

Ease into spring gardening routine

The Hill and Dale Garden Club of Farmington/Hill offers some tips from club members on getting ready for spring gardening:

Slowly get your body in shape by exercising to develop strength in your lower back, legs, arms and abdomen.

Ease into the task by going through the motion of the type of gardening work you will be doing. This helps loosen muscles. Easy does it in the beginning when lifting or digging. Don't twist your body when pulling or lifting and try to avoid extending your back too much.

Tools in shape, too

It's necessary to get your garden tools in shape. Clean your

tools with a wire brush or wooden stick. Oil metal surfaces on tools and use linseed oil on wooden handled tools. Clean the sprayers by running through them a mixture of equal parts of vinegar and water. Sharpen tools with a metal file or sharpening stone.

Now is the time to get soil ready for planting. Spread any of the following on the surface for flowers and rake into the ground (dig for vegetables): bugged leaves from fall (shred if possible), compost - make your own or check with the city Public Works for free compost; composted manure, grass clippings spread to 2 to 3 inches deep; wood chips mix into soil with alfalfa meal for nitrogen, a general organic fertilizer such as milorganite, growagrac or osmocote.

Check your Cooperative Extension Service for soil test-

ing. It's time to take cones and mesh off your roses. Prepare the ground around your roses with a systemic rose and floral care granular mix, which is absorbed through the roots and carried slowly to all the plant parts, including blossoms and new growth. It protects the plant against insects that attempt to feed on it and can't be washed away with rain or water. Make sure to rid the ground around the roses of old diseased leaves and throw them into the trash. Don't compost them.

Care for hostas

This is also the time to spread snail and slug granulars around your hosta plants before they become tall and bushy. Newspapers can be laid around the hostas at night and taken up in the morning. Make sure to destroy the newspapers which will be laden with little critters.

If soaker hoses are used in your gardens, make sure to spread them in your garden before the plants have become fully matured, as it will prevent injuring the plants in the placement of the hose. The weeping action of a soaker hose protects tender blooms and young vegetables.

It is a good time to do some pruning by removing diseased/dead portions of plants. Pick up all dropped infected materials from the soil. Make sure to throw all diseased portions into the trash - don't compost. If pruning diseased plants, make sure to clean cutters with hydrogen peroxide, isopropyl alcohol or bleach. Now that the soil has been thoroughly prepared and weeded, it is time to select just the right plants for your specially designed garden beds.

Order the Diana Lewis signature pizza, which includes pepperoni, bacon and pineapple and Buddy's will donate \$2.00 to the South Eastern Michigan HIV/AIDS Council (SEMHC).

Diana Lewis, WXYZ-TV Anchor

A bite: Diana Lewis munches a piece of Buddy's Pizza for charity.

Got pizza? Give Dough for HIV/AIDS council

Buddy's Pizza is using Diana Lewis, WXYZ-TV news anchorwoman, as its celebrity "Got Pizza? Give Dough" spokesperson.

The campaign benefits children's charities. It is a take off on the "Got Milk" campaign. Each celebrity wears a pizza mustache for campaign pictures. The celebrity chooses a signature pizza and charity to sponsor; a portion of the proceeds is then donated to that charity. Lewis' pizza is topped with pepperoni, bacon and pineapple.

Lewis and Buddy's are working together to raise funds and awareness for the Southeastern Michigan HIV/AIDS Council,

which works with pediatric AIDS patients.

Lewis, her mother, and members of SEMHC will be at the Buddy's Farmington Hills location, 31646 Northwestern Highway, on Friday, May 19, at 7:30 p.m.

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"FOR THE HOUSE & GARDEN"

Ceramic works by Pewabic Pottery and selected artists will be displayed in a beautiful outdoor, tented setting at the Birmingham Community House, 300 S. Bates in Birmingham, MI.

May 19, 20 & 21 - 10 am to 5 pm

Admission \$5

Free to Pewabic Society Members

Memberships available at the door

Membership discounts on purchases

Buy 1 ticket Get 1 FREE!

FAMILY FUN DAY

Sunday, May 21

Family activities include: Tile Pressing, The Rubbing, Threading Demonstrations, Face Painting

Children 12 and under Free

SPECIAL BENEFIT PREVIEW PARTY

Thursday, May 18, 2000

6:30 to 9:30 pm

Tickets begin at \$75. RSVP Required

For Information and Reservations Please Call Pewabic Pottery at 313.822.0954

Monday through Saturday 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Fall senior trip heads north to Mackinac Island

The City of Farmington Hills Senior Adult division with the 33rd annual Michigan Recreation and Parks Association present a Senior Mackinac Trip Sept. 30-Oct. 4 at Mackinac Island's historic Grand Hotel.

If you've ever wanted to enjoy the splendor of the Grand Hotel on Mackinac Island, this is your chance. The trip, which runs from a Saturday to a Wednesday, includes an array of activities plus all transportation, tips, four nights at the Grand Hotel, full breakfast every night, five-course dinner every night, dan-

ing and a lot of extras. This is a lovely time of year to spend a few days in northern Michigan in grand style.

You must be 50 years or older to attend. This is a first come, first serve trip and the last day to register is July 7. Cost is \$699, double occupancy. Final payment will be due Aug. 25. A murder-mystery evening,

champagne reception, live comedy performance, horse drawn island tour, special Grand Hotel pricing on bicycle rentals, golf, photos, luncheons, feature movies and nightly dancing to the Grand Hotel Orchestra are included.

The trip will leave from the Costick Center in Farmington Hills. \$200 per person is due at

registration. Cancellations after Aug. 25 will not receive refund; no exceptions. Cancellation insurance is advised. Trip forms are available at the reception desk at the senior citizen department in the Costick Center. Make checks payable to: Farmington Hills Department of Special Services.

New Children's Book by WDIV Anchor, Devin Scillian



"I dreamed again of Fibblestax, sitting among his books, Peering into the candlelight with a calm, thoughtful look."

So begins the delightful fable of Fibblestax, and how he came to be the one who gives names to things. He has to battle the tricky, red-faced Carr, a man who "gives terrible names to wonderful things." The mayor of their town gives them five things to name, and the final one, "that very strange feeling, a dreamy kind of cheer, the feeling that makes you feel so good when a special friend is near," stumps Carr. But Fibblestax knows that feeling...

DEVIN SCILLIAN APPEARANCES

Tuesday, May 16, 10pm: Barnes & Noble Booksellers (419-472-6164)
Friday, May 19, 7:30pm: Barnes & Noble Booksellers Hills (248-851-9910)
Monday, May 22, 10am: Barnes & Noble Booksellers Hills (248-851-9910)
Tuesday, May 23, 7:30pm: Bookers Afterland Ann Arbor (734-677-7549)
Thursday, June 15, 1:00pm: Bookers Birmingham (205-274-6879)

1 800 407 2323 / sleepingbearpress.com

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8:00 a.m. Department Meeting
9:00 a.m. Status Meeting
10:00 a.m. Marketing Meeting
11:00 a.m. Committee Meeting
12:00 p.m. Parent-Teacher Meeting
1:00 p.m. Staff Meeting
2:00 p.m. Technology Meeting
3:00 p.m. Finance Meeting
4:00 p.m. Subcommittee Meeting
5:00 p.m. Board Meeting
5:55 p.m. Check account balance. Pay bills online.
6:00 p.m. *Reduce number of meetings* Meeting

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