County seeks to boost tornado awareness

With tornado weather around the corner, Oakland County officials hope residents will take the initiative during Severe Weather Awareness Week to make plans in eace a damaging Journ hints. This week is an ideal time for every Oakland County resident to become familiar with the atops that should be taken to protect themselves, their families and their property in the event a tornado warning is issued, County Executive L. Brooks Patterson said of the observance which ends April 4. "It is essential that every man, woman and child be prepared to deal with severe weather when it occurs."

occurs."
Although they are most likely to happen during hot spring afternoons, tornadoes have occurred in every month at all times, Patterson added.
Leann Robinson, coordinator

Leann Robinson, coordinator of the county's emergency management unit, said most injuries occur because people don't take shelter quickly enough. "Tornndoes usually come at the end of a thunderstorm, so people have plenty of time to think about what they should be doing." Robinson said. You should never wait until you hear

Hospice of Michigan's board of directors has asked its chairman, Lee R. Miskowski, to serve as interim CEO while it undertakes a search to replace President and CEO Garolyn J. Cassin recently accepted a position as chief operating affice east for VistaCare, a national

an emergency siren to start grabbing supplies. Plan ahead and take responsibility for your

safety." Since 1950, 27 tornadoes have Since 1950, 27 tornadoes have been reported throughout the county, including one that touched down in Springfield and forveland townships last July. The devastating storm, which resulted in one death and over \$2 million in damages, has prompted both townships to purchase their own tornede sirens.

Both Groveland and Springfield, like most other townships throughout the county, rely on the sirens from neighboring cities.

Groveland Township Fire

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Groveland Township Fire Chief Merilyn McGee said the township has authorized the purchase of 9 tornado sirens. The township pays for 75 percent of the siren, which costs about \$17,000 while the county pitches in 25 percent.

"We are working really hard to put in enough sirens to protect the whole township," McGee said. "Although we only have about 5,000 residents, nearly \$5,000 people are here each day during the summer months at the summer camps, golf courses or the Renaissance Festival —

Hospice of Michigan CEO leaving for new job

Hospice corporation based in Phoenix.
Miskowski, former vice president of the Ford Motor Co. and general manager of the Lincoln-Mercury Divicion, will head Hospice of Michigan's transition team during the search, the board announced Tucsday.

75. A siren, donated by the owner of Heather Highlands Golf Course, was installed at the golf course Tuesday to device a portion of Springfield Township. As iren was also installed at Granger and Kent roads in Brandon Township.

Robinson said the sirens are only a part of the entire warning system that also rolles on television and radio broadcasts and common sense.

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"In the first place, people need to be aware that there is a watch (issued when conditions exist for the development of a tornado) out there and they can do that by watching TV or listening to the radio." Robinson said. Sirens are only designed to be heard within a mile radius if you're standing outside. Sirens can be effective, but common sense, along with being prepared, will probably save more lives."

Emergency Management offers these tornado safety guidelines:

A basement offers the greatest safety. Seek shelter under sturdy furniture if possible. In a home without a basement, take

21 If you live in a mobile home, leave immediately and go to a substantial structure. If there is no shelter nearby, lie flat in the nearest ditch, ravine or culvert with your hands shielding your head.

During work or school hours, follow plans to move into interior hallways or small rooms on the lowest floors. Avoid areas with glass and wide free-span

For more information and guidelines, contact the county emergency management unit at (248) 858-5300.

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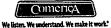
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Saturday, May 2, 1998, 9 AM to 12 PM Free Admission

Each 45 minute session includes time to address your general questions about maintaining and improving your health. Classes are presented free of charge by physicians from the Oakland County Medical Society (OCMS). To register, call OCMS at (248) 646-5400.

9 AM Allergy Neurology Sports Medicine

10 AM

Plastic Surgery

Cardiology Dermatology

Orthopedics/Back

Gastroenterology 11 AM Gynecology Otology

Katharine Mauer, M.D. Steven Schechter, M.D. Jeffrey Shapiro, M.D. Jefrey Fishman, M.D.

David Cragg. M.D. Lori Haddad, D.O. David Montgomery, M.D. Mark DeVore, M.D.

Judith Brysk, M.D. Michael Seidman, M.D. Physical Medicine & Rehab. Steven Arbit, M.D. Linda Logsdon, M.D. Psychiatry

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Health Day '98 is a public service sponsored by the Oakland County Medical Society, The Eccentric Newspapers, and The Community House.