

YMCA HIGHLIGHTS

These YMCA highlights appear courtesy of the Farmington YMCA, 28100 Farmington Road, Farmington Hills. For more information, call 553-4020.

DRIVER'S EDUCATION
This course includes both classroom and behind-the-wheel training. The instructors are from Accurate Driving School and the program meets the Michigan law requirements for driver's education. Students must be at least 16

years old when the class begins and no older than 18 years. Please bring birth certificate and driver education eligibility form (obtained from the participant's school) to the first class. Class meets 7-9 p.m. four times a week for three weeks. Next session begins May 22. Fee for members is \$140 and for program members is \$180. Contact Alana Hill at 553-4020, Ext. 222, for more information.

SUMMER CLASS REGISTRATION
Walk in registration for full facility members begins on May 22 at 8:30 a.m. Program members may register beginning May 23 at 8:30 a.m. The summer class season begins on Monday, June 12. Watch for the activities brochure in your mail.
12TH ANNUAL YOUTH YOUTH RUN/WALK
This year's event will be held Friday, June 2, with a 6-6 p.m.

starting time. Dinner and entertainment following the run. Individuals and families are encouraged to participate. Contact Kathy Stabell at 553-1933 for more information.

TWILIGHT TUTORING PROGRAM

For grades 1-8, a direct one-to-one academic tutelage in general subject areas, taught at the Farmington YMCA, during 45 minute sessions. Contact Alana Hill at (810)553-4020, Ext. 222 for more information.

KID'S NITE OUT
The next Kid's Nite Out is scheduled for Saturday, June 3, at the Farmington YMCA. It will have "fun with food" as the theme and is open to youth ages kindergarten — 5th grade. All participants must be pre-registered. Bring a swimsuit and towel. Snack will be served, contact the YMCA at

(810)553-4020 for more information.

SCHOOL'S OUT ONE DAY CAMP

Camp activities include swimming, crafts and games. Participants need to bring a sack lunch with drink and their swimsuit and towel. Space is limited, so register early. Contact Alana Hill at (810)553-4020, Ext. 222 for more details.

OCC growth twice that of funding

This is the third in a series about Oakland Community College's June 12 property tax proposal of 0.8 mill for seven years.

Q. School officials in Huron Valley and Clarkston K-12 districts are unhappy the college chose to place a money proposal on the June 12 ballot when they already have proposals. Why did OCC do it?

A. Several college officials gave this composite answer: "First, OCC can make a money proposal only twice a year. Already the college has paid for one special election. It chose a regular school election date to hold down election costs."

Second, the new fiscal year begins July 1, and OCC wanted to have its financing in place by that time. June 12 was the best available date. Without this revenue, 100 of the 800 employees face layoffs.

Third, OCC picked March 16 for its first proposal but didn't object when two K-12 districts piggy-backed on that day with money proposals of their own. No one "owns" any election date. In fact, state legislators are giving some thought to putting state education board elections on the same ballot with K-12 districts and community colleges.

Fourth, in the words of an OCC spokesman: "Even if they don't like us, we're still going to admit their students."

Q. As Oakland County's tax base grows, why can't OCC's revenues grow with it rather than ahead of it?

A. Replied Chancellor Patsy Calkins: "30 percent of future jobs will require education beyond high school, but only 20 percent will require a bachelor's degree."

The identical theme has been

espoused by Gov. John Engler's administration.

Virtually every author who has discussed employability says a greater proportion of our young people will need some community college work. "We (American society) have done a good job with technicians. People in industry tell me, 'We cannot find the technicians to do what needs to be done,'" Calkins added.

As tuitions at four-year universities rise faster than inflation, many high school graduates — even from affluent areas — are doing their first two years of college work at OCC, then transferring their credits to a university. OCC officials say they can save \$6,000 to \$14,000 by taking their first two years at OCC.

In addition, many people with bachelor's degrees return to the community college for specialized work to improve their job skills. Former OCC Chancellor Stephen Nicholson said more people with BA and BSc degrees further their education at community colleges than in graduate schools.

Demand for OCC instruction has grown faster than the economy. Over 20 years (1975-95), OCC's revenues in constant dollars have grown 39 percent while enrollment, as measured by student credit hours taken, has risen 64 percent.

Q. What is OCC doing for senior citizens?

A. Persons 60 or older get a 20 percent discount on tuition.

Currently, 1,000 persons 60 or older enroll annually. Of those, 400 obtain a degree.

The writer will try to answer all general interest questions about the June 12 OCC millage proposal. The Touch-Tone voice mail number is (313) 953-2047 ext. 1880.

Pet-A-Pet meeting set

The Pet-A-Pet Club will have its first annual meeting at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, May 23, in Riley Middle School in Livonia.

All current volunteers and anyone interested in learning more about the program are invited to attend.

The meeting will feature demonstrations of therapy trained dogs by Andrea Cunningham, Ros Granitz, and Lorna Johnson. Denny Gregory and her golden retriever, recipient of a K-9 Good Citizen Award, also will do a demonstration.

Pet-A-Pet Club volunteers bring their family pets to visit area nursing homes, hospitals, schools and rehabilitation centers.

There are more than 200 volunteers visiting more than 35 facilities throughout the metro area.

Pet-A-Pet visitors need not be specially trained therapy animals but should be friendly and have current vaccination records. For information call Ruth Curry at 835-0410.



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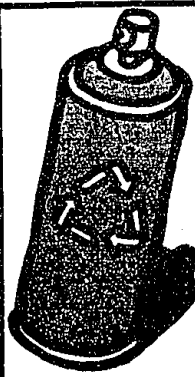
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