

Balloon fest coming to north Oakland

The 13th Annual Hot Air Balloon Festival is set for Aug. 28-30 at Springfield Oaks County Park. The festival has been moved from its usual September slot.

Festivities begin Friday night with the "Festival of Lights" balloon glow at dusk. Balloons are tethered and their burners lit to give a spectacular "glow." There will be an optional flight for balloon pilots at approximately 7:30 p.m.

Actual balloon flights are

scheduled for 7:30 a.m. and 7:30 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday. All flights take place weather permitting.

Family fun activities include tethered balloon rides, a petting farm and a demolition derby Saturday night. Entertainment includes visits by the Oakland County Parks Puppet Show, a dunk tank and The Wall, a portable rock climbing wall.

The Hot Air Balloon Festival is a charity fund-raiser for the Children's Miracle Network. The

event is sponsored by the Oakland County Parks, ReMax Today and the Beaumont Foundation. An event fee of \$5 per vehicle will be charged.

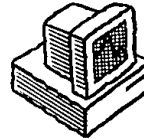
Springfield Oaks County Park is located on Andersonville Road near Hall Road in Davisburg.

For more information call Denise Felker, ReMax Today, at (248) 620-1000. Visit the Oakland County Parks website at www.co.oakland.mi.us for discount coupons and park maps.



Remember to vote in Tuesday's primaries... and look to Thursday's Observer and Eccentric newspapers for full coverage of local, county, state and national primaries.

An evening on internet investing



Tuesday • August 11, 1998 at 7:00 p.m.

Topics

Investment Strategy of Munder NetNet Fund
General outlook on Internet investing

Host

Rob Bosart, CIMA, McDonald & Company

Guest Speaker

Paul Cook, CFA, Portfolio Manager of The Munder NetNet Fund

Location

Townsend Hotel, Birmingham, MI

There is no charge to attend, however, seating is limited. Refreshments and hors d'oeuvres will be served.

RSVP (248) 258-2626

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OAKLAND DIGEST

Oakland Digest provides a summary of headline stories from around the county during the week leading up to July 23.

BIRMINGHAM

The pawnbroker: Pawn shops are generally anything but upscale, but in trendy Birmingham, there's an exception. The pawn shop inside Birmingham Coin & Jewelry on Woodward Avenue, contains numerous rare, artistic and antique items. Colateral is generally "a diamond ring or a Rolex watch," according to founder Richard Rosenbaum.

CLARKSTON

Warning: Independence Township fire officials are urging residents to buy and use smoke detectors after the township's second fire fatality in less than two weeks. A 48-year-old man died Sunday during a fire at his Summerhill Drive home. An 85-year-old woman died July 14 after a blaze at her Deer Lake Drive residence. There were no detectors near where the man died and fire officials are uncertain whether the woman's detector was in operating condition.

COMMERCE TOWNSHIP

Haggerty unclogged: A boulevard has been proposed to connect Haggerty and Union Lake roads, potentially ending a long-standing traffic jam on Haggerty, north of Pontiac Trail. The Commerce Township Downtown Development Authority proposed the \$32 million boulevard plan.

FARMINGTON

He's the man: Steve Brock, formerly assistant Farmington Hills city manager can remove the term "assistant" from his title. Council members are expected to name Brock, 38, the new full-time city manager. He will replace Daniel Hobbs, who is leaving Aug. 7 to become city manager of West Covina, Calif.

LAKE ORION

No bill for you: A local catering company could be out \$110 due to a dispute between the Lake Orion Village Council and Lake Orion Boat Club. Council members agreed to pay \$500 to support the Venetian Boat Parade held on the lake during the July 4 holiday, but nixed paying an additional \$110 sought by the boat club to cover cost overruns, including catering.

OXFORD

Residency question: Oxford Village officials are considering a provision that would require the village manager to live within the community's limits despite a move by the state legislature to abolish residency requirements.

ROCHESTER

Mystery reappearance: Rochester resident Mike Gen-dich is grateful someone

returned a prized wooden sculpture of a leprechaun to the his family's Main Street front lawn, but he's wondering who took the wooden imp back on Mother's Day 1997 and just where the carving has been since then.

SOUTHFIELD

Sign of the times?: The Anti-Defamation League joined with the city in asking a local minister to remove a controversial sign outside his church. The sign, which reads: "Not Jew Goya or N-" was placed on the billboard outside Christ Presbyterian Church, near Civic Center Drive and Berg Road. Nearby residents have called the sign racially offensive, but the Rev. Milton Henry called the sign a warning against racial division, underscoring a Biblical message in provocative, modern terms.

TROY

Sign from God?: A Troy woman and her daughter believe it was a sign from God that a branch from their backyard tree had broken into a cross during a summer windstorm after they were prayed for a neighbor's pain to subside during her long battle with cancer. While neighbor Grace Brown has been deemed terminal by doctors, family members said her once interminable pain has become manageable. Barb LeMaigre said she believes the unusual branch formation was a sign her prayer was heard.

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