

Closer to Home

Dance company takes 20 top awards

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elaboration class examines rocketry, astronomy and physics for 3rd to 5th graders at 10 a.m. or 11 a.m. in Farmington Community School, 30415 Silawasse. Fee is \$38. Registration taken by the school, 489-3333.

CREATIVE CAMP

Tuesday, June 18: Creative Camp for 6-7 year olds meets from 9 a.m. to noon Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays for six sessions in The Community Center, 34705 Farmington Road. Campers participate in dance, drama, music and dance activities. Fee is \$60. Registrations taken by the center, 477-8404. Creative Camp is repeated beginning July 9.

POMPON AND CHEERLEADING

Tuesday through Thursday, June 18-20: The basics of pompon and cheerleading taught 1-3 p.m. in The Community Center. Fee is \$15. Registrations taken by the center, 477-8404.

BABYSITTING

Tuesday, June 18 and Wednesday, July 10: Responsible Babysitting taught to 10-17-year-olds in four sessions beginning at 3:30 p.m. Tuesday, June 18 in Farmington Branch Library, and at 2 p.m. Wednesday, July 10 in Farmington Hills Branch Library. No charge. Registrations taken by calling the Farmington Branch, 474-7770; or Hills Branch, 553-0300.

I LOVE A PARADE

Monday through Friday, June 24-28 and July 8-12: Children must commit themselves to participating in Founders Festival Parade (July 13) to be eligible for "I Love a Parade" classes from 9 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. in Farmington Community School, 30415 Silawasse. Fee is \$35. Registrations taken by the school, 489-3333.

KINDERGARTEN — HERE WE COME

Wednesdays and Thursdays beginning June 27 and July 3: "Kindergarten — Here we Come," program designed to strengthen readiness skills open to all youngsters who will be entering kindergarten in the fall, begins at 9:30 a.m. for four Thursdays in Farmington Branch Library, and at 10:30 a.m. for four Wednesdays in Farmington Hills Branch Library. No charge.

STRAWBERRY SOCIAL

Sunday, June 30: Strawberry Social with a variety of old fashioned games and activities, strawberry treats, barbershop quartets and performance by The Silver String Duet Society, at 6:30 p.m. on the grounds of The Community Center, Farmington Road north of 10 Mile. Admission is \$4, or \$15 for a family, at the gate. The gate opens at 6 p.m. for families to picnic and enjoy the grounds.

CAMCORDERS

Thursday, July 11: "Camcorder for Kids," program for those over 12 years led by Roger Avie, educator and president of a TV production company, who packs two hours with information on how to use a camcorder to produce original tapes, 7-9 p.m. in The Community Center. Fee is \$35. Registrations taken by the center, 477-8404.

ADVENTURE GAMING

Thursdays, Aug. 1, 8, 15, 22, 29: Adventure Gaming Summer Marathons for young adults from 1-4 p.m. in Farmington Branch Library, State and Liberty Street. No charge. Information packets available for newcomers in the library.

SCHOOL REVIEW

Monday and Tuesday, Aug. 5-6: Back to School Review, brush-up basic skills in reading and math for children from kindergarten to 6th grade given at various times in The Community Center. Fee is \$35 for each class. For registration and information call the center, 477-8404.

new voices

JOAN AND PAUL BASAR of Farmington Hills announce the birth of their son, Daniel Matthew, born May 18 in Hutzel Hospital.

Crafters called

Space is available to rent for Madonna University's Holiday Craft Showcase. Rental fee is \$40 for a booth, or \$45 if electricity is needed. The showcase is scheduled for Saturday and Sunday, Nov. 2-3. Applications will be sent on request by calling the university, 921-5128. Madonna is on the corner of I-96 and Levan Road in Livonia.

Tickets for "Bravo!", the Northville-based Piazza Dance Company's 10th anniversary production, are now available. The performance will begin at 7:30 p.m. Friday, June 21, and Saturday, June 22, in Birmingham Groves High School auditorium, 13 Mile and Evergreen roads.

"Bravo!" will feature six segments including scenes from "Dick Tracy" and the musical "Bye, Bye Birdie," according to studio directors Marilyn Piazza-Esper of Farmington Hills, and Gina Piazza of Livonia. Also included will be a children's segment, "Grandma's Bedtime Stories," which will feature local actress Sue Shuler playing the grandmother.

"We are very excited about this year's show, not only because it's our 10th Anniversary production, but also because it features so many outstanding routines that we produced this competition year," said Piazza.

The studio walked away with 20 top awards for its groups, duo, trio and solo acts that competed in state competitions this past year. Michelle Esper of Farmington Hills was a member of three of the studio's award-winning routines, including the classical pointe trio "Dance of the Reed Flutes," and the small group "Classical Taps," which captured first-place and top overall trophies in the Dance Masters of Michigan statewide competition, as

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— Marilyn Piazza-Esper

well as "Fever," a sizzling Bob Fosse-style jazz routine.

Esper's mother choreographed the award-winning musical theater routine, "This Joint is Jumpy!", for her petite division group of dancers between the ages of 9 and 11.

"This was an exceptional competition year for us . . . which makes us even more excited about the end-of-the-year performance we've been planning since September. It's bound to be one of our best," Piazza-Esper said.

Reserved tickets for "Bravo!" can be bought in advance at the Northville studio or will be available at the door. For more information call the studio at 348-3720.



"Classical Taps" won the first place award as well as the top overall trophy in Dance Masters of Michigan statewide competition this spring. Clockwise from bottom left is Kirstin Schmitt, Katie Ciozza, Michelle Esper and Tanis Garant. The girls are member of Piazza Dance Company.

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