

TAX PROBLEMS?
We settle any tax, any year
(248) 985-HELP (4357)

Plan your weekend activities each Thursday with Arts & Entertainment

Senior Health Day planned May 28

The staff at Botsford Center for Health Improvement have planned a variety of activities for older adults as part of its celebration of the 10th annual National Senior Health and Fitness Day on Wednesday, May 28.

Registration starts at 9 a.m. and the day ends at 3:30 p.m. All activities are free. The day's highlights include trial size 20 minute exercise classes for seniors who want to see what the new exercise techniques can do for them.

Gentle Yoga starts at 10 a.m. and 2 p.m., Chair Yoga begins at 10:30 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. and the Stretch and Strengthen class starts at 11:30 a.m. and 1 p.m.

The staff recommends that attendees dress comfortably so they can participate in all the planned activities.

During the Healthy Yogurt Social at noon and 3 p.m., nutritionists will show participants how to make delicious yogurt snacks.

Lectures addressing important health issues for older adults will be scheduled throughout the day as well as blood pressure screenings, blood sugar screenings, facility tours and water fitness demonstrations.

The Botsford Center for Health Improvement is located at 39750 Grand River Ave. in Novi. Call (248) 477-6100.



Oh!
Our Lady of Sorrows Catholic School celebrated Cinco De Mayo (May 5) in style with live music from Mariachi Especial de Mexico. Pictured (left to right) in front Lauren Martin and Nicholas Martin. In back Sorrows students and brothers, Rodrigo and Daniel Rangel.

SALE! 20% OFF
While This Ad Is in May 2003

TOO CUTE BEADS
The Bead Store

- Wide Selection of Swarovski Beads
- Beginners Beading Classes
- Sterling Silver/Ball
- Letter Beads/Watch Faces

Call 248-888-9925
31826 Grand River Ave./Farmington

Hours:
Mon, Wed, Fri 10am - 6pm
Tues, Thurs 10am - 7pm
Saturday 10am - 5pm

District sibling priority approved; board may look at ending choice

BY SUE BUCK STAFF WRITER

The Farmington School Board adopted a policy Tuesday to allow sibling priority in its in-district school of choice program, beginning in the 2004-2005 school year.

Officials decided not to initiate sibling priority this fall, so those who applied for this program and took part in a lottery earlier this year would not have an unfair advantage.

Parents who were both for and against sibling priority have spoken out at recent board meetings.

Some were concerned that sibling priority will be allowed in the district's recently approved out-of-district schools of choice plan but wasn't allowed in the intra-district plan.

Board Member Frank Reid cast the only nay vote Tuesday.

Board Member Pam Christian was absent.

"I see this as a fairness issue," Reid said.

Some families can't take advantage of this opportunity because they have one child or they don't have an older child in the school at that time. At a May 6 school board meeting, one parent described sibling priority as "an inherited right."

Though board member Cathy Webb moved for adoption of the intra-district policy following its second reading, she suggested a committee be formed next fall to study the issue of intra-district school of choice.

While the experience is still fresh in administrators' minds, Webb asked Supt. Bob Maxfield to take an informal survey of administrators involved with the plan this year to determine how many hours it took to address this issue in the lottery process.

She'd like a report to the board no later than Nov. 1.

"I would like to charge this committee that one of the things they consider is perhaps dropping the (intra-district) school of choice piece altogether," Webb said.

It doesn't make for good public relations when the district makes 40 families happy and makes hundreds angry, Webb said.

There isn't much room projected in the high schools for the next five years, and the opportunity for choice will be limited, she said.

"One of the members of our community pointed out to us that our neighborhoods are really becoming separated as far as kids choosing different schools and friendships and neighborhood relationships going out the window," Webb said.

The district has worked hard through the years to sustain the neighborhood school concept, she said. "We're throwing this out the window with this policy we have in place."

Reid agreed the policy should be investigated in a more comprehensive way.

"We're between a rock and hard place on this issue," he said. "We're not going to be a whole lot better ahead."

Parents had talked about the inconsistencies of boundaries that send their children to some schools and their friends to others. Some talked about being in one home school district when they purchased their homes and in another after redistricting.

"I don't like what the lack of sibling priorities does to families," board president Linda Enberg said last month.

Looking for an Air Conditioner or Furnace Deal?

LENNOX Airtronic Heating & Cooling

Call the Pro's for a Free Estimate...

313-537-8111
248-489-8180
Our 49th Year of Business!

Sale • Sale • Sale • Sale

25% off SHRUBS

OVER 10,000 PERENNIALS **PETUNIA & MARIGOLD FLATS**
Only \$8.99

NO COUPON NEEDED, FRESH, NEW STOCK
THOUSANDS TO CHOOSE FROM

FARMER JOHN'S Greenhouses

Sun, Rain or Cold... 60,000 sq. ft. of Greenhouse
26950 Haggerty Road • Farmington Hills, MI 48334
248-553-7115

Open 7 Days • 9am to 6pm

Novi Road	14 Miles
Haggerty Road	13 Miles
I-96	12 Miles
I-75	11 Miles
Grand River	10 Miles
	9 Miles