



**Welching in:** Farmington Hills firefighter Jason Gilbert lets Shanna Miles, 8, of Farmington Hills experience the heavy wardrobe firefighters wear when battling blazes. The demonstration was part of the Farmington Hills Fire Department's annual open house at its new headquarters and station No. 5 on Orchard Lake Oct. 5.

## Open house provides step up on fire safety

Farmington Hills Fire Department's annual open house provided an ounce of prevention and a dash of pride.

The 20th annual event took place at the sparkling new department headquarters and Station No. 5, Oct. 5, drawing many interested spectators — young and old alike.

People were able to meet firefighters, climb aboard fire trucks and have photos

taken with Herbie the Fire Hydrant, Sparky the Fire Dog and the department's renowned Fire Fighter Clowns. Marvo the Magician also performed.

While the event allowed officials to show off their new digs, the underlying message was fire safety. The theme for this year was "Know When to Go... React Fast to Fire."

Nearly 80 percent of all fire deaths occur

in the home, but many lives can be saved if people react immediately when a smoke detector goes off, department officials say.

Firefighters suggest people know at least two ways out of every room and that they practice escape plans every six months. Fire department folks also recommend that people make a special meeting place where everyone can gather after they escape.




**Course test:** Station No. 2's Dan Przeworski, right, races against Brian Holzheimer from Station 4 in the obstacle course relay.



**Mannequin rescue:** The crowd watches as Community EMS and firefighters swing into action to rescue "Anne" in a demonstration.

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### COMMUNITY EDUCATION CLASSES

The Farmington School District at the Farmington Community School offer the following classes:

- Victorian Floral Hanger** — 7-9 p.m. Oct. 16. One session only. Material fee is \$25 and class fee is \$12.
- Bookkeeping Fast & Easy** — Oct. 18 at Farmington High School. Class fee is \$25 and material fee is \$3.
- T-Shirt Design** — 7-9 p.m. Oct. 16 at the Farmington Community School. One session only. Class fee is \$12 and material fees vary from \$5 to \$20.
- Mother/Daughter Self Defense 1 & 2** — 9-30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Oct. 18 and 25 at Farmington High School. Choose session 1 or 2. Class fee is \$40 (cost is for mother and daughter).
- Builder's Pro-License** — 6-10 p.m. Monday and Wednesday starting Oct. 20 at Farmington Community School. Four week session. Class fee is \$150 and textbook is \$20.
- Creative Writing 2** — 7-30-8:45 p.m. starting Oct. 23 at the Farmington Community School. Four week session. Class fee is \$35. Call 489-3333 to register.

## What happens to your money and property when you die?



If you are like most folks, you hold your assets jointly with your spouse. When the surviving spouse dies, your estate must endure the legal process of "probate" before the assets can be distributed to your children. The survivor's will does not avert this process. The procedure takes 12-18 months and can consume 25 percent of the assets in legal fees.

Deceding the assets to your children - jointly or wholly - before death to avoid probate is a no-no since it exposes your children to capital gains taxes far exceeding the cost of probate!


Only a Living Trust avoids both the long, expensive probate procedure and exorbitant capital gains taxes when you die.

However, to perpetuate their lucrative source of income generated by the probate procedure, many attorneys intentionally misrepresent the

Living Trust as being of value only to estates in excess of \$600,000. Others engineer needlessly complex trust documents costing \$1,000 to \$3,000 up front that at death will still require the attorney's high-priced services to unscramble.

In Michigan's most informative and eye-opening Living Trust seminar, the author of the best-selling *Bypassing Michigan's Probate Tollgate* reveals how anyone can set up their own completely legal and foolproof Living Trust in just an afternoon or two; no attorney is needed. More than 5,000 Michiganians have already done so after attending this easy-to-understand workshop.

The workshop is free and without obligation. Husbands and wives are urged to attend together.



**The Center for the Avoidance of Probate presents  
The Gordon Mead Bennett Living Trust Workshops**

Oct. 14-15: Comfort Inn, Livonia, 29225 Buckingham, (near Midland & I-94)  
Oct. 16: Comfort Inn, Ann Arbor, Carpenter Rd near Washtenaw  
Two workshops each day 2 p.m. & 7 p.m.

**Reservations & Information: 800-338-0227**

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