

recreation news

Each week the Farmington Hills Parks & Recreation Division will present a synopsis of upcoming activities in this column. For further information regarding our programs, contact our office at 474-6115. For matters regarding City Council agenda items, call our Newsletter at 474-3838.

INSTRUCTIONAL SPORTS CAMP — Instructional Sports Camp will be offered this summer by the

Farmington Hills Parks & Recreation and Oakland Community College. The camps will be held at the Orchard Ridge Campus in Farmington Hills. The camp is intended to provide a personal approach to developing skills and techniques of each sport.

Camp enrollment will be geared to a small student to instructor ratio, and will be available for both boys and girls of middle and high school age. Participants will receive instruction in a natural progression suited to their needs.

The camps will be offered on a one-week basis Monday through Friday for a total of 17.5 instructional hours per week at a cost of \$45, beginning the week of June 17. If you have any questions, call the Parks & Recreation office at 474-6115 or the O.C.C. Physical Education Department at 471-7715.

RECREATION SWIM TEAM — Farmington area youth ages 7-17, will have the opportunity to swim on the Surf Skimmers Swim Team this summer.

The swim team is for instructional purposes, although it swims dual meets against other city teams and concludes with a final championship meet in August. A brief informational meeting will be held for all interested youth and parents at 7 p.m. Wednesday, June 12, at North Farmington High School. The \$24 registration fee is being accepted at the Parks & Recreation office.

JUNIOR GOLF LESSON PRO-

GRAM — The Junior Golf program is designed for all youth golfers, ages 9-17, interested in obtaining a comprehensive understanding of golf. A five-session seminar will cover golf etiquette, proper fundamentals and basic golf strokes. Upon completion of the program, individuals will be eligible for the junior discount golf rate, golf tournament, leagues and other items. A preregistration fee of \$8 must be made at the Parks & Recreation office prior to June 14. The program will be held from 9-9:50 a.m. on June 17, 19, 21, 24 and 26 at San Mario Golf Course.

TENNIS LESSONS — Learn the basic fundamentals of the game or improve your existing skills through structured lessons at Farmington or North Farmington high schools. Classes are 50 minutes long, twice each week for four weeks and will begin June 17 for children, teens and adults. Each participant will have a tennis racket, shoes and a can of new tennis balls for the lessons. A \$20 registration fee should be paid at the parks and recreation office.

FITNASTICS — Enjoy toning your body to a formulated routine of ex-

ercise and dance. The twice-a-week sessions will meet from 8:30 to 7:30 p.m. Monday and Wednesday, beginning June 17, at the Pleomontese Club, 38500 Nine Mile Road in Farmington Hills. The fee for this six-week session is \$25 and you may preregister at the Parks & Recreation office.

MUSICAL MADNESS IV AND MORE — It's here. That wonderful talented group of senior adult performers are presenting your all-time favorite numbers from Musical Madness I, II and III, plus some new routines. The show will be held at 3 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, June 8 and 9, in Harrison High School. The tickets are \$1 for children 16 and under and senior adults. They are \$2 for the general public. Call 474-6115, ext. 290 for information.

YOUTH SWIM LESSONS — Swimming instruction for beginner to advanced skill levels will be offered at Farmington and North Farmington High School. Each two-week session consists of daily classes which meet Monday through Thursday, Session I, June 24-July 3. Fee is \$18. All children must be 30 inches at the chin in order to participate in swim lessons.

Faxon stumps for home care

State Sen. Jack Faxon, D-Farmington Hills, has introduced a bill to provide up to a \$1,000 tax credit for medical and other expenditures made by a taxpayer caring for a physically or mentally impaired older person who is living in the taxpayer's home.

Under the terms of the bill, co-sponsored by 25 state senators, the taxpayer (but not an estate or trust) could claim a tax credit for money spent on medical or physical aids prescribed by a doctor for the older person; respite care for up to 14 days; food, clothing, transportation; and personal care services for mental or physical tasks that could not be performed without help or supervision.

Faxon, a member of the Senate appropriations and retirement committee, said the credit would be progressive and determined as follows:

A **TAXPAYER** whose income is \$10,000 or less could receive a tax credit of \$1,000. A \$750 credit would be allowed for a taxpayer whose income is between \$10,000 and \$20,000. For taxpayers with an income of more than \$20,000, a maximum credit of \$500 would be allowed.

"Home care for mentally or physically impaired seniors is not only a cost-effective alternative to nursing homes and institutionalization, but it also provides a loving and caring environment for the senior."

"By reducing the financial burden of health care costs we will allow some families the opportunity to care for a senior at home."

The bill also permits a taxpayer to claim a one-time credit of up to \$500 for the renovation or adaptation of the

taxpayer's home to meet physical or mental requirements of an older person.

RECOGNIZING THAT Michigan's population of mentally and physically impaired older people is growing significantly, Faxon is attempting to make in-home care a viable housing alternative for older persons.

This bill is part of a package of legislation introduced by Faxon that allows for an increased property tax credit as well as additional income tax credits and exemptions for taxpayers caring for an older person in the taxpayer's home.

"Other states have recognized the need and are working on similar legislation that reduces the financial burden on persons providing in-home care for an impaired senior. Michigan's aging population is growing proportionately larger than the state's total population. At the same time, federal funding for community support services are decreasing while the demand for these services are increasing."

"This is a less expensive and more humane alternative to institutionalization. I would like to see Michigan address this issue and take the lead in providing creative alternatives to meet the demands of the future."

Mail suggestions for travelers

Vacations are more enjoyable when you don't have to worry about your mail.

You can alleviate that worry by following these suggestions from Farmington Postmaster Kenneth B. Harris:

- Before leaving, either ask someone you trust to check your mailbox each day and hold your mail, or arrange for the post office to hold delivery for up to 30 days. "If you choose the latter, contact the post office to complete the appropriate form," Harris said.

and, "and remember to notify the post office promptly upon your return to resume normal delivery."

- Travelers also can arrange for mail to follow them, for up to 90 days, by telling the post office where to forward mail for a specified time, after which it will be held for the vacationer's return home. "Also, be sure to instruct the mail, hotel or wherever you are visiting to forward any mail that arrives after your departure to your home or your next travel address," Harris said.

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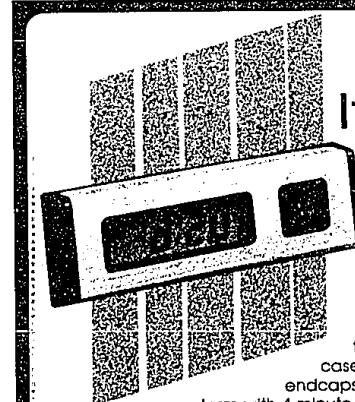
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