



photos by SHARON LAMIEUX/staff photographer

Season for kites

That thing that 7-year-old Stephen Davidson (photo at right) is holding is a kite, not an umbrella. He was flying it on the Farmington High School football field one recent windy morning during spring break. He and his brother Adam, 10, were playing on the field, which is behind their family-owned business, USA Video. Their mother, Cindy, brought them to work during the school break. Stephen (at left in the photo below) frets as his kite falls, while Adam has more luck with the wind.



recreation news

Each week, the Recreation Division of the Farmington Hills Department of Special Services presents a synopsis of upcoming activities in this column. For further information regarding programs, please contact the recreation office at 473-3570. Preregistration is required for most activities. For matters regarding city council agenda items, call the city's Newline at 476-3838.

SOFTBALL LEAGUES

Registration is now being accepted for adult softball teams. Leagues will be filled on a first-come, first-served basis. Teams will play a 14 game schedule and playoffs. Fees are \$365 residential and industrial leagues and \$405 for open leagues.

TENT RENTALS

The Recreation Division will begin taking tent reservations on the first Monday in February at its offices. Monday through Friday, from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., for the open-air shelter at Heritage Park and the 20- by 40-foot tent. Rental fees and security deposit must be paid at the time of reservation. For further information, call the Recreation Division at 473-0570.

WHITE-WATER RAFTING

Registration is now being accepted for the Cheat River in West Virginia. The river boasts Class 2 and 5 rapids with names like Coliseum, Big Nasty and the Terminator. Accommodations will be at the Day's Inn, which has an indoor pool. Included in the fee is motor coach transportation, two-night accommodations, lunch on Saturday and raft rental. A fee of \$175 per person (double or single) is required by April 12. Dates for the trip are May 17, 18 and 19.

SWIMMING LESSONS

Swimming instructions for beginners to advanced skill levels are offered at Harrison High School. The program meets on Saturdays for six weeks beginning April 13. Lessons are 10-10:50 a.m. for levels 1-3 and 11-11:50 a.m. for levels 4-6. Fee is \$21 per person and preregistration is required. Children must be at least 38-inches high at the chin.

MAKE IT FOR YOUR YARD

This class will help you bring the wildlife into your yard as you construct bird feeders, wind chimes or bird houses. Materials will be supplied for two projects. There will be two classes, children ages 6-10 on Saturday, April 13 and 20, from 10 a.m. to noon and adults Tuesday, April 16 and Thursday, April 18, from 7-9 p.m. A preregistration fee of \$15 per person is required.

KITE FESTIVAL

Grab a kite and come out to Heritage Park on Saturday, May 4, at 1 p.m. Activities include kite contest, making kites, kite flying demonstrations and displays.

GOLF SCRAMBLE TOURNAMENT

A nine-hole, two-man golf scramble tournament will be played Saturday, May 11, at San Marino Golf Course on Haled Road. The first tee time will be 10:15 a.m. The tournament is open to all golfers. No handicaps will be used. Fee is \$28 per team, and registration deadline is May 1.

ALLERGY AND ASTHMA

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FATAL STINGS

ALERT! Stinging insects become active at temperatures above 50°F. Stings of insects of the hymenoptera order—Honey Bees, Wasps, Hornets and Yellow Jackets can cause serious reactions in susceptible persons. Local reactions of redness, swelling and itching limited to the site of the sting is normal. However, "systemic" reactions manifested by generalized hives or swelling, difficulty breathing, palpitations, unconsciousness and/or other neurological symptoms, indicate an abnormal sensitivity. These reactions may occur seconds to hours after a sting. Unconsciousness may occur. All I.D. alert bracelets should be worn.

These systemic reactions tend to become more severe on subsequent stings and cause at least 40 fatalities per year in the USA. Protection is available by use of emergency kits containing adrenalin, and allergy desensitization with venom injections is close to 100% effective in preventing subsequent major or life threatening sting reactions.



Arthur A. Solof, M.D.

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