

RECREATION NEWS

The following is a list of recreational activities offered through the city of Farmington Hills. For information about any of these events, call (248) 473-1800:

FALL PROGRAMS

The Recreation Division is now accepting registration for scheduled fall leisure programs. The Recreation office is at 28600 11 Mile Road at the Costick Activities Center. Office hours are from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

LIVE MUSIC

The new Big Break Venue is open on selected Friday and Saturday nights and is held at the Costick Activities Center in Farmington Hills. Current scheduled concert dates are Oct. 13, Nov. 10 and Dec. 1. All bands (alternative, jazz, rock, etc.) interested in playing at the Big Break Venue on a Friday or Saturday night can send or deliver a tape or CD to the City of Farmington Hills Department of Special Services, Attn: BB Live Music, 28600 11 Mile Road,

Farmington Hills, MI 48336. Upon submitting a tape or CD, bands will be contacted if chosen to play at Big Break Venue. For more information please contact (248) 473-1805.

PUNT, PASS & KICK

Boys and girls ages 8-15 (age as of Dec. 31, 2001) have the opportunity to show their punting, passing and kicking skills in a local PPK competition at Heritage Park in Farmington Hills beginning at 11 a.m. Saturday, Sept. 15. The deadline to regis-

ter is Friday, Sept. 14 and the program is free.

OPEN GYM

The William Costick Activities Center gym, on 11 Mile between Middlebelt and Inkster, is offering adult basketball 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. Sundays, adult volleyball 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Sundays and teen basketball 1-3 p.m. Sunday. Cost for residents 17 and younger is \$2, and \$4 for non-residents; and \$3 for residents 18 and older, \$6 for non-residents.

Despite tickets, Tree House gets compliment

By SUE BUCK
STAFF WRITER
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Christine Meinke was surprised and pleased when she received a letter from the Beautification Awards Committee Aug. 9 on city of Farmington letterhead. The letter complimented her business, The Tree House for Earth's Children, for "contributing to the beauty of the community."

It was about six months ago that Farmington city officials ticketed Meinke for blight. She and her parents, Susan and Herman, are embroiled in legal wrangling with Farmington city officials who want them to remove their outside planters, which extend into the parking lot of their Mooney Avenue business. The Meinke family planters "urban gardens."

They will present a revised site plan at the 7 p.m. Farmington Planning Commission meeting Monday. Dave Trombley, their attorney, will also attend.

For those following the dispute, the city's recent letter provides a contrast to the tickets the Meinke received.

"Somebody must like our gardens," Christine said Thursday.

However Farmington City Manager Frank Lauffhoff explained the letter differently.

"It was a committee of citizens which sent it out," Lauffhoff said.

"It was sent to every business which is nominated. It was anonymous. It's a form letter."

Councilman Arnold Campbell echoed Lauffhoff's comments and said the awards ceremony is scheduled for 6 p.m. Oct. 2 at the Warner Mansion, Grand River west of Farmington Road.

Meinke said she didn't know who sent the anonymous nomination. She interpreted the letter she received as a beautification award.

"Our customers who come into our store say that this Farmington city planning needs to change," Meinke said. "They're upset with what the city is doing to us and others who are naturalists and concerned about the environment."

The Beautification Awards Committee's letter reads:

"Dear Business Owner: The Farmington City Council along with the Beautification Awards Committee wishes to thank you for your efforts in contributing to the beauty of the community. Your hard work has not gone unnoticed by the city and your neighbors."

The beautiful landscaping and maintenance of your property are appreciated by members of this community and go far in keeping the City of Farmington an enjoyable and beautiful place in which to live and work."

See your tax dollars at work

By SUE BUCK
STAFF WRITER
sbuck00e@homecomm.net

Whether or not you have children who attend Harrison High School, Principal Rande Horn invites you to tour the school's completed \$15 million renovation Wednesday.

"People can come and see where their taxpayer dollars went," Horn said. "I'm inviting the public to come and see the building."

Harrison is at 29995 12 Mile Road, west of Middlebelt. Visi-

tors should meet in the auditorium at 6 p.m.

Horn, as well as members of the National Honor Society, will be there to greet guests and talk about the improvements.

"We've added canopies to the front and back of the building and a covered entrance across the bridge," Horn said.

The tour comes before the traditional school open house from 7:30-9:30 p.m. Parents follow their students' shortened schedule to learn about the curriculum, he said.

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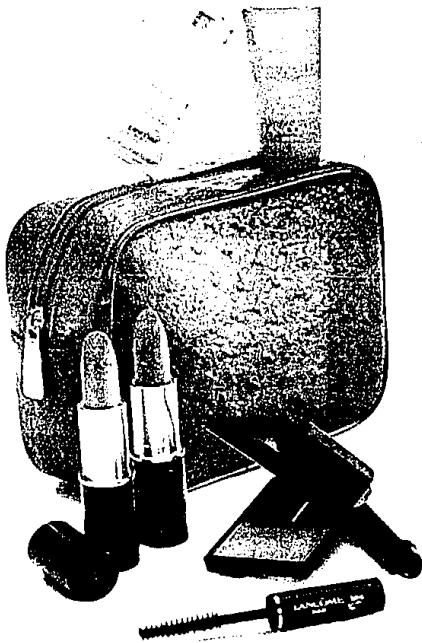
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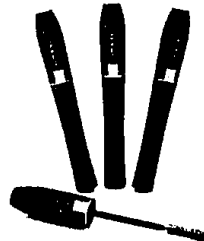
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