service, as well as demeanor during the tea, all require a certain protocol.

Pudlik knows how to set a proper Victorian tea table, with special dishes and utensils for lemon slices and raw sugar cubes. Tea is served from the pot; a strainer is used to catch loose tea leaves.

Many of the items she uses are antiques, including a collection of chatelaines, valuable items Victorian women attached to a a chain and carried on their belts on fingers.

The table, Pudlik says, "should have everything a lady needs to feel like a lady, and she should be comfortable using all of it."

Raised on tea as a special treat served in the evenings, her passion for it began in 1994, when she and her husband, Rocky, visited the Farmstead Bed and Breakfast in Heartland. They struck up a friendship with the owner, who hosts teas.

"I just loved it," Pudlik said. "I came home and thought I should be fanned on the sofa the rest of the day."

Rocky took her back for their anniversary, and Linda ended up taking her first course in tea etiquette in October, 1994 and gave her first tea on Dec. 10, 1995, in the middle of a snowstorm.

While the final product looks as though it must have taken days to arrange, for Linda Pudlik, the work isn't work at all, but a joy.

"It's so inside of me," she said. "It just happens."

• Blue Circle, which is hosting Applefest at the Longacre House, will also be offering an interactive Christmas tea on Dec. 15. More information will be published at a later date.

APPLEFEST AT LONGACRE

- Saturday, Sept. 28 and Sunday, Sept. 29, 1-4 p.m. both days
  Admission is free; food is available for purchase
- Apple pie baking contest (Saturday)
  Six-foot long struedel, donated by Farmington Bakery
- Longacre House tours
  Pony rides
  Face painting
  Bluegrass music
  History presentations
  Contests and lawn games
  Foods prepared by Longacre's Chef Russell

PHOTOS BY BILL BRESLER | OBSERVER

A proper cup of tea is accompanied by fresh currant scones served with lemon curd, devonshire cream and blackberry jam. Brown sugar cubes rest in their own holder (below).

DDA director finalists candidates interviewed

BY SUE BUCK
STAFF WRITER

Five semifinalists interviewed for the Farmington Downtown Development Authority position Tuesday at Farmington City Hall.

They were:

- Christina R. Hewitt, of Royal Oak, a recently laid off assistant city manager and grant writer for Garden City.
- Carleigh B. Flaharty, a Farmington resident, who works as executive director for the Farmington/Farmington Hills Chamber of Commerce.
- Matthew Miller, a City of Wayne city planner who also resides in that city.
- Joyce Seitz, of St. Clair Shores, a director of economic development, for the City of Lincoln Park
- Brent D. Morgan, a Davison community development director and resident

The position will pay $47,000-$53,000.

Farmington DDA Director Judy Downey retires Jan. 3, 2003 after working 10 years in that position.

The DDA district is bounded roughly by the Burger King/Benchmark area to the east, Slocum to the south, and Oakland Street north.

An oral examination board consisting of Frank Gerstenecker, a consultant for the Michigan Municipal League and a former Troy city manager, Teri Arbenowske, an assistant to the Farmington Hills city manager and Annette Knowles, DDA director in Allen Park conducted the interviews which lasted about an hour for each candidate.

Following a reviewing, scoring and tabulation process, Gerstenecker will conduct background and credit checks.

"I will take them to the DDA board and they will determine how many candidates they will interview," Gerstenecker said.

Finalist interviews are tentatively scheduled for 8 a.m. Oct. 16 at Farmington City Hall.

The examination panel asked a variety of questions about topics including tax increment financing districts, a way to fund the DDA through special assessment and traffic calming, a way to slow traffic down and encourage motorists to stop, get out of their cars and look around and shop.

Candidates talked about what made them angry and how they handle those situations, conflict resolution, resolving minor community disputes, building community coalitions, their most significant government project, project management style, grant-writing and budgeting experience.

They were asked what role the DDA should play in local government administration, which priorities like infrastructure, business development and redevelopment and marketing to merchants they considered most important.

Panel members also asked how each candidate would handle some situational scenarios but didn't give the names of the businesses involved.

Gerstenecker said these situations were given to him to pose to the candidates and said he didn't know they represented actual situations which had occurred in Farmington, until Flaharty acknowledged that she recognized and knew the outcome. "I'm in an awkward situation because I do know the outcome," Flaharty said.

They were:

- the relocation of Baker Street Draperies: The shop was located in Village Commons on Grand River but wanted to relocate to a turn-of-the century home on Oakland. Residents were vocal about the loss of historic homes and what they thought was an encroaching commercial district. Candidates were also told the decision had to be made during an election year. The master plan had been recently revised to a commercial use.
- Cowley's Old Village Inn on Grand River which is under reconstruction: The panel wanted to know if the DDA should public support a variance request to the zoning board of appeals, knowing there's not enough adjacent parking for the new business.
- the historic Civic Theatre on Grand River: The city of Farmington purchased the theater and renovated it. Sale of the theater could mean the loss of a landmark and candidates were asked if the city should purchase it knowing attendance has steadily declined.

Besides the media, a few Farmington merchants also sat in on the interviews for short periods of time. They were: Becky Burns, co-owner of Farmington Bakery, Skip Rosenthal, owner of Books Abound, and Diane Cassidy, owner of Village Clipper. DDA Board Members Joyce Cornwell and Suzanne Paul sat in on the last interview.

sbuck@oe.homecomm.net | (248) 477-5450

SPEECH

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The rules do not allow political or religious groups to rent rooms, but political groups are allowed to use the city council chambers to conduct meetings that benefit the community in the form of delivering information, such as a meet the candidate forum, or candidate debates.

Councilman Jerry Ellis said a group whose primary purpose is political should not be confused with a soccer or baseball club.

"Just because (a soccer club) endorses (a candidate) that is incidental to their activities," he said.

Mayor Nancy Bates said the policy has to have restrictions or such groups as the Klu Klux Klan or neo-Nazis could use city owned buildings for their meetings.

Barnett argued that surrounding communities such as Southfield, Livonia and Novi do not have such restrictions on letting political groups rent out city owned rooms.

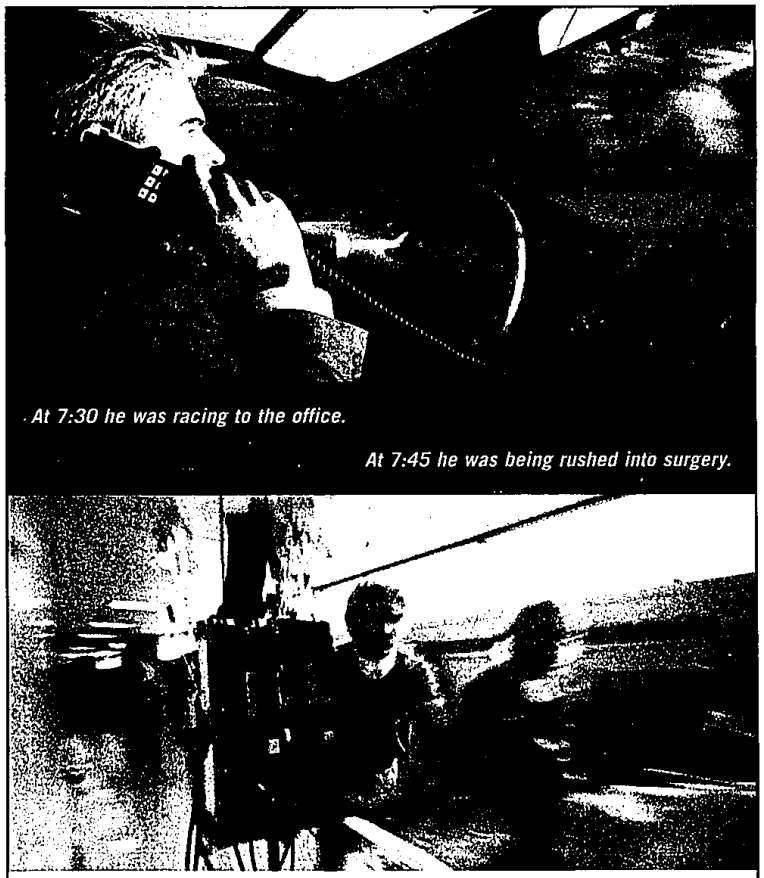
"Our policy is unfair and confusing," she said.

Brickner said the policy should be consistent.

Bates suggested council members make suggestions on revising the policy and to send them to the city manager within a month. Then, she said, the council could discuss the issue further at one of its study sessions.

ppace@oe.homecomm.net | (248) 477-5450

E-mail the Farmington Observer with letters, news stories, photos and news tips to jhubred@oe.homecomm.net



The Botsford Emergency Department has an open door to the community, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. We are prepared to deal with a medical emergency whenever one arises. While we focus immediate attention on the medical issue of the moment, we maintain sensitivity to the anxieties of family and friends. Whether it's a heart attack, broken bone or any other emergency, our specialized treatment considers the individual needs of each patient. Our board-certified emergency department physicians have access to a full range of specialists. Our Emergency Services are a blending of prompt care and personal care that has come to be recognized as Botsford Care. We hope you will never need us. But if you do, we are here.

It's not just what we do. It's how we do it.
28050 Grand River Avenue, Farmington Hills, MI 48336-5933, 248.471.8000

Botsford
HEALTH CARE CONTINUUM

America's Best Kept Secret: Revealed!
Want the truth about church? The New Testament Church?
You might be amazed at what was really going on from the start. In the day of "33,800 denominations of Christianity how can a person determine what is the correct doctrine (beliefs) and interpretation of the Bible? How did the first Apostles worship? Did the Church scatter, divide, and become an invisible organization? Or does there remain a visible, historic, and New Testament Church that has existed from the beginning? These questions and more will be discussed and the answers revealed could be forever life-changing!

On Saturday, September 28th, Guest Speaker and author Fr. Peter Gillquist will be speaking on "Why Orthodox Christianity?" and will be sharing an incredible story of how he and 1,000's of other Evangelical Protestants have become intrigued with Eastern Orthodoxy. For years, Gillquist was a regional director of Campus Crusade. In the early 70's he and a number of associates embarked on a study of church history, "looking to see where the New Testament Church went through the centuries that followed." They ended up Orthodox.

"WHY ORTHODOX CHRISTIANITY?"
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 28TH
GUEST SPEAKER: FR. PETER GILLQUIST
12:00 - 5:00 PM
HOSTED BY: ST. MARY ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH
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