

Slimnastics fall sessions start

Area residents will have the opportunity to shape up for fall in an eight-week series of aerobic dance classes. Sponsored by Dance Slimnastics, classes are scheduled to begin the week of Sept. 20.

The non-profit sessions begin at 6:30 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays in Dula Party Center on Grand River between Inkster and Beech roads.

The series called "Let's Go Dancin'" will give fitness-minded individuals the chance to work out aerobically as many times per week as desired. Under the club's "open class policy," these workouts are available at no extra cost. The class fee covers the cost of two one-hour sessions per week with additional days as desired.

Students need no previous dance or

athletic experience to enjoy the session. Class is aimed to help students lose inches, tone muscles and improve the heart and lung system. The dance routines set to a variety of upbeat, popular and classical music, are described as easy to learn.

Registration information is given by calling 532-7028.

Professional volunteer help needed

The help of professionals is needed by Farmington Youth Assistance (FYA). The service organization is sponsored by the cities of Farmington and Farmington Hills, Oakland County Juvenile Court and Farmington School District.

Its aim is to reduce juvenile delinquency and enhance family life. Interested lawyers, teachers, CPAs and those with leadership qualities are asked to contact the FYA office, 476-3840.

Landscape design course registers through Oct. 24

Registrations are being taken now for a course in landscape design sponsored by District I of Federation Garden Clubs of Michigan. The three-day course is set for Tuesday-Thursday, Nov. 1-3, in Mercy Conference Center, Farmington Hills.

The course is open to all interested persons, whether or not connected with any of the affiliated clubs. Registration forms will be sent by calling Mrs. Henry M. Kuhlman, 684-6715. Registration deadline is Monday, Oct. 24.



DAN DEAN/Staff photographer

Food will be one of the highlights at the first family fun fair sponsored by St. Mary's Antiochian Orthodox Church in Livonia. All of it will be prepared by women of the church, including Najia Ayyash (left), Naimah Abdelnour, Abia Khoury, Layla Abdelnour, Suad Dirbas and Wala Ziadneh.

In the center is the Rev. George Shalhoub, St. Mary's pastor. Ethnic dishes that will be available include: baklava (left), pita bread that will be filled with falafel or shish-kafte (center), and honey balls, shown on the right.

Fun Fair has a Far East flavor

For years, the Middle Eastern home-baked goodies made with tender loving care by the bakers at St. Mary's Antiochian Orthodox Church in Livonia were feature attractions at everyone else's festivals. Places like Livonia Spree and the Plymouth Fall Festival.

But not this weekend. Instead, all those flavor-some favorites will be star attractions in their own ethnic setting. The event is the first family fun fair in St. Mary's history and it will be held on the church grounds at 18100 Merriman Road this weekend.

Ethnic foods will include falafel in pita bread, shish-kafte in pita, honey balls and baklava — to mention a few.

But to cover all tastes, there will also be some American favorites like hot dogs and french fries. Food isn't the only attraction. There will also be a wide range of entertainment that will include rides, games, a Vegas room and video games.

MIDDLE EASTERN dance shows are scheduled at 6 p.m. and 8 p.m. Friday and Saturday, and at 3:30 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. Sunday.

Admission is free and there is adequate parking on the adjacent Bryant School parking lot. Festival hours are: Friday, 4 p.m. to 11 p.m.; Saturday, noon to 11 p.m.; Sunday, noon to 8 p.m.

The public will be invited to join in dancing the dabke, a traditional folk dance done on joyous occasions where everyone joins hand and dances in a circle to special music.

Proceeds from the festival will be used to build a cultural center for the active parish of 250 families, according to Pastor George Shalhoub.

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