



Farmington Hills' finest

New Farmington Hills police officers Amanda Detore and Debra Szymanski, Sgt. David Stasch, and officers Domenic Lauria and Mark Kelly are pictured with Police Chief Bill Dwyer at a recent promotions ceremony.

Hills firm helps with employee issues

BY PAUL B. PACE
STAFF WRITER

Money is not what motivates a good employee, says Michael Holzschu.

Feeling valued and important is what makes most people happy. And losing an employee costs a company twice that person's yearly salary, because of retraining, administrative and other expenses.

As a human resources consultant, it's Holzschu's job to know this stuff.

He runs the international firm of Holzschu, Schiff, Jordan & Associates based in Farmington Hills along with wife Dorothy and other family members. It started in 1987 from the idea of a filling a void.

"A lot of small- to medium-

His company has clients in 12 states, and includes some big names.

sized companies didn't have a human resources person, and when issues come up, they'd rather avoid them, but that allows it to become a problem," Holzschu said.

"They can do a better job if they have the tools and resources for it."

His company has clients in 12 states, and includes some big names such as Marriott Hotels, Caterpillar, Pepsi-Cola and Porsche AG.

The firm puts on seminars and programs around the world and supports existing human resources departments.

"We can go in and supple-

ment the HR staff and work on a retainer basis."

His company also helps employers keep their employee handbook up to U.S. code and reflect what is going on with the company.

Holzschu also serves as a consultant for foreign businesses launching companies in the United States.

In European countries, employers treat workers in a much different way, he said. In many cases, 37-hour work weeks, vacations and other benefits are set by the government, not the employer.

And many average workers, not just those in upper management, have contracts that offer a severance package if employment is terminated.

In such places as Germany, the chamber of commerce is run by the government.

Holzschu was one of the hosts at the recent Consul General of the Federal Republic

of Germany and the Cross-Cultural Leadership Forum's German Business Roundtable in Farmington Hills.

He is author of "The Complete Employee Handbook," a guide to writing an employee handbook for today's businesses. It the book he explains how to develop a personnel program that will allow business owners to minimize on-the-job conflicts and maximize employee performance.

The book is available in most bookstores, and a second edition is expected in the spring.

Holzschu helps with workplace awareness training programs and writing sales training programs and operations manuals as well.

Contact Holzschu, Jordan, Schiff & Associates at (248) 476-6907 or visit them on the Web at www.hjsa.com

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Airport offers parking deal at Big Blue Deck

Parking will be cheaper over the holidays at Metro Airport's Big Blue Deck, Detroit Metropolitan Wayne County Airport has announced a new holiday parking promotion at its Big Blue Parking Deck, across from the Smith Terminal. The promotion would reduce long-term rates for holiday travelers while providing the comfort of close, covered airport parking.

Through Jan. 15, Metro Airport is cutting its long-term parking prices for travelers choosing to park in the airport's Big Blue Deck, across from the Smith Terminal. During this period, the regular \$13 rate will be reduced to \$8 per day.

Travelers searching for an even better deal can visit Metro Airport's Web site at www.metroairport.com to download a parking coupon that provides even greater savings. With the Web site coupon, trav-

elers pay just \$7 a day for long-term parking in the airport's Big Blue Deck.

"Since the opening of our huge new parking garage at the McNamara Terminal, we have had a lot of excess parking capacity at the airport's Big Blue Deck," said Wayne County Airport Authority CEO Lester Robinson. "These covered parking spaces are a great value to travelers, especially during the snowy winter months. To help increase usage of this structure and encourage travelers to come fly during the holiday season, we thought this promotion made a lot of sense." Shuttle bus service from the Big Blue Deck is also available for travelers who are flying out of the other terminals at Metro. Shuttle buses pick up on the first and third levels of the Big Blue Deck every 15 minutes for trips to all of Metro Airport's terminals.

Hutcheson's work on display in Los Angeles

Farmington native Robert Hutcheson currently has seven paintings showing in the Los Angeles Country Museum of Art Sales and Rental Gallery.

He was chosen along with four other artists for a group show which opened Dec. 13, 2002. The show runs for six weeks.

Hutcheson is a painter and actor currently living in Los Angeles. His paintings are humorous take-offs on the old side show banners used to

attract customers during the early to mid 20th century at circuses, fairs and carnivals.

Hutcheson's paintings are not based on actual side show acts but from his imagination, such as "Ostrich Girl," "Detroit River Mermaid," "Bigfoot Song and Dance Revue." His paintings have been a huge hit; he has sold over 90 of them in the last eight months.

He says, "I like to make people laugh and I am glad my paintings do that."

MOVERS AND SHAKERS

Chairman elected

Childtime Learning Centers Inc. has announced that Benjamin Jacobson has been elected as chairman of its board of directors. Jacobson has been a member of the board since 1996. He is the managing general partner of Jacobson Partners, a New York City-based investment-banking partnership. Jacobson Partners has been pro-

viding management and financial consulting services to Childtime since June 2000 and, through related parties, is a major holder of the company's common stock. Jacobson also serves as a board member for several privately held companies. James Morgan will step down as chairman but remain an integral member of the board of directors.

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