

American music gives picnic beat

Music of John Philip Sousa, George M. Cohan and Irving Berlin will ring from Heritage Park on Sunday, Aug. 14, when the Franklin Village Band tunes up for the Blessings of Liberty Picnic.

The music will be part of an afternoon's program sponsored by the Farmington Area Committee on the bicentennial of the U.S. Constitution. There is no charge for the affair, which begins at 4 p.m.

Marches by Sousa, including "The Stars and Stripes Forever" and "Semper Parvulus," as well as Berlin's "God Bless America" are on the program, which will include Stephen Foster songs and E.W. Bagley's "American Patrol."

A segment of the afternoon is saved for "Singin' the Old Songs," when favorites of times gone by will be his of the afternoon. Two-minute tributes to forefathers who came to America, and why they came, will be intermingled with the music, and former Gov. John B. Swainson will give a brief address.

A rousing "God Bless America" will close the afternoon, as the "Blessings of Liberty" Picnic comes to a finale.

THE FRANKLIN Band, a community group formed in 1959 (or reformed, as Franklin did indeed, have a band during the 1880-1890) "takes great pleasure in providing fine music for area events," says Dr. Conrad Lam, director. Recent appearances have been at the Farmington/Farmington Hills Founders Festival, the Franklin Strawberry Social during Michigan Week and the



Wilder House in Pontiac, home of the Oakland County Pioneer and Historical Society.

BANDSMEN ARE musicians who enjoy getting together to make music.

At least four are still from Farmington: Dr. Lam himself lives in Wood Creek Farms and has been called the conductor of probably the highest paid collection of musicians in the country, although not paid for playing, their incomes, if added together, would approach the federal government's annual deficit spending.

The band, which hovers between 25 and 30 members, includes company presidents and executives, doctors, teachers, lawyers, retailers, a newspaper sports writer and even an Internal Revenue Services appellate officer. Lam, himself, is a retired thoracic surgeon from Henry Ford Hospital.

"The big companies' transfer policies give me fits," Lam said. But the band survives, because the transfer policies also seem to bring in new talent as well.

recreation news

Each week, the Farmington Hill Department of Special Services Recreation Division presents a synopsis of upcoming activities. For more information about programs, call the recreation office: 473-6570. For matters regarding city council agenda items, call the city neustein: 476-3838.

● DISCOUNT TICKETS

A variety of admission tickets are

available at a discount to area residents. Tickets to such attractions as Zoo, Sea World and many more are available. Tickets can be bought at the Recreation Division office.

● YOUTH SOCCER

Registration is being accepted through Friday, Aug. 4, for children from kindergarten through third grade. A five-game schedule will be

played on Saturdays beginning Saturday, Sept. 17. Teams practice once a week. Grade divisions are kindergarten/first grade and second/third grade. Fee is \$16 per participant; that includes team T-shirt.

● PICNIC-PAC

All you have to do is bring the food. The Picnic-Pac has all the other equipment for a fun-filled day in the park, including a volleyball

and net, complete badminton set, softball and bat, scoops and whiffle balls, horseshoe set and Frisbee disc. Reserve your Picnic-Pac one week in advance. Fee is \$5.

● NATURE SERIES

Explore the sights and sounds of a late summer evening at Heritage Park. You will listen to insect calls, observe animal behavior and watch the ever-changing sky. The class will be from 7-9 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 20. Preregistration is required. Fee is \$3 per person or \$10 per family.

● CAMP COM-ON-A-WONNA

Openings for children ages 9 to 12 are available for the week-long session at Heritage Park. The last week session will be Aug. 15-19. Children will enjoy archery, studying animal, insect and plant life and exciting field trips. Camp runs from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. except for Thursday evening, when campers attend an evening program with their families. Fee is \$40 per person and preregistration is required at the recreation office.

● SOFTBALL REGISTRATION

Adult softball teams interested in playing a 10-game schedule with playoffs beginning in September can register at the recreation office beginning Aug. 1 from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Team entry fee is \$285 per team. League divisions are men, women and coed.

obituaries

ROBERT WILLIAM MURRAY

Mr. Murray, 63, of Farmington Hills died July 19 in Hopcote of Southeastern Michigan.

Mr. Murray was a machine operator for a steel company. He was a member of the American Legion, Farmington Post 346.

Survivors include his wife, Mary Ellen; sons, Leland and Orval; daughters, Bobbie Jo and Bella; brother, Pete; sisters, Inez Grissom and Helen Wilson.

A memorial service was held July 30 at the American Legion Hall, 31775 Grand River, Farmington Hills.

ALFRED F. SCHWEIZER

Mr. Schweizer, 62, of Farmington Hills died July 22 in Greenbriar Care Center, Howell.

Mr. Schweizer was an insurance salesman.

Survivors include his sons, John and Michael; daughter, Kathleen Laility; mother, Myrtle Schweizer; four grandchildren.

Services were July 25 at the Heehey-Sundquist Funeral Home, Farmington, with the Rev. Norbert Senkbell of Havenmiss Baptist Church officiating. Burial was in Oakland Hills Cemetery, Novi.

TABITHA (TABBY) L. EVANS

Mrs. Evans, 88, of Southfield died July 28.

Born in Sugar Notch, Pa., Mrs. Evans was a homemaker.

Survivors include her husband, J. Lester; sister, Marion Brenner; several nieces and nephews.

Services were Aug. 1 at the Heehey-Sundquist Funeral Home, Farmington, with the Rev. Dr. William Ritter of Nardin Park United Methodist Church officiating. Burial was in Acacia Park Cemetery, Birmingham.

Memorials may be made to Nardin Park United Methodist Church, 29887 W. 11 Mile, Farmington Hills 48018.

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