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Diabetes management class set

Diabetes Management, a five-part series of classes, will run 7-9 p.m. Wednesdays, beginning Aug. 1 in Detroit Hospital's Administration and Education Center, 2850 Grand River.

Registrations are taken between 8 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. weekdays by calling the hospital, 471-8090. Class fee is \$20.



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club circuit

FORD SINGLES DEPOT is now taking reservations for a white water rafting trip to Choptele, Pa., on the Youngbush River. The trip is set for July 13-15. Cost is \$45, which includes two nights camping, rafting and lunch, Saturday.

Reservations must be made before June 6, by calling 366-5040.

MOONDUSTERS meet at 9 p.m. every Saturday for a dance party in Livonia Activities Center, 15218 Farmington Road. The parties are open to all singles over the age of 40 in all surrounding areas.

Admission of \$3.50 includes dancing to a live band and refreshments.

CATARACT SUPPORT GROUP shows its own slide production, "Journey Out of Darkness, Journey into Vision," at 1 p.m. Saturday, June 2, in

Cataract and Eye Institute, Beacon Hill Professional Plaza, 18161 13 Mile, Southfield.

The event is open to guests with no charge.

Dr. Henry J. Spiro, a cataract specialist and director of the institute, will be present for a question and answer discussion.

The group is comprised of post-cataract patients who help new cataract patients on every level. It provides family guidance for patient care before and after surgery, and aims to minimize fears of cataract patients. Members also supply transportation for patients who request it to and from the hospital.

Inquiries are taken by the group's founder, Mary Ezmerian, at 646-4156.

OLDER WOMEN'S LEAGUE, (OWL) Farmington Chapter, host a special open meeting at 6:30 p.m. Monday, June 4, in Farmington Hills Branch Library, 32737 12 Mile Road.

Each of the six members of the chapter's executive board will give a mini-seminar on one of the topics that are foremost among OWL targets: Divorce in Midlife; Job Discrimination; Social Security-Earning Sharing; Pension Rights; Health Insurance; and Care-giver Support Services.

The open meeting is the last one of the season for the chapter. Guests are welcome without charge. Refreshments are complimentary.

The event is open to guests with no charge.

Dr. Henry J. Spiro, a cataract specialist and director of the institute, will be present for a question and answer discussion.

Guests are welcome. Dinner reservations will be taken by Dianne Cutler, at 563-8142 during regular business hours.

MICHIGAN PARKINSONS FOUNDATION meet at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, June 6, in Providence-Now Hospital, 10 Mile and Haggerty Road.

All meetings sponsored by the foundation are open to all persons with Parkinson's, their friends and family.

Inquiries will be taken by Bob Bretz, at 554-5532, during regular business hours.

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS, West Bloomfield-Farmington Area Branch, meet at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, June 6, in Church of Our Savior, 6555 Middlebelt, West Bloomfield.

Program for the evening is "The State of Education in a Nation of Crisis: How Do We Measure Up?" Guest speakers for the evening are Lewis Schulman, superintendent of Farmington Public Schools and Dr. Seymour

Gretchko, superintendent of West Bloomfield Public Schools.

The meeting is open to all area residents without charge.

INDOOR GARDENING SOCIETY OF AMERICA, Metropolitan Detroit Chapter, meet at 7 p.m. Wednesday, June 6, in Farmington Hills Community Library, 32737 12 Mile Road.

Speaker for the evening is John Hambright, a past president of the society. He will talk on the designing and maintenance of terrariums. Guests, as well as members, are invited to bring their own container, soil and plants. Hambright will help in putting them all together.

SIERRA CLUB, Detroit Group of the Mackinac Chapter, meet at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, June 7, in Northwest Unitarian Church, 33925 Northwestern Highway, Southfield.

Program for the evening is called "Kayaking in Peru," led by Stan Chalek, who is a world class kayaker, an adventurer who has traveled the world, and a photographer.

Guests are welcome. There is no charge. Inquiries may be made by calling the Sierra Club hotline, 532-2659.

All club news and announcements for this column are to be addressed to: Club Circuit, Farmington Observer, 23352 Farmington Road, Farmington Hills 48334. The information must arrive before noon on the Monday before Thursday publication.

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retirement memos

Margaret Miller

Cocktails for two dozen

We've just pulled off our first Florida cocktail party. No, scratch that. We've just given our first cocktail party anywhere.

For Joe and me, that form of socializing just hadn't been on the calendar, whether as hosts or guests. Dinners with friends provided the kind of entertaining we knew about.

But we've learned that cocktail parties are the in thing for condominium dwellers, or for retirees, or for Florida residents, or maybe for all three. And they do make a lot of sense in these circumstances. Preparation can be easy, and the guest list can be relatively long considering the relatively small space. And you finish before dark.

WE WENT TO our first cocktail party last spring. It was an affair given by the friendly widow who lives directly above us, and its purpose was to introduce us to some of the people in the condominium.

We had a good time, connected some names with some faces and learned a bit about some of our neighbors. We thought we'd like to reciprocate the hospitality, but of course our minds were right to our traditional format, the small dinner.

Our hostess and another woman we had met accepted, but one couple turned us down. They never accepted dinner invitations, the husband explained, because they couldn't return them in kind.

That was OK. We were beginning to learn. Our dinner came off well, and subsequently we were invited to and enjoyed several more occasions with drinks and canapés. Then we decided we'd try giving such a party before many of our friends started heading

north for the summer.

THE LIST of people we thought we'd like to invite seemed long. Well, we figured, probably some would be busy. None were, all accepted.

We thawed the last Alaska salmon and made it into canapés, then added a few other food items for an à la carte menu not nearly as complicated or varied as some we had sampled.

We lined up some big bottles on the counter and got out all our glasses and all our ashtrays. We stored some ice from our ice-maker. We pulled out all the chairs we had, but the sitting places didn't quite add up to the number of guests.

FOLLOWING TRADITION as we had noted it, we set the hour for 5 p.m. Practically everyone arrived between 5:05 p.m. and 5:10 p.m. Everyone seemed to like the salmon and accompaniments, as well as the contents of the big bottles. Jokes were told and recent experiences recounted. We ran out of ice and ashtrays, but no one seemed to mind the lack of 100-percent seating.

We hadn't mentioned a departure time, but the mass exodus took place between 6:50 p.m. and 6:55 p.m. Cleanup was simple enough to be completed not much after that.

Now we know all about cocktail parties and understand why they're a favorite around here. But we don't intend to give up on dinners.

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

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