

community calendar

- CARD PARTY**
Thursday, Jan. 6: Reservation deadline for Women of North Farmington's card-party, buffet and silent auction that begins at 11:30 a.m. Friday, Jan. 14 on Orchard Ridge Campus, Oakland Community College. Reservations taken by Jackie Greil, 474-2561 or Mary Berisch, 555-7189.
- ENRICHMENT CLASSES**
Thursday, Jan. 6: Registrations are being taken now for all winter classes offered through Farmington Schools Adult and Community Education Department in Ten Mile Community School, 32789 10 Mile for sessions that begin the week of Jan. 17. Inquiries may be made by calling the school, 474-5533.
- EXERCISE FUNDAMENTALS**
Thursday, Jan. 6: "Exercise Fundamentals," lecture by Dr. Lou Harp introduces both beginners and the experienced to the fundamental aspects of exercise at 7:30 p.m. in Harp Chiropractic Clinic, 23280 Farmington Road. No charge.
- LIBRARY REGISTRATION**
Friday, Jan. 7: In-person registration for all children's programs offered in January and February by both Farmington and Farmington Hills Branch Libraries taken from 10 a.m. to noon in the libraries. Phone registrations will be taken after noon.
- SATURDAY MATINEE**
Saturday, Jan. 8: Saturday matinee of movies begins at 2 p.m. for all elementary school aged children in Farmington Hills Branch Library, 12 Mile, east of Farmington Road. No charge.
- SUPERRIFFIC SATURDAY**
Saturday, Jan. 8: "Superrific Saturday" offers crafts, puppet shows, refreshments and Bible stories to preschoolers through those in sixth grade from 9:30 a.m. to noon in First Church of God, Power Road, between 10 and 11 Mile. No charge.
- ANTIQUE SHOW**
Saturday and Sunday, Jan. 8-9: Antique show from noon to 9 p.m. each day in Glen Oaks Golf Course, 13 Mile, east of Orchard Lake Road. Admission and parking are free.
- DANCEFIT**
Monday, Jan. 10: DanceFit classes begin this week in three locations with options of morning, afternoon and evening sessions for the participants. Inquiries taken by DanceFit, 553-7262.
- DOG OBEDIENCE TRAINING**
Monday, Jan. 10: All-breed dog obedience training classes for beginners at 7 p.m. in American Legion Hall, 31775 Grand River for owners who are asked to come without their dog. Health certificates are required. Session sponsored by Detroit German Shepherd Dog Obedience Training Club, Inc. Inquiries taken by Thelma Gothan, 933-4225.
- DUNGEONS AND DRAGONS**
Tuesday, Jan. 11: "Dungeons and Dragons" workshop teaching the strategy and techniques in the game led by representatives of Thunderbird Gaming at 8 p.m. in Farmington Hills Branch Library. No charge, but reservations are requested by calling the library, 883-020. Workshop will be repeated Feb. 15 and March 15.

- CHORUS OPEN HOUSE**
Tuesday, Jan. 11: Suburban Chorale hosts open house for women singers who are interested in learning about the group at 7 p.m. in Senior Citizens Building of Livonia, 18218 Farmington Road, corner of Five Mile. Reservations are requested by calling Lorraine Pyle, 493-1748.
- WILD GAME DINNER**
Tuesday, Jan. 11: Wild Game Dinner sponsored by Farmington Area Jaycees at 7:30 p.m. in Farmington Community Center, Farmington Road, north of 10 Mile. The dinner is given without charge to men between the ages of 18-35 who wish to learn about the organization.
- CHORALE AUDITIONS**
Tuesday, Jan. 11: Musical Chorale of Southfield schedules auditions for men and women who are prepared to sing solo and eight read beginning at 7 p.m. in Southfield-Lathrup High School's music room, 12 Mile, east of Evergreen, at the far south end of the building. Appointments are made by calling Carolyn Eymon, the chorale director, at 646-2209.
- REGIONAL DISHES**
Wednesday, Jan. 12: "Cooking Regional Dishes," demonstration by Judy Antshin who shows how to entertain buffet style using recipes from various U.S. regions, at 7 p.m. in Farmington Community Center. Registrations taken in the center on Farmington Road north of 10 Mile.
- ADOLESCENT DEVELOPMENT**
Wednesday, Jan. 12: "Normal Adolescent Development," demonstration by Judy Antshin who shows how to entertain buffet style using recipes from various U.S. regions, at 7 p.m. in Farmington Community Center. Registrations taken in the center on Farmington Road north of 10 Mile.
- NATURAL HEALTH CARE**
Thursday, Jan. 13: "Chiropractic and Natural Health Care," lecture by Dr. Alan Post at 7:30 p.m. in Harp Chiropractic Clinic, 23280 Farmington Road. No charge.
- TRAIN MOVIES**
Friday, Jan. 14: Three movies about trains shown at 10:30 a.m. for preschoolers and kindergartners at 10:30 a.m. in Farmington Branch Library, State and Liberty streets. No charge.
- S.A.T. WORKSHOP**
Saturday, Jan. 15: S.A.T. College Exam Workshop at 1 p.m. prepares the student who is expecting to take the

- exam in Farmington Community Center. Fee is \$20, payable with in-person registration in the center on Farmington Road, north of 10 Mile. Workshop will be repeated at 7 p.m. Jan. 17.
- ARTISTS RECEPTION**
Saturday, Jan. 15: Reception for the artists opens "Three Guilds" exhibit staged by members of Needlework and Textile Guild, Michigan Weavers Guild and Michigan Woodworkers Guild, from 2-5 p.m. in Birmingham-Bloomfield Art Association, 1516 Cranbrook, Birmingham. No charge. Exhibit remains on display through Feb. 5.
- CHRONIC PAIN**
Monday, Jan. 17: "Coping with Chronic Pain," lecture by David Wachtel who gives a psychological approach to the sufferer at 7:30 p.m. in Farmington Community Center. Reservations at \$7 each taken in the center.
- PRAYER BREAKFAST**
Tuesday, Jan. 18: Community Prayer Breakfast, sponsored by Farmington Area Jaycees in celebration of National Jaycees Week (Jan. 16-22) at 7:30 a.m. in Boyette Inn. Reservations are necessary by calling Michael Lewis, 474-3113 or Howard Aldrich, 478-6712.

The Gathering Place takes on a new name

The center is operated on a drop-in basis with most of the offerings given without charge. A calendar of events is published monthly, which can be picked up free during regular center hours.

Assertiveness workshop is given free

An assertiveness-training workshop will be given without charge from 10 a.m. to noon and again from 6:30-8:30 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 26 in the Student Center, Highland Lakes campus, Oakland Community College. The campus is at 7350 Cooley Lake Road.

The workshops will be led by Jim Rutkowski and Ruth Grass, counselors at the campus.

It has grown steadily from a handful of seniors who named their center The Gathering Place when they first used the American Legion Hall on Grand River.

The program is from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. weekdays at Mercy Center on 11 Mile east of Middlebelt, with special events periodically scheduled on the weekends.

"It wasn't listed in the phone book and I'm afraid we lost too many callers on that alone," she said. "We also learned that many people thought the program was sponsored by Mercy Center."

Farmington Hills Parks and Recreation Department has sponsored the senior's activities program since it began.

Skywatch

It's sun's angle that controls seasons

By Raymond E. Bullock
special writer

Since January is one of the coldest of all months, many people are surprised to learn that at this time the earth is actually at its closest position to the sun.

The earth's orbit around the sun isn't circular. Like the other planets, our orbit is elliptical (oval). This means that our distance to the sun changes during the year.

Our closest point to the sun occurred on Jan. 2, when we were 147,090,000 kilometers (91,400,000 miles) away. Six months from now, in July, that distance will have increased by 5,013,000 kilometers (3,112,000 miles).

Obviously, our distance to the sun isn't responsible for our seasons. The real cause is the 23 1/2 degree tilt of our axis with respect to our orbit.

In January, the northern hemisphere is angled away from the sun. The days are short, and the sunlight we receive is indirect, resulting in cold temperatures.

When the tilt is toward the sun, we receive more direct sunshine and enjoy summer.

Since the northern part of earth is angled away from the sun, the southern part is pointed toward it. While we have winter, the southern hemisphere has summer.

THE QUADRANTID meteor shower reached maximum on the morning of Jan. 3. There was an average of 40 "shooting stars" each hour.

The moon was at last quarter on Jan. 5. On the morning of the 7th, it will be two degrees north of (above) Saturn in the southern part of the sky. To the west (right) of Saturn is the star Spica in Virgo.

The planet Venus returns to the night sky this month. This "evening star" was last visible after sunset in January, 1982, and will remain in the night sky for the next six months.

On Friday, Mercury is two degrees north (right) of Venus, very low in the west-southwest. The pair should be visible 45 minutes after sunset.

Twenty degrees to the upper left of Mercury and Venus is Mars. Binoculars will help in locating these planets. Look for Venus from week to week and you'll notice it higher in the sky. It will pass Mars next month.

The waning crescent moon is two degrees north of (above) Jupiter on Sunday morning. The bright star below Jupiter is Antares in Scorpius.

The new moon is on the 14th. The next evening, the thin waxing crescent moon is about two degrees south (left) of Venus. Mercury is not visible, since it is at inferior conjunction between earth and sun. Mars is three degrees north of (above) the moon on the 16th.

First Quarter moon is on Jan. 21, and it's full on the 28th, rising in the east as the sun sets in the west.

Like the orbits of the planets around the sun, the moon's orbit around earth is elliptical; hence, its distance to earth varies during the month.

On Jan. 28, the moon just happens to be closest (perigee) 357,000 kilometers or 221,830 miles) as it reaches its full phase. That is the only time this year that these two events coincide, so the January full moon is the brightest full moon of 1983.

Anyone interested in a telescopic view of the sky is invited to visit the observatory at the Cranbrook Institute of Science. It is open Saturday nights (except holidays) from 8:30 to 10 p.m.

The author is coordinator of the planetarium and observatory at Cranbrook Institute of Science.

Antiques go on sale

Glen Oaks Antique Show runs from noon to 9 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 8, and from noon to 6 p.m. the following Sunday in the golf club on 13 Mile Road, east of Orchard Lake Road. Admission and parking are free.

Among the dealers showing antiques are Gluny and Jim Connors of Farmington Hills, who have oak table and chair sets for sale.

The show offers furniture, primitives, jewelry, tools and bric-a-brac.

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