

community calendar

VIKINGS REGISTRATION

Monday, Aug. 15: Registrations are taken up until 5:30 p.m. for The Vikings North Farmington-West Bloomfield Football Association for 9-14-year-old players and cheerleaders who begin practice at that time on North Farmington High School's field. Players are placed on one of three teams according to weight, age and experience. Registration information given by Jim Sturdy, 553-7431 or 553-7353.

ONE WOMEN SHOWS

Monday, Aug. 15: Nancy Davis Mudloff shows her work in a one-woman show in Farmington Hills Branch Library and Barbara Moline shows her work in a one-woman show in Farmington Branch Library through Wednesday, Aug. 31.

EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTERS

Monday, Aug. 15: Enrollments are being taken now for tots' programs in Alameda and Fairview Early Childhood Centers which begin early in September. Parents are asked to call 476-1470 to register at either location.

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ENERGY COMMISSION

Tuesday, Aug. 16: Farmington Hills Energy Commission regular monthly meeting at 7:30 p.m. in Farmington Hills Council Chambers, Orchard Lake Road and 11 Mile. Open to all interested residents.

AEROBIC EXERCISE

Tuesday and Thursday, Aug. 16 and 18: Aerobic Exercise Fitness classes run from 7:30-8:30 p.m. every Tuesday and Thursday through August in Our Lady of Sorrows Church gym. Power Road between 10 Mile and Shilohwasse for all persons over the age of 12. Admission is \$2, or \$1 for students at the door, which includes locker and showers. Registration is not necessary.

SUCCESS

Thursday, Aug. 18: "Success," program by Dr. John Rom who describes a new process which focuses on the critical ingredients for planning a satisfy-

ing and personally successful career, at 7 p.m. in Farmington Hills Branch Library, 32737 12 Mile. No charge, but reservations are necessary by calling the library, 553-0300.

PICNIC IN THE PARK

Thursday, Aug. 18: Picnic in the Park begins at 10 a.m. in Farmington City Park, Shilohwasse and Power Road, for all area seniors and their children and grandchildren, hosted by Farmington Hills Parks and Recreation Department's Senior Adult Center. Guests bring their own lunch. Beverage, fun and games, prizes and surprises furnished by the hosts.

EVAN PICONE FASHIONS

Friday, Aug. 19: Show of Evan Pi-

cone Fashions with commentary on how to put fall fashion outfits together at 7 p.m. in Hudson's 12 Oaks. No charge.

LIZ CLAIBORNE FASHIONS

Saturday, Aug. 20: Fashion show of Liz Claiborne's fall collection at 3 p.m. in Hudson's 12 Oaks. No charge.

FARMERS MARKET

Saturday, Aug. 20: Farmers Market runs from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. in Sanctuary Shops parking lot, in front of Lucy's Gift and Card Shop, 34831 Grand River, and returns each Saturday morning through Oct. 8.

MONTESSORI OPEN HOUSE

Sunday and Thursday, Aug. 21 and

25: Farmington Square Montessori Open House 3-4 p.m. Sunday and 7-9 p.m. Thursday in its facilities in Salem United Church of Christ, 33424 Oak-Hill. The private, non-profit preschool and kindergarten program is for children 2 1/2-6 years old.

YOUTH SYMPHONY AUDITIONS

Monday, Aug. 22: Deadline date for music students in grades 5-8 who wish to make an audition appointment to join the Metropolitan Youth Symphony in its 1983-84 season. Auditions will be all day Saturday, Aug. 27, in Nardin Park United Methodist Church, Farmington Hills. Appointments are made by calling Martha Stefanko, 591-1408 or Betty Navoy, 591-7242.

SYNCHRONIZED REVIEW

Thursday and Friday, Aug. 25-26: "Synchronized Review," water show staged by 6-15-year-old members of Kendallwood Swim Club at 9 p.m. each night in the club's pool on the east side of Farmington Road, south of 19 Mile. Admission is 50 cents at the door.

FAVORITE PET CONTEST

Saturday, Aug. 27: All photos entered into Farmington Area Jaycette's "Favorite Pet Contest" are posted in Elias Brothers' Big Boy, Orchard Lake Road, north of 10 Mile Road. A donation to Oakland Humane Society buys one vote from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Hints for midsummer gardeners

All seasons have special events. In summer, right here on our doorstep, we have the beautiful gardens of Cranbrook plus the world famous Institute of Science with its wonders, well known all over the United States. There are tours or you can make the rounds alone.

Bob-Lo Island combined with a boat trip will delight all ages. Then there is Greenfield Village and Henry Ford Museum.

Back to your garden. Relax as you do tasks, remember there is always another day. Keep your old flower heads cut off. I hope you have one of those long handled weeders so you can steer your weed harvest into a pile instead of leaning over every time.

If you are going to be gone for any quantity of time, trim your petunias off to about two inches and cut your sweet alyssum way back so when you return



down to earth
Alice Burlingame

It will be ready to greet you with a maximum flower show.

YOU PROBABLY have some choice plants that you think will come looking quitters when you return. Mulch around the base of these plants with grass clippings, peat moss, (a good investment to always have on hand a bag for mulching or "dollopping" a flower bed), or dry leaves.

As you vacation you may be eating apples. Discourage everybody from eating the seeds of apples as they contain cyanide which is a poison.

The question posed recently is, "When do I harvest sunflower seeds?" When the backs of the heads are turning yellow and the heads begin to droop, cut off the heads with a foot of stalk attached and hang upside down to dry. Some seeds will drop so protect them from rodents and dirt on the surface of the floor. This will more than test your ingenuity.

When should you separate a cantaloupe from the vine? Some people "thump" the fruit and listen for a hollow sound. If it is still green or "the belly" has a whitish cast, wait — no sale.

If YOU are burdened with a lawn or garden which seems to always be too wet, the best solution is to top dress with a mix of sand and organic soil lat-

er in the season. Or you can plan on raised flower and vegetable beds. Lack of drainage is a "sticky wicket."

Don't get too excited if some of your white plants begin to drop some needles. It is natural in the summer. So for old needles it is natural. If your young growth shows droopage, consult your nursery.

Regardless of our age we are all sort of children at heart. August is a popular time up in our beautiful Michigan. To keep a memory of it, regardless of age, you might like to try sandcasting.

In damp sand make a pattern with shells or other found natural items. Remember that the pattern when completed will project into the sand surface. Each artist will need to mix four cups of plaster of Paris (secure from a hardware store) with two cups of warm water (not cold).

Mix thoroughly in a large container and pour over the indented pattern.

You have to work quickly when the mix is gently poured over the project. For an accent you can use feathers, stones, seaweed or driftwood. Have fun.

retirement memos



Margaret Miller

Retired? Not quite

An old friend who came to Florida with us seems to be trying to decide whether it's time yet to retire.

For a while, the answer seemed to be clearly no. Now the signals are maybe yes. But we're holding with the maybes. Before our own retirement, Joe and I had felt real concern as to whether this friend would be able to make the trip with us. The years were creeping up and there were bumps and bruises and some general health problems.

But when it was time to leave, she was rarin' to go and covered the miles with nary a complaint besides many extra burdens. Then another trip to Michigan was completed in fine style. We're so impressed with her youthful spirit that we're considering asking her to make one more trip north. We're betting she'll do it.

THE FRIEND, of course, is our 1971 Cutlass, by performance one of the merriest Oldsmobiles ever to come off production lines.

She joined us six years ago when her former owners decided 42,000 miles meant it was time to buy a new car. This summer she heads for the 126,000-mile mark, still going strong.

We've witnessed her longevity and high performance have been helped along a lot by the careful ministrations of our auto mechanic son-in-law, but even now she seems to possess an inner core of dependability that makes us not want to give her up.

AS WE MADE plans to move to Florida, we decided we'd drive the old car down and then look right away for another used model, one that hadn't en-

dured Michigan's salty winter on its bottomsides.

Our son-in-law did the proper checking over and sent us on our way. But after a performance-perfect trip down, we delayed the planned search for another car. The old Olds was burning her approval of her Florida home, and we saw no reason to replace her.

When it was time for our spring trip to Michigan, the car seemed ready, willing and able. Her mechanic was amazed. "He thought he'd seen the last of that car," our daughter noted in a letter. But there were only a couple of minor adjustments to make during that visit.

THE TRIP BACK to Florida included a nifty moment for us and the Olds. We stopped to visit her former owners, now retired and living in North Carolina. Having recently replaced her successor, they were so pleased to see their old car and hear how she was purring.

Florida's hot summer is moving along now, and our faithful friend has given us a few indications — trouble with radiator and air conditioning — that she's getting on in years and mileage. But her motor continues to run so well that we've let her know we won't give up on her yet.

We've had several cars that served us super-well, but we think this one may well be the champion.

Margaret Miller was Suburban Life editor for the Observer Newspapers for 16 years. She and her husband, Joe, have retired to Florida, where she writes Retirement Memos.

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