



## Pet rabbits, epileptic cats, and papillons

Can I put my pet rabbit outside in the summer?

Pet rabbits can do quite well outside in the summer and benefit from the fresh air and sunshine. Be sure to provide the necessary precautions to protect your rabbit. Your rabbit should be placed in a large cage with a wire bottom so that other animals do not get into the cage and hurt your rabbit. It is best to have your rabbit up off the ground. This prevents your rabbit from eating something off the grass or ground that could harm it.

Domestic rabbits do not tolerate summer heat well, so they should always have access to plenty of water and shelter from the sun.

Finally, any rabbit housed outside should be examined carefully for signs of "fly strikes," which result from flies laying eggs on damp or soiled areas of skin or fur. Maggots that hatch from the egg burrow into the skin and can cause life-threatening disease in rabbits.

My daughter has a white cat, 2 years old. A friend told me that because my daughter's cat is white, she would get epilepsy. Is this true?

This condition occurs almost exclusively among white, blue-eyed breeds. The characteristic is hereditary and recessive (incapable of being manifested when occurring with a dominant form of a gene).

The cat shows no outward symptoms until it suddenly lets out a shriek, runs madly around its cage, and collapses. Sometimes this includes violent shivering motions of the whole body; sometimes the animal just lies stiffly. After a few minutes, the animal relaxes somewhat and may gnash its teeth and salivate at the mouth. During the epileptic attack, the pupils in the eyes will enlarge but slowly return to normal. The iris stays bluish-

green for a while before returning to its normal, light blue color.

After watching the Westminster AKC Dog Show this week, I am very interested in learning more about the winning dog called a papillon. Could you give me some information on this cute breed?

This dainty little dog is a hardy breed. They do not need coddling in the winter, and they do not suffer excessively in very hot weather. They can live in the country or be very content living in a small apartment. They were once used to be rat-killers. Too small to kill a rat outright, they will worry it to exhaustion and then quickly get rid of it.

The name papillon, the French word for "butterfly," refers to the shape of the papillon's erect ears.

Their height is 8-11 inches and their weight is 6 to 10 pounds. They are good with children and a good watchdog. Their trainability is high and they shed little if groomed at least once a week. I have noticed they don't bark near as much as most of the other toy breeds. This is a big plus when it comes to raising them in an apartment or condo situation.

If you wish more information on the papillon breed, the American Kennel Club offers a variety of publications and videotapes to the public. You can call the AKC Customer Service Department at (919) 233-9767, or visit the AKC's World Wide Web site: <http://www.akc.org>

Bev Cornell is a licensed wildlife rehabilitator and former veterinary aide. She will answer pet and wildlife questions in care of Ask Bristol, 3341 Grand River, Farmington, MI 48335 or her e-mail address: [bristol\\_dog@msn.com](mailto:bristol_dog@msn.com)



## NEW VOICES



KELLY MAU

Kelly Frances Mau, daughter of Carol and Erich Mau of Farmington Hills, was born in China on Sept. 21, 1997. She arrived home on May 31, 1998, and was welcomed by her grandparents, Hildegard and Herbert Mau, Clemence and Frances Sperkowski, and her godparents, Gerhard Mau and Patricia Butts.

## Golf time near

Registration begins now for Farmington Hills senior center's popular men's and women's golf leagues available to Farmington and Farmington Hills residents 65 and older.

New for 1999 is the formation of a regular ladies' league. Call 473-1850 for more information.

## ENGAGEMENTS

### LEWIS-WOODRUFF

Sandy and Terry Lewis of Grandville announce the engagement of their daughter Katie to Jeff Woodruff, son of Kathy and Conrad Harendra of Ann Arbor.

The bride-to-be is a graduate of Michigan State University with a bachelor of arts in communications and a master of arts in public relations. She works for Grant Thornton as a marketing coordinator.

The groom is also a graduate of Michigan State University with a bachelor of arts in mechanical engineering. He is an engineer at Detroit Diesel.

An April wedding is planned.



### ROSCH-BEALE

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Rosch of Farmington along with Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Beale of Wixom, announce the engagement of their children Renee Rosch and Robert Beale.

The bride-to-be is a graduate of Farmington High School and is currently finishing her elementary education degree. She is a pre-school teacher in the Farmington area.

The groom is a graduate of Walled Lake Western High School and is currently finishing a degree in business administration. He is a part of management for a local supermarket chain.

A June wedding is planned.

## Watercolor notecards by local artists available

The latest edition of watercolor notecards are available through the Farmington Community Arts Council.

Paintings created by Farmington artists Edie Joppich, Donna Vogelheim and Marsha Weigand

have been reproduced on four-by-six inch notecards. Each packet contains six cards (two of each picture) and cost \$5.

Notecards are available at Farmington City Hall, Farmington Hills Parks and Recreation

Department and the Longacre House registration desk. The Farmington Community Arts Council extends its appreciation to the support of the Farmington community and participating artists.

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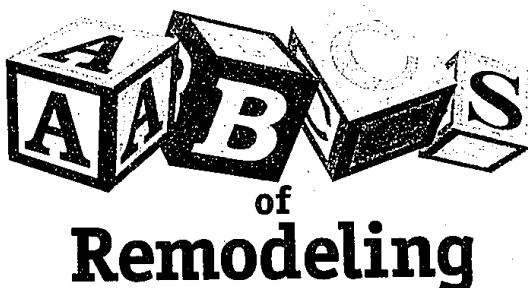
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BIA Remodelors Council presents...

## Meet The Experts At The



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### Ask the experts:

- Moderator: Chuck Breidenstein, MAHB
- Fred Capaldi, Capaldi Building Co.
  - Michael Gordon, Moiseyev/Gordon Assoc./Architects
  - Mike Harris, Harris Group
  - Charlene Hill, Cornish, Zack, Hill & Assoc.
  - Dave Kellett Sr., Kellett Construction Co.
  - Sam Kreis, Countrywide Home Loans
  - Mike Sarb, Midwest Structures

Bring A Picture  
Of Your Home  
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DATE: Tuesday, March 2, 1999

TIME: 6:30 p.m. Registration  
7:00 - 9:00 p.m. Program

LOCATION: Bloomfield Township Library  
1099 Lone Pine Road, Bloomfield Hills  
(southeast corner of Lone Pine/  
17 Mile Road at Telegraph Road)

COST: FREE

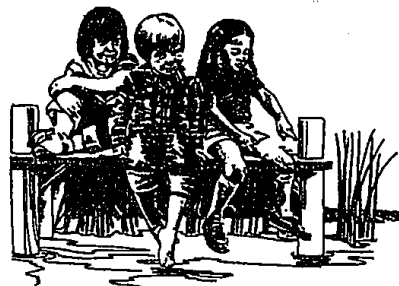
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