

WHAT'S HAPPENING

- Blood Drive**
St. Gerald Catholic Church in Farmington Hills will hold a blood drive 8 a.m.-2 p.m. Saturday, April 5. The church is located at 2300 Farmington Road. Call (248) 477-4470 to make an appointment. Walk-ins are welcome.
- Festival of the Arts**
Farmington Festival of the Arts runs Sunday, April 27, through Sunday May 4, at the Costick Center in Farmington Hills. The festival will include fine art, lectures, workshops, music and more. Call (248) 473-1800.
- Jazz Concert**
Enjoy the Club Shawwassee Jazz Concert at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, April 10, at the Farmington High School auditorium. Call (248) 489-3412.
- Egg Hunt**
The Farmington Area Jaycees will host the 48th annual Spring Egg Hunt 10-12:30 a.m. Saturday, April 12, at Heritage Park in Farmington Hills. Rain date is April 19. Egg Hunt begins promptly at 10 a.m.
- Peter Pan**
Walled Lake Northern High School presents Peter Pan at 8 p.m. Thursday-Saturday, April 10-12. For ticket information call (248) 956-5465.
- Parent Meeting**
The Families in Action sector of the Call to Action Coalition invites parents to meet and discuss children's issues 7:30-9 p.m. Wednesday, April 9, at the Grand Cafe in downtown Farmington. Questions can be directed to Cindi Helisek at (248) 471-4475.
- Sunday Brunch**
Enjoy Sunday Brunch at the Finnish Center in Farmington Hills April 13 and May 11 (Mother's Day). Call (248) 478-6939.
- Finnweaver Crafts**
Join the Finnish Center Finnweavers for crafts and activities 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. the first and third Tuesday of the month. No money needed. Call (248) 478-6939.
- Steppingstone benefit**
Steppingstone School's annual benefit auction, "Treasure Island", will be held Saturday, April 12, at St. Mary's Cultural Center in Livonia. For information, call (248) 473-1808.
- SALES**
- Moms Sale**
Our Lady of Sorrows MOHS Group will hold their semi-annual sale 9 a.m. to noon Saturday, April 5, in the school cafeteria. Admission is \$1. Clothing, toys, baby equipment and maternity items will be available.
- Tri-Moms Sale**
Tri-County Mothers of Multiples, will hold its sale 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
- North Farm, Garden**
The North Farmington Garden Club will host a Willowow Walk in Heritage Park On April 8. Call (248) 553-2368 for time and other information.
- Farmington Artists**
The Farmington Artists Club will meet for a lecture by Lucile Nawara at 8 p.m. Wednesday, April 9, at the Costick Center in Farmington Hills.
- Musicals**
The Farmington Musicals will hold the Awards for Musical Excellence Winners Recital at 3 p.m. Sunday, April 13, at Anichio Lutheran Church in Farmington Hills.
- Hill & Dale**
Hill & Dale Garden Club will meet at 7 p.m. Thursday, April 10, at the Heritage Park Visitor's Center. A slide presentation of creative containers will be given.
- Farm, Garden Club**
The Farmington Garden Club will meet at noon on April 7 at the Longacre House, on Farmington Road between 10 and 11 Mile Roads. Guest speaker will be Joe Derek, presenting a program on Farmington Hills wildlife, vegetation, critter tips and nature sounds. For information, call (248) 615-3616.
- Historical Society**
The Farmington Historical Society will meet at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, April 23, at the downtown Farmington Library.
- Exchange Club**
The Exchange Club will meet at noon, Wednesday, April 9, at the Brass Pointe Restaurant in Farmington Hills. The Club's annual dinner/dance benefit will be held at 6:30 p.m. Friday, April 4 at Farmington Hills Manor.
- Career Women**

The National Association of Career Women-West Suburban Chapter will meet 10:45 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Tuesday, April 8, at Ernesto's Restaurant in Plymouth. Call (734) 462-4670.

SENIORS

- Senior Tax Help**
Tax help for the elderly will be available through April 15 at the following locations: 10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Tuesdays at the Costick Center in Farmington Hills; or noon to 2:30 p.m. Fridays at the downtown Farmington Library.
- Senior Living Options**
Kathryn Bartz, marketing manager for Botsford Commons will discuss "How To Choose Appropriate Senior Living Options" 7-8:30 p.m. Thursday, April 10, at North Congregational Church in Farmington Hills. To register, call (248) 848-1750.
- Senior Lunch**
The Finnish Center in Farmington Hills offers lunch for seniors at a minimal cost beginning at noon the third Wednesday of the month. To make your reservation, call Eleanor at (248) 437-0350.

CLASSES

- Home Building**
Farmington Community Education and the Oakland Builders Institute will offer a 16-hour seminar on Home Building: Protecting You & Your Money 6-8 p.m. Monday/Wednesday, April 28-May 7, at the Community School, 30415 Shawwassee. Pre-register at (248) 489-3331.
- Parenting Bright Kids**
The DELTA Gifted Department of Farmington Public Schools will offer parenting classes for parents raising bright and gifted children. Classes begin April 28 at the Farmington Training Center. Morning and evening classes are available. Call (248) 489-3399 for more information.
- Aging & Falls**
A presentation on safety in the home will be given at 12:45 on 7 p.m. Wednesday, April 30, at Mercy Marian Oakland West, on 10 Mile just east of Middlebelt in Farmington Hills. Call (248) 474-7204.

VOLUNTEER

- Bug Hunt**
Friends of the Rouge is seeking volunteers to help assess the health of the Rouge River 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, April 12. The group will meet at the Environmental Interpretive Center, at the University of Michigan-Dearborn, 4901 Evergreen, Dearborn. Registration is required. Call (313) 992-9621.

Spring Sale

APRIL 3rd, 4th, 5th

BUY WITH CONFIDENCE OUR 46TH YEAR IN BUSINESS

Granite & Marble Remnants \$9.00/sf

5 Colors of Granite \$38.95/sf INSTALLED

Ceramic Stone Look 13x13 4 Colors 89¢

Remnants can be cut and finished at no extra charge

Silkstone Engineered Stone \$29.95/sf INSTALLED

White Italian Marble 16x16 \$2.99/sf

No credit, exchange, or returns

All Sales Final

Ceramic Tile Sales Inc. Marble & Granite Shop

Southfield
23455 Telegraph Rd.
(248) 356-6430

Farmington Hills
24301 Indoplex Circle
(248) 426-0093

Showroom Hours: Thursday 8:30-5:00 | Friday 8:30-8:00 | Saturday 9:00-5:00

Hospital unit cares for senior mental health needs

Demonstrating a commitment to offering older adult services, Botsford General Hospital has maintained a dedicated unit for geropsychiatric patients.

Receiving referrals of other hospitals' difficult cases since 1987, Botsford's 26-bed geropsychiatry unit is known in the health care community as being able to successfully treat patients 55 years or older who present with a complicated interplay of physical and psychological problems related to aging.

Sandra Plumer, the unit's director since the program began 15 years ago, comments, "It is easier to treat frail elderly people, who are suffering from combinations of emotional and physical illnesses, in an environment designed to meet their needs. Older adults have special needs."

She added, "Their caregivers should be very knowledgeable about medication interactions and the physical ailments of the elderly. Our physicians are board-certified in geriatric psychiatry and consult as a team with other medical specialists on Botsford's staff to stabilize the patient's condition."

Most patients are unable to recognize they need mental health treatment; two-thirds are admitted on an involuntary basis. Plumer stresses mental illness is not a normal part of aging. She cautions primary care physicians and family members to be watchful for signs of persistent personality changes or unusual behavior exhibited by their elderly patients or loved ones.

Depression and anxiety, which are commonly diagnosed

in geropsychiatric patients, are very treatable with medication therapy. Botsford's geriatric specialists take the time to explain to patients and their families that anti-depressant and anti-anxiety medications are non-addictive, alleviating potential fear and increasing treatment compliance.

"Our staff works hard to provide a warm and supportive environment for the patients," explains Bruce Sack, M.D., Botsford's geropsychiatry medical director. "We evaluate everything in a patient's life to determine the cause of the behavioral and mental changes. We also screen for things like incompatible medications, a sadly common problem for older adults with multiple medical conditions."

The unit's goal is to return patients to their highest possible level of functioning. The treatment team - a nursing staff, therapists and social workers, in addition to psychiatrists - helps patients reintegrate into the community by developing aftercare plans to help patients maintain the progress made in the hospital. "The average stay in the unit is 11 days. Patients may be admitted to the unit 24 hours a day."

Referrals come from physicians, psychologists, social workers, other mental health professionals, social service agencies, clergy, family members or friends, however, the unit's psychiatrists make admission decisions.

For more information, contact Botsford's Geropsychiatry Unit's intake staff at (248) 471-8723. Botsford's Web address is www.botsfordsystem.org.

Hello, Citizens?



When an accident damages your business, your Citizens agent comes to the rescue. We understand how unsettling disruptions to your daily life can be—even if they're minor. Our pledge is to get you, your family, and your life back to normal as soon as possible.

Citizens Insurance Company of America has been providing auto, home, and business insurance to the people of Michigan since 1915. To find your local independent Citizens agent, look in the yellow pages or visit www.citizensinsurance.biz.

Discover the Benefits of Citizenship.

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