

Agencies can help locate relative

ON AGING

RENEE MAHLER

Q. My elderly aunt, who lives with me, has a 1 w a y a talked about her brother (my uncle) that she has not heard from in many years. I know she would be very happy to see him again and I would be happy to try and locate him for her. I don't know how to go about looking for him and I thought you might be able to help. I don't think she can afford a private detective though.

A. Surprisingly enough there are several professional agencies that have had fairly good luck in locating friends and relatives for people that have not been in contact with them for many years. While these services do charge a fee, and I

don't know what their fees are, I have a feeling that the cost is less than it would be if you hired a private detective. The three I have heard of are Find People Fast at 1-800-829-1807, Old Friend Information Service at 1-800-841-7938 and Infoquest, 1-800-662-7647. Make sure you ask about their charges before you hire them and good luck.

Q. Is there an employment agency that helps seniors to find jobs in Livingston county?

A. Senior Aides, a program of the Oakland Livingtgn Human Service Agency, is an employment and training program that is available to older people in Livingston and Oakland counties. The program helps people 65 years of age and older to upgrade their skills and find unsubsidized jobs. For information call (248) 858-5125.

Q. My father has Parkinson's Disease. He also has high blood pressure and heart disease. I think the drugs he is taking are making all of his Parkinson's symptoms worse. I have talked with his doctor but he says he has to take all his medications being used.

Q. My husband and I are in our 70's. We are both having trouble with our teeth. I think we need dentures but we can't afford the prices the dentists are asking. If there some place that will take care of us?

A. Low income adults can take advantage of the dental program offered by the Oakland County Health Division. They offer general dentistry as well as complete or partial dentures to eligible people. An application and registration fee is required. Participants appointments will be scheduled at selected locations. You can call one of their three locations for more information.

Oakland County Health Division offices are located in Pontiac, (248) 858-1280, Southfield, (248) 424-7000 and Walled Lake, (248) 926-3300.

A. I must again stress that I am not a doctor. I have however, been informed that people with Parkinson's who also have other medical conditions such as heart disease, high blood pressure, Glaucoma, cancer, orthopedic diseases and bladder and must take other medications, that their condition or medications may influence the treatment of the Parkinson's. It is up to your physicians to monitor the effects of all medications often the doctor may feel that the beneficial aspects of the drugs exceed the risks. If your dad is seeing more than one doctor for his illnesses it is extremely important that all the doctors are aware of all the

Movie showing aids Karmanos Institute

An upcoming benefit for the Barbara Ann Karmanos Cancer Institute at the Star Southfield Entertainment Center and Galleria Officecentre will include the screening of the new movie "The Avengers".

"A Night of Good Taste Goes to the Movies" will be at 8 p.m. Monday, Aug. 17, at the Star Southfield Entertainment Center and Galleria Officecentre.

Honorary chairperson being news anchor Robbie Timmons of WXYZ, Channel 7.

The evening includes a 6 p.m. Patron Party featuring a light summer supper. There will also be a look-a-like contest for stars of the movie, Ralph Fiennes, Uma Thurman and Sean Connery.

Tickets can be bought by calling (800) 527-0208.

Patron tickets are \$50 each and include supper and the screening. Movie tickets are \$25.

A portion of the ticket price is tax deductible.

The Star Southfield is at 26333 West 12 Mile between Telegraph and Northwestern Highway.

Alzheimer's Association to hold 3-part workshop for caregivers

A three-part caregiver workshop will be held next month by the Alzheimer's Association Detroit Chapter.

The workshops will be 6-8 p.m. Sundays, Aug. 5, 12 and 19, at St. David's Episcopal Church, 16200 West 12 Mile Road, Southfield, between Greenfield and Southfield roads. The workshop is free and refreshments will be served.

The Aug. 5 program will be devoted to basic information about Alzheimer's Disease and related dementia. Aug. 12 will be concerned with communicating with a memory-impaired person and dealing with difficult behaviors. The Aug. 19 workshop will address community resources and legal and financial considerations.

Participants will be given excellent training materials, including "Understanding Difficult Behaviors," by Anne Robinson, Beth Spencer and Laurie White.

Participants are encouraged to attend all three sessions. The workshop is presented as a part of the Alzheimer's Disease and Related Disorders Caregiver Education Project funded by Michigan Department of Community Health and United Way.

Call (248)557-8277 to register.

'Helping Hands' helps seniors keep independence

If you are an older adult who needs assistance around the house but can't hire full-time help, you can find a helping hand through William Beaumont Hospital, Royal Oak.

"Helping Hands", a non-profit program managed by Beaumont's Department of Older Adult Services, provides companionship and personal assistance to independent-living and homebound senior citizens in the community.

Services provided by "Helping Hands" include assistance with bathing, shopping, meal preparation, light housekeeping and transportation. While "Helping Hands" workers can provide many types of basic assistance, they do not provide medical care or replace medical services.

"Helping Hands" services are provided 24 hours a day, seven

days a week. Minimum service provided is six hours a week for at least four weeks duration, and clients are billed on an hourly basis.

For more information about "Helping Hands" or to order the service, call Beaumont's Senior Resource Line at toll-free 1-800-328-2241.

The goal of this program is to help seniors continue to live independently in their own homes as long as possible," says Paula Dirkes, Beaumont's coordinator of the program. "It is ideal for older adults who need an affordable alternative to a home."

Beaumont's Department of Older Adult Services offers a comprehensive range of services to older adults.

Cosmetic Surgeons of Michigan P.C. and G. Jan Beekhuis M.D.

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