

CLEANUP

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welcome to bring the kids along for the morning cleanup. Volunteers will do wetland planting at the new golf course and then an invasive plant species removal at Heritage

Park. They'll enjoy a picnic lunch afterward and then an ecology walk at the park. Doug Sweet will talk about the river's many inhabitants at 2 p.m. at the Heritage Park visitor center. And folks who help plant native plants can buy some of them for their yards through a plant sale hosted by the Farmington Riparian Stewards.

Not everyone needs to get messy to help, Sliintak said, but volunteers are encouraged to wear work clothes and old shoes. "This is a way for people to get out and enjoy the resources they have in their own back yards," Sliintak said. For more information, call Sliintak at (248) 553-8580.

COMPANY

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least eight months and receive a check for \$1,000. The program was so successful - 39 employees kicked the habit and collected on Gaynor's promise - that he's doing it again this year.

'FEEL GOOD'

"We're giving them the opportunity to get rid of a bad habit and save money," said Gaynor, noting that a pack-a-day smoker can expect to spend nearly \$1,600 on cigarettes in a year. "But more importantly, we're giving them the opportunity to feel good about themselves."

Gaynor founded TNG, which provides beauty products to spas and salons, in 1985. In addition to its four distribution centers, the company also employs 15 stores for beauty professionals and two academies for education of hairdressers, nail technicians and aestheticians.

But Gaynor believes it's his 300 employees that make the company what it is, so he looks out for them.

He operates The Nailco Group, he said, on the principle that he has three sets of customers: external, those who buy the company's products; the community, those who live and work nearby; and internal, the employees.

Treating employees like customers, he said, means keeping them happy and healthy. "I've can get employees excited about themselves when they're going to be excited about us," said Gaynor, "and when they're excited about us, they are going to create what we call amazing results."

KICKING THE HABIT

He offered the cash incentive to encourage people to abandon a habit many of them wanted to give up anyway.

"When we did the program last year the money really motivated them," said Gaynor. "People don't see the outlay of \$4 (for a pack of cigarettes) as a big deal, but if you multiply that by a year they can see it."

Gaynor, who considers himself very health-conscious, works closely with the American Cancer Society on a number of issues, including the smoking cessation program.

"I've talked to many companies and been around a lot of groups," said Vonelle Brown-Miller, regional director of cancer control with the ACS, "and I've not seen another CEO try to impact employees in such a positive way as (Gaynor) does."

"So many smokers don't want to smoke," she said, "but they don't know how to stop. Larry gave them the materials they needed and provided a supportive environment that made it safe and comfortable to quit."

After the success of last year's "Great TNG Smoke Out," another 27 smokers were willing to sign on for this



Nailco's CEO Larry Gaynor has given his employees an added incentive and support to quit smoking.

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Larry Gaynor CEO

enrolling in the program last year. She didn't make it the first time around, but says she won't quit quitting.

"Just the fact that everybody is becoming more aware of how important these things are makes a tremendous difference," she said, "and I definitely feel good that the company is willing to put this kind of effort into the employees."

Many smokers found the support of co-workers who were also trying to kick the habit to be very helpful. "Three of us were doing the program in our department," said Kim Hoogenboom, a senior designer in TNG's marketing department. "We were our own little team, and we were always talking about how we felt and what we were doing differently."

But the cash incentive and the prospect of better health were not her only motivations.

"You know you had people watching, and that you'd be disappointing them if you didn't make it," she said.

"Knowing you had 300 (pairs) of watchful eyes on you was more of an incentive, honestly, than the money."

Last year's graduates were honored with a ceremony at the Ritz Carlton in Dearborn, complete with cap and gown, cheering crowd and diploma.

This year's graduates, said Gaynor, can expect the same.

REPORTER

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received her associate's degree from Schoolcraft College and graduated from Wayne State University in 1989 with a degree in English and Journalism.

As the Observer & Eccentric health writer and Observer community life reporter, Renee was recognized numerous times throughout her career with both Suburban Newspaper Association and Michigan Press Association awards for her articles in the categories of feature and column writing.

"Renee was born to write. She loved her job at the O&E and was passionate about her beats - covering health and community life. She connected with readers through her columns and was full of ideas because she always listened to what people were talking about," said Susan Rosiek, Observer & Eccentric Newspapers executive editor.

"Renee loved the energy of the newsroom. She was creative, well-read, curious and enthusiastic about each and every story she wrote. She was a stickler for accuracy and grammar - even in the briefs and calendar items she composed or rewrote. She respected her readers and felt that anyone who submitted material to be printed deserved her undivided attention. Her colleagues at the O&E will miss her and so will her reader 'friends' throughout our circulation area."

Married to Gary Skoglund for 32 years, she is survived by her



Renee Skoglund talks with Make Over My Man winner Bob Bickmeyer of Troy while Lydia Bell works on his new hair style. It was Renee's last assignment.

three children, Michael (Kim) Skoglund, Sarah (Will) Klein, and Christian Skoglund; one grandchild, Luke Skoglund; mother, Margaret Cartier; and brother, Louis (Barb) Cartier.

"As the older brother I was the one destined to be the President of the United States or to be the lead horse and Renee played second fiddle," said Renee's mother, Margaret Cartier of Nebraska. "But she had a creative purpose that enabled her to travel the world, raise a family, go back to school and to graduate magna cum laude."

Creatively was truly her gift and she had a certain way of expressing it that appealed to everyone. Renee became well-known in the Observer & Eccentric readership area for the medical coverage she provided to readers as well as her clever and insightful columns about her family and friends.

"Renee's level of energy and creativity wouldn't permit her to report health by sitting behind her desk; she got out in the field and learned as much as she could," said Meredith Meyer, of media relations at Henry Ford Hospital. "She had a genuine compassion for her subjects that made them comfortable in sharing their experiences with her."

"Renee was a dear friend of the Felician Sisters and St. Mary Mercy Hospital, covering many of our services and programs over the years. As the health reporter, she always had a keen interest in what was new in health care, progress and changes, and wrote about the hospital fairly and accurately," said Julie Sproul, media relations director for St. Mary Mercy Hospital.

Arrangements were made by Charles R. Step Funeral Home of Redford.

REPORTS

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jected about \$3,000. Bolsen held a pizza party gathering fund-raiser April 7 at Farmington Hills, which was attended by 67 people. Total contributions received were \$1,380. The event cost \$69.82, according to the report.

"I did not accept any cash contributions," Swalm said. "I'm relying on other avenues, talking to people one-on-one. I have a person-to-person type of campaign. I'm meeting with small groups of people throughout the district. I'm networking. We have signs out across the district."

Swalm considers the three candidate forums hosted by the Farmington Area Republican Club, the Farmington Area PTA Council and the Farmington Democratic Club especially helpful.

They are replaying on cable channels 8 and 10.

CONTRIBUTORS

Many of Bolsen's contributors have worked with her in her role as co-chair of MCMR. Four of five Farmington school board members - Pam Christian, Priscilla Broutelle, Cathy Webb and Linda Enabser - are on the list.

Larger contributors (\$100 or more) included Paul and Lynn Hays, president and partner of CMC, Inc. in Southfield, \$150; Terry West, Realtor, \$100; Mygene Chayk, board management consultant, \$100; Vicki Mattson, systems engineer, \$100; Cynthia Mauder, systems

director, \$100; Jim Hall, Realtor and MCMR co-chair with Bolsen, \$100; Farmington Hills Police Chief Bill Dwyer contributed \$100; Dr. John and Suzan Zazalina, \$100; John Dennis, chesecologist, \$100; and Dr. Denise Salwen of the Veteran's Administration in Detroit, \$270.

Daniel Kriebbaum, director of the National Conference for Community and Justice, contributed \$100.

NCCJ and MCMR are involved with a joint community planning process and have been holding community meetings since October. NCCJ also provided paid consultants for the meetings.

An in-kind contribution came from Eric Christian, husband of school board member Pam Christian, who donated services of \$335 for the design and deployment of Bolsen's Web site, according to the report.

Bolsen also received contributions from Farmington Hills Mayor Nancy Bates and Hills City Councilman Jon Grant, as well as Farmington Democratic Club President Gerry Goldberg.



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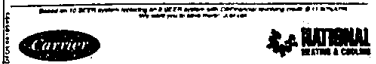
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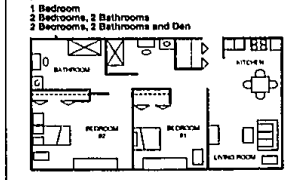
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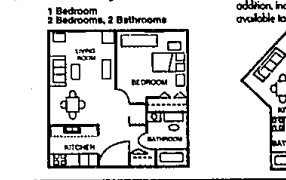


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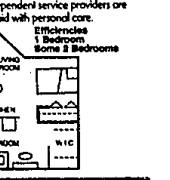
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