

Botsford offers alternatives

Acupuncture and Bach Flower Remedies usually don't make it into the realm of everyday conversation. But health care professionals at Botsford Hospital believe these complementary medicine techniques are very important as they continue to explore alternative ways to treat people when they're under stress.

That's why Botsford Health Care Continuum is offering a Complementary Medicine Seminar to explore these elective methods and others.

"Our goal is to help people understand how these various practices can help them," said Caroline Smith for Botsford. "By highlighting the many benefits of complementary medicine we hope to show conference attendees alternative ways to

approach their health."

Other topics covered in the seminar include: Reiki, Chinese Energetic Medicine, Meditation, Cranial Sacral Therapy, Esoteric Healing and Feng Shui.

The seminar will be held on Oct. 6, from 9:30-11:30 a.m. at the Botsford Center for Health Improvement, 39750 Grand River Avenue in Novi. The cost is \$15. Reservations can be made by calling (248) 477-6100.

The Botsford Health Care Continuum is an integrated system of care, which includes Botsford General Hospital, the Botsford Physician Network, Community Emergency Medical Service, the Botsford Continuing Care Corporation and the Botsford Center for Health Improvement.

How they scored

Here are Farmington's numbers in the 2001 Michigan Educational Assessment Program for 4th, 5th, 7th and 8th graders. Percentages indicate how many children met or exceeded state standard scores:

	%	Change	State Avg
4th Grade			
Math	87.3	1.3	72.4
Reading	74.3	4.1	60.4
5th Grade			
Science	62.8	-0.6	41.6
Social studies	23.0	-3.7	18.8
Writing	74.1	2.9	61.1
7th Grade			
Reading	74.3	11.6	59.7
8th Grade			
Science	28.4	-15.6	19.7
Social studies	45.6	-5.5	30.0
Writing	79.8	6.1	67.0

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in schools (available at www.meritaward.state.mi.us). Maxfield said high test scores may not be an indicator of a quality education or other advantages, like school climate and a better educated teaching staff.

"At its best, parents are getting a profile of how a child is doing, and we're holding our schools up for accountability," he said. The worst use: Some Realtors have allegedly touted test scores as an incentive to move to certain communities.

Maxfield also noted the district is moving toward a "transitions" approach to accreditation, pioneered by Clarenceville Schools. The process focuses

more on making sure the district is helping each child grow and tracking that growth, rather than measuring how many kids took the state standards test and how many performed well.

"We're kind of excited because we think we're on the edge of that one," he said.

Another facet of student testing involves kids whose talents are more geared toward areas traditionally termed "vocational" education. MEAP and other academic tests don't necessarily measure their strengths.

The challenge, Maxfield said, is "How do we find other outlets for kids who these tests don't do much for?"

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"For the nearly 40-year opportunity to serve the families of the Farmington-area communities, I've searched for a way to give something back — some way to say 'Thank you' to the families who have allowed us to be there for them," said Sundquist, who owns Heeney-Sundquist Funeral Home Inc. on Farmington Road and Grand River. "This community pavilion is a perfect venue for family-centered outings and holiday activities, further strengthening Farmington's reputation of having a strong sense of commitment to its residents."

The seasonal Farmer's Market would be moved to the downtown parking lot.

"We envision it as a multipurpose, covered pavilion," said Frank Clappison, a DDA member. "The impetus came from, 'Could we get a nice Farmer's Market in the downtown area?' Some of that developed because we don't have a grocery store. A lot of people like to walk down and do their shopping and now they can't. A Farmer's Market would contribute to that and hopefully draw other people in."

Studies in other communities have shown these venues have had a positive effect on the merchants, Clappison said. "They have had a measurable positive effect at drawing people into the downtown area," he said.

The entire parking lot will be redesigned and redone. "This became the best location for it," Clappison said. "We held off doing the parking lot until 2004 to give merchants a break."

Construction is on-going on Farmington Road from Eight to Nine Mile Road until Nov. 30. It continues next year on Farmington

ton Road from Nine Mile Road to Grand River.

The Farmers Market, scheduled to open in 2003, would replace the fountain area near Harmony House.

"Rather than pitching tents every year for programs, we could use that," Clappison said of the pavilion.

The fund-raising effort will include different levels of recognition and donations, Clappison said. The pavilion committee is seeking additional donors.

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