

recreation news

Each week the Farmington Hills Parks & Recreation Department will present a synopsis of upcoming activities in this column. For further information regarding our programs, contact our office at 474-6115.

RECREATION CENTERS — We will be opening eight community playground sites beginning Monday, June 27, through Thursday, Aug. 4. Supervised activities will include games, sports activities, arts and crafts and special events. All activities will include boys and girls ages 6-13 (who must have completed first grade). The morning sites will be Forest, Kenbrook, Larkshire and Longacre and they will be open from 9:30 a.m. to noon. The afternoon sites will include Flanders, Grace, Woodcreek and Wooddale and they will be open from 1-3:30 p.m. There is no fee for this activity.

A PICNIC PAC — Do you need additional games for your picnic or family reunion? We have volleyball, badminton, horseshoes, softball, frisbees and more included in our "picnic pac." To reserve your pac, contact the Parks & Recreation office at least 48 hours in advance. A \$20 deposit is required. The fee is \$8 per weekend or \$5 per weekday rental.

SENIOR ADULT OPEN SWIM — The Farmington Hills Parks & Recreation senior adult center offers open swimming every Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 3 p.m. The pool is located at the Mercy Conference Center, adjacent to the senior adult activities center. Bring your own suit, towel and lock. Fee for swimming is 50 cents.

DAY CAMP — Our day camp is designed for children 6-12 years of age and provides both educational and recreational programs. Campers will be involved in animal study, insects, fishing, archery, field trips and more. The

camp is located at Oakland Community College, Orchard Ridge campus. Camp runs five days a week and the first session starts June 27. Fee is \$30.

CAMP RAINBOW — Camp Rainbow is a summer day camp for all mental and physically impaired individuals. The program operates from 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday through Friday and offers a wide variety of recreational activities. Daily activities will incorporate socialization skills, gross and fine motor coordination and self awareness. Additional activities will include swimming, field trips and overnight camping during specific sessions. The first session will begin Monday, July 18, and take place at Oakland Community College, Orchard Ridge campus. The camper registration fee is \$38 per person.

TENNIS LESSONS — Learn the basic fundamentals of the game or improve your existing skills. Classes will meet twice each week in 50-minute sessions for four weeks. All lessons will take place at Farmington and North Farmington High Schools. Participants are asked to bring a racket and a can of new tennis balls for the lessons. The first session will begin Monday, June 20, and continue through Thursday, July 14. The times vary throughout the day; youth classes are scheduled for 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. and 5 p.m. while adult classes are scheduled 8 a.m. to 11 a.m. and 6-9 p.m. Fee is \$18 per participant.

RECREATION OPEN SWIM — We will host open swim at North Farmington and Farmington High School pools on a Monday through Thursday basis beginning June 27. The pools will be open between 1 and 4 p.m. The fee is 75 cents for children and teens and \$1 for adults. You must be 38 inches at the chin to swim alone or you must be accompanied by an adult.



This secluded, old, Spanish-type villa is becoming a more familiar sight to area residents as development is surrounding the once-lonely structure.

Villa survives despite growth

By Janet Burke
special writer

An Italian villa, rich with historical background, stands in a new Farmington Hills development as a daily reminder of the area's founder.

Quaker Hills, located northwest of 11 Mile and Farmington roads, is being built on the former estate of Count William Sarmiento.

"It is one of the area's great homes, but it was always shrouded in mystery," said florist Lawrence Mayer, a longtime Farmington resident.

"As a child, I heard the rumor that a Russian princess lived there," Mayer said. "And I remember some 40 years ago delivering flowers, but never getting past the guard at the front gate."

A MEMBER of the Italian court, Sarmiento built the villa 67 years ago on the rolling wooded countryside.

Blueprints date the home to 1916, according to William Chorkey who has owned the villa with his wife Alice for the past 14 years.

"We understand that Mrs. Sarmiento stayed here until the 1940s, when the Lowell family bought it as a working farm," Chorkey said. "In 1947, Reuben and Ruth Allender moved in. We acquired it from Mrs. Allender in 1968."

The Mediterranean-style villa, situated on 16 acres of what was once an estate of at least 100 acres, is the focal point of Quaker Hills.

Part of the land was sold in the 1950s to develop Ramble Hills, a subdivision that extends west from Farmington Road.

The 53 lots in Quaker Hills average three-quarters of an acre each.

"The seclusion was one of the main reasons we were attracted to this land," said Ken Dabrowski, one partner in a group that's developing the property.

Quaker Hills has no outlets to main roads, and none of the lots abut another street.

"It is private and peaceful, yet is only minutes away from expressways and the extensive commercial, retail and recreational facilities the Farmington area offers," Dabrowski said.

THE DEVELOPMENT was named after the founders of Farmington, according to Dabrowski.

Fourteen of the 53 lots already have been built upon. The homes range from 2,600 to 7,500 square feet with finished prices beginning at \$225,000.

What do the Chorkeys think about having a neighborhood in what was once an enormous meadow in front of their home and grounds?

"We enjoyed that natural land for many years," Alice Chorkey said. "When we first learned about it being developed, we had some concerns, but as things evolved, we got excited about the kind of homes being built, and are now very pleased."

ROLEX
AUTHORIZED SALES AND SERVICE

GREENSTONE'S
Creators of Fine Jewelry for Over 55 Years
528 N. Woodward Ave. • Birmingham
(313) 642-2650 • Mon-Sat: 9:30-5:30
Major Credit Cards

Indoor Tennis
GET THE SUMMER FREE
\$49.00 per person
JOIN NOW! MEMBERSHIP
WORTH IT! UNTIL SEPT. 1, 1984

PERMANENT COURT TIME • PRIVATE LESSONS
ORGANIZED PRACTICE • CANNIS
JUNIOR EXCELLENCE PROGRAM

BETTER HURRY
FINAL WEEKS OF THIS
SPECIAL MEMBERSHIP PRICE

LIVONIA ATHLETIC CLUB
17250 NEWBURGH RD.
AT SIX MILE
LIVONIA
591-0123

Let us help you design jewelry for that special person.

KING INTERNATIONAL
4050 W. Maple Rd., Suite 210 Call for Appointment
Birmingham, Michigan 48010 642-6100

Ray's Landscaping & Nursery

RELAX UNDER YOUR NEW SHADE TREE - This Weekend

ON ALL SHADE TREES 20% OFF

1825 W. MAPLE ROAD • WALLED LAKE
Located 2 Miles West of Haggerty on Maple

Wholesale Outlet
Party & Catering Supplies
OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

PAPERWORLD
plates, cups, cutlery, table coverings
paper, plastic, styrofoam
color coordinated, patterns
party decorations
huge selection

12345 Schaeffer
Hours: M-F 9-5
Sat. 9:30-1:30 **491-2384**

WAREHOUSE SALE CONTINUES
OUTDOOR GRASS SALE

Ideal for patios, porches, decks, pools, aprons, boats, etc.
Select from Arbor Green, Chocolate Spice, Blue/Black. **\$3.49** Sq. Yd.

RITE CARPET 7 Mile & Middlebelt
Livonia • 478-8300
Mon.-Fri. 10-9, Sat. 10-6

DENTAL GROUP
announces the expansion of office hours to include evenings, Saturdays and Sundays.
We also take pleasure in introducing to our practice

DENNIS A. BUTLER, D.D.S.
an experienced practitioner for more than seven years coming to us from Florida.

We are now accepting new patients for the practice of dentistry to include the following:
Bonding (new concept)
Fillings • Crowns and Bridges
Gum Surgery and Extractions
Root Canals • Braces

Please call for an appointment
MONDAY THRU SUNDAY
352-5440

24060 N. 10 Mile Suite A 1/2 Blk. E. of Telegraph Southfield, MI 48034

50 Lb. Bag
TOP SOIL or PLAYSAND 75¢
Excellent Prices on other bag material
Call us for prices

MAIN'S Pebble Place
45 YEARS EXPERIENCE

PICK UP and DELIVERY
of DRIVEWAY MATERIALS

21375 TELEGRAPH SOUTHFIELD 39940 GRAND RIVER NOVI
476-6050 477-9717
WE'RE OPEN 7 DAYS

47th Year **Harold Thomas NURSERY** 421-2888

14925 Middlebelt Between 5 Mile and Schoolcraft
OPEN DAILY 9-5 SUNDAY 9-5

JOHN SLOCUM
One-Man Exhibit & Sale
CRYSTALLINE SCULPTURES & FUNCTIONAL WORKS

JUNE 16-26

SOMERSET MALL
BIG BEAVER ROAD at COOLIDGE, TROY
Sunday 12-5/Monday, Thursday, Friday 10-9/Other days 10-6

Grand Opening
OF OUR
SECOND LOCATION

ZAREH'S

JUNE 28 - JULY 2

YOU ARE INVITED TO JOIN US
SHARE IN THE FUN AND REFRESHMENTS
at our new location in Southfield

43223 W. Seven Mile Rd. Northville, MI 48167 348-8290
Zareh - L'Oréal Headquarters, Paris & Walla Headquarters, Munich, trained throughout Europe

29683 Franklin Rd. Southfield, MI 48034 358-0890