

RECREATION NEWS

Each week, the recreation division of the Farmington Hills Department of Special Services presents a synopsis of upcoming activities. For more information regarding programs, call the recreation office at 473-9570. For City Council agenda items, call the Newsline at 476-3838.

DOWNHILL SKIING
Students in grades 4 through 12 can enjoy an evening of skiing at Mount Brighton on Friday evenings. Buses leave designated sites throughout the city at 4:30 p.m. and return at approximately 10

p.m. There are three two-week sessions and one one-week session scheduled. The first session will run Jan. 6 and 13. The fee is \$40 for a two-week session. If ski rental is required, a \$10 rental fee will be collected on the bus. Pre-registration required.

SPORTS EQUIPMENT SALE
From 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 3, at the Farmington Hills Activities Center, 28600 11 Mile Road, Gate 3 or 4, you will have the opportunity to buy or sell used sports equipment. Items include skates, downhill and cross-

country skis and boots, sleds, rollerblades and more. Equipment commitment for registering items to be sold will be from 5:30-8:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 2.

CO-ED YOUTH BASKETBALL REGISTRATION
Registration is being accepted through Dec. 2 for boys and girls in grades 4 through 8. Grade divisions will be comprised of 4th and 5th, 6th and 7th and 8th. The program will begin the week of Jan. 2 with two weeks of practice before a 10-game schedule starts on Saturday, Jan. 14. Fees are \$45 a person. Individuals interested in

coaching a team should call the recreation office at 473-9570.

EUROPE PARTY
Get your partner and register for an evening of playing euchre. The activity will take place at the Visitor Center in Heritage Park on Friday, Dec. 9, from 7:10 p.m. You will play a round-robin format that will allow you to play the entire evening. Awards will be based on number of teams registered. Refreshments provided. Pre-registration required; \$12 per team.

CRIBbage PARTY
On Dec. 2 at the Activities Center,

an individual-play cribbage match will be from 7-10 p.m. You will play a round-robin format that allows you to play the entire evening. Awards and refreshments are provided. Pre-registration of \$5 per person is required.

OPEN SWIM
The Recreation Division has scheduled open swim at the Activities Center pool. Attend any of the following sessions: 6:30-8 a.m. and noon to 1 p.m. Monday-Friday; 8:30-9:30 p.m. Monday-Thursday; 6:30-8 p.m. Friday; 7:30-9 a.m. and 12:30-1:30 p.m. Saturday; 2:30-3:30 p.m. and 3:30-

5 p.m. Sunday. Fees are \$2 a person for one hour, \$2.60 a person for 1 1/2 hours. Swim passes may be bought at reduced prices.

COMMUNITY CHORUS CONCERT
The Farmington Hills Community Chorus presents "Cool Yule" for its annual winter concert at Harrison High School Auditorium, 29996 12 Mile Road at 8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 16, and Saturday, Dec. 17. Tickets will be \$6 for adults, \$5 for seniors and \$3 for children 10 and under. Tickets are available at the Recreation office or at the door.

Shots are goal: County drives to immunize

By GRETCHEN A. VAN CLEAVE
SPECIAL WRITER

Immunizations on wheels? Maybe the time has come.

In a new effort to immunize children by age 2, the Oakland County Health Division is trying a new approach, a recreational vehicle specially adapted to provide immunization shots.

"The inside has been customized to provide a clinical atmosphere," said Stephanie Schim, Oakland County chief of clinics and special programs.

Within the RV is a lab, an examination room, a restroom and a counseling office.

Oakland County is doing as well as the rest of the country in terms of immunizations, but there's always room for improvement. By age 2, 60 to 60 percent of

children are properly immunized and by school age, 80 to 90 percent have received their shots, Schim said.

It is important to have children immunized by age 2 because that's when drugs work the best, she said.

The basic immunization shots protect against DTP, diphtheria, tetanus and pertussis; measles, mumps, rubella, polio, hepatitis B and Hib; and haemophilus strain B, which is a type of influenza.

Many of these diseases can cause severe damage or death, said Dr. Carol Bird, Oakland County chief of medical services. "It is very important to get the shots at the proper times," she said.

"The point of vaccines is to

protect the young and immature systems," Schim said.

With the new mobile immunization vehicles, Schim said she can go to any community and give the shots. "I hope to see it in full-time use in the communities."

In addition to giving vaccines, the RV will be used to educate people about vaccinations.

Schim hopes the RV will help Oakland County reach its immunization goal. By 1996, county health officials hope to have 90 percent of children 2 and younger immunized.

The state gave the RV to the county in October. The money to purchase and outfit it came from tobacco tax revenues.

There are five such RVs across Michigan. The others are being used in the Upper Peninsula, Ing-

ham County, Detroit and by the Mid-Michigan Health Department.

"The challenge is getting it on the road and making it work," Schim said.

The RV has had a test run at various health fairs.

Oakland County is trying to work with departments of social services. It has had positive responses from the public. "People are excited," Schim said.

"It enhances the possibility of people using the service, which is not limited to children," she said. Adults also need to update their shots, especially if they haven't had a tetanus shot in the past 10 years or a second booster shot for measles, mumps and rubella, Schim said.

Looks a lot like 'Christmas in the Castle'

"Christmas in the Castle" at Oakland University's Meadow Brook Hall continues through Sunday, Dec. 11.

Dozens of floral designers and special exhibitors will fill the 100-room mansion with trees and wreaths and ornaments and decorations of every description.

See antique toys, including a Santa collection that ranges from tiny to a 10-foot Belaznik with woodland creatures nesting in his hair.

From Germany comes a collection of "Ladies of the Castle," i.e. very detailed dolls by Eveline Frings.

The cost of a tour is \$5 for individuals less than 13 years of age,

\$10 for individuals age 13 and older. Parking is free. No reservations are required.

Hours of operation are:

- 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday through Wednesday, Nov. 28-30
- 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Thursday through Sunday, Dec. 1-4
- 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday through Wednesday, Dec. 5-7
- 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Thursday through Sunday, Dec. 8-11.

The last tour begins one hour before closing. For reservations, call (610) 370-3140.

All collectors, florists, designers and decorators are invited to the Christmas Walk.

All proceeds are used for the maintenance and operation of Meadow Brook Hall.

Meadow Brook Hall was completed in October 1929 at the cost of \$4 million.

Alfred and Matilda Wilson occupied Meadow Brook Hall until their deaths — Alfred in 1962 and Matilda in 1967.

In 1967, the Wilsons gave the entire 1,400-acre estate, plus a cash donation of \$2 million, to the state government to found Oakland University.

The first Christmas Walk drew 4,400 visitors and raised \$17,000 in proceeds used for preservation. About 100,000 tourists and conferees visit Meadow Brook Hall each year. The annual operating budget of the hall is about \$1.7 million.

The hall is not funded from Oakland University's general fund and must be self-supporting. Revenues for operation, maintenance and preservation are produced through tours, meetings, seminars, residential conferences, educational programs, special events and grants, as well as donations from individuals and corporations.

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"Holiday Hunting" Treasure Maps • Gift Wrapping Available
See our Christmas complimentary trees • Pre-cut trees, special ornaments, and decorations

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