

FARMINGTON COMMUNITY LIBRARY EVENTS

Farmington Community Library happenings for the month of July:

■ **No-Load Mutual Funds** - 7-9 p.m. Wednesday, July 11, at the Farmington Branch Library. Rick Bloom will discuss advantages of no-load funds.

■ **Investment resources on the Net** - 7-9 p.m. Tuesday, July 17, at the Farmington Branch Library. Learn how to find financial information on the Internet.

■ **Crazy Craft Day** - 2 p.m. Tuesday, July 10, at the Farmington Branch Library and 2 p.m. Tuesday, July 17, at the Farmington Hills Library. Make wacky crafts.

■ **Magic with Ming** - 2 p.m. Tuesday, July 24, at the Farmington Branch Library. A magical road trip with Ming the Magificent.

■ **The science of sound and music** - 2 p.m. Tuesday, July 31, at the Farmington Hills Library.

■ **Beautiful Beads** - 2-3 p.m. Wednesday, July 18, at the Farmington Branch Library. Learn how to make beaded jewelry. For people 10 and older.

Call 474-7770 to register.

■ **Mystery book discussion** - 2-3 p.m. Wednesday, July 11, at the Farmington Hills Library. Join other teens to discuss Will Hobbs' *Ghost Canoe*. Call 653-0300 to register.

■ **Kids Day in the Park** - Join the Young at the annual Founders Festival celebration with lots of fun activities on Thursday, July 19 at Shiawassee Park.

■ **Fantasy Book Club** - 2-3 p.m. Wednesday, July 25, at the Farmington Branch Library.

■ **Young Adult Librarian Stacy Charlesbois** for food, fun and a discussion, of *Dark Lord of Derholm*. Recommended for students in grades 6-10.

■ **Responsible Babysitting** - 2-3:30 p.m. July 31, Aug. 1 and 2 at the Farmington Branch Library. People 10-17 years old can learn the ins and outs of working as a sitter. Call 474-7770 to register.

Books in demand

"P" is for Peril, Sue Grafton
Seven-Up, Janet Evanovich
Tell No One, Harlan Coben
On the Street Where You Live, Mary Higgins Clark
The Last Time They Met, Anita Shriver

Back When We Were Grown-ups, Anne Tyler
Final Target, Iris Johansen
Chosen Prey, John Sandford
Leap of Faith, Danielle Steel
Cold Paradise, Stuart Woods
Stolen Lives: Twenty Years in a Desert Jail, Malika Oufkir
Seduction by Design, Sandra Brown
Jury, Steve Martin
Death in Holy Orders, P.D. James
Water's Edge, Judith McNaught

Events highlight PETCO grand opening

Pet-related fun will mark the grand opening of the Farmington Hills PETCO located at 31077 Orchard Lake Rd., on Saturday and Sunday, July 14 and 15.

Everyone is encouraged to bring in the furry friends to participate in The Fat Cat Contest, the Best Dressed Contest and the Hamster races. In addition, there will be free toenail trims and information about obedience training.

For the kids there will be a clown offering face painting and a petting zoo. Several rescue organizations will also be on hand to provide pet adoptions and information throughout the weekend.

"We are extremely excited to be here and are looking forward to being part of the community,"

says Store Manager Tom Bureau.

The 16,424 square foot store features a small animal and reptile area, fresh and saltwater fish aquariums, a bird room and a grooming salon.

Store hours are 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday through Saturday and 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Sunday. To find the Farmington Hills Store, or any other PETCO location, check out PETCO's website at www.petco.com. PETCO, founded in 1965, operates over 545 specialty pet food and supply stores in 41 states and the District of Columbia.

Grand Opening Events:

Fat Cat Contest: 3 p.m. (Saturday)

Best Dressed Contest: 2

p.m. (Saturday)

Hamster Races: 1 p.m. (Saturday)

Free Toenail Trims: 11 a.m. - 3 p.m. (Saturday), 12 p.m. - 4 p.m. (Sunday)

Clown with Face Painting: 11 a.m. - 5 p.m. (Saturday), 11 a.m. - 5 p.m. (Sunday)

Petting Zoo: 11 a.m. - 5 p.m. (Saturday)

Popcorn, Sno Cones and Candy: All Day Saturday and Sunday

Obedience Training Information: 12 p.m. - 3 p.m. (Saturday)

Anti Cruelty: 11 a.m. - 4 p.m. (Saturday)

Cat Connection: 12 p.m. - 4 p.m. (Saturday), 12 p.m. - 4 p.m. (Sunday)

Mall banks on new theater operator

BY LARRY O'CONNOR
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Livonia Mall management is banking on a new operator to project a better image of its movie theaters.

David Tolfree, who operates the Shores Theater in St. Clair Shores, will run the Livonia Mall Cinemas, which have been shuttered since December after a pipe burst and caused extensive damage.

The theater on Seven Mile and Middlebelt is expected to open sometime during the next two weeks, a mall official said. As of Friday, no formal date for the opening had been announced.

"We're really excited about having (Tolfree) come into play," said Bobbie Gelman, Livonia Mall spokeswoman. "He's a real spark plug."

In December, a pipe ruptured during a spell of frigid weather and flooded one auditorium with 4 feet of water, which resulted in the concrete floor sinking 6 inches.

Since then, a new foundation, walls, carpeting and seats have been added, Gelman said.

The repairs follow a major

renovation project that closed the three-screen operation for two years.

Livonia Mall Cinemas reopened in April 2000 with a new Dolby Surround Sound system, remodeled snack bar and seats with cupholders. Harold Turel operated the 36-year-old cinema until the pipe break forced the shutdown.

Merchants are looking for the theater to provide a needed shot in the arm during the lull before back-to-school sales start. The cinema will continue to show second-run films.

"Actually, it's going to help a lot," said Cyntara Payne, manager of Orange Julius-Dairy Queen that is a few doors down from the cinema. "When they were open, especially on weekends, (business) was really good."

Koney Island Inn also sees spillover traffic from theatergoers. Otherwise, the eatery depends on shoppers and mail employees.

"A lot of people come in and say 'The movie is not open. The movie is not open.' Then they leave," said Bill Pappas, Koney Island Inn manager.

A kiosk business that sells cellular phones, pagers, T-shirts, mugs and other sundries is not counting on the theater to boost sales. Still, an open theater is better than a closed one, a clerk said.

"When it was open, people used to come through here," said Ronda Shamoon of Cellular Lotto Plus. "They would look, which is good too."

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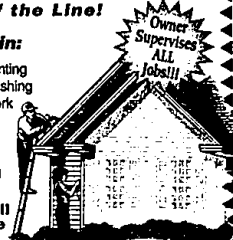
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