

Blood drive slated April 2 at Orchard United Methodist

The American Red Cross Bloodmobile will be at Orchard United Methodist Church in Farmington Hills from 1:30-7:30 p.m. Monday, April 2. The church is located at 30450 Farmington Road, between 13 and 14 Mile Roads. For further information call (248) 626-3620.

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EXP. 4/1/201

RECREATION NEWS

ADULT SOFTBALL
New team registration for mens, womens and co-ed softball is now being taken. For more information, call 473-9579.

EUCHRE PARTY
Get your partner and register for euchre from 7-10 p.m. Friday, April 20. The cost is \$6 per person, and advance registration is required.

SUMMER PROGRAMS
Beginning at 8:30 a.m. Monday, April 2, the recreation division will be accepting registration for its scheduled summer leisure programs. Residents should receive their summer program brochure in the mail prior to the registration date.

SPRING SALE
Sign up now for the spring clean-up sale being held Saturday, April 28, at Heritage Park Day Camp Building. For more information, call the recreation division at 473-9570.

PAINTBALL
The Mayor's Youth Council, the Fishin' Guys, and the Farmington Hills Department of Special Services will host a paintball trip for Farmington and Farmington Hills high school students Saturday, April 28, at the Paintball Fields in Pinckney. The cost for the trip is \$42 and

includes three hours of play. The trip departs from the Costick Activities Center in Farmington Hills at 12:30 p.m. and returns at 8 p.m. To register for the trip, sign up at a Mayors Youth Council event or at the Department of Special Services by April 9. Call 473-9592.

FRIDAY NIGHT MADNESS
Kids age 6-12 can "go mad" at the Costick Center from 7-11 p.m. Friday, March 23. There will be swimming, snacks, dinner, movies, and plenty of games. The cost is \$10 per person. You must register in advance at Farmington Hills Recreation Division by 4:30 p.m. on the day of the event. For more information, 473-9570.

EASTER EGGSTRAVAGANZA
Parky the Panda, the lovable mascot of the recreation division, invites children to join him at the Heritage Park Day Camp Building on Saturday, April 7, for an Easter Eggstravaganza. Program for children 3-5 years old will be 10-11:30 a.m.; and children ages 6-10 from 12:30-2 p.m. The activities include snacks, games, arts and crafts, and Easter Egg Hunt and story telling. Programs are for children only. Parents are welcome to wait in the lobby. Advance registration is required.

OPEN GYM
Get your exercise at the Costick Activities Center in Farmington Hills. Adult basketball, 7:30-9:30 p.m. Thursdays and 9-11 a.m. Sundays; teen basketball, 3-5 p.m. Saturdays, and 1-3 p.m. Sundays; adult volleyball, 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Sundays and 8-10 p.m. Tuesdays; Family Gym and Swim, noon-3 p.m. Saturdays. The cost to participate for residents 17 and younger is \$2, nonresidents, \$4. It's \$9 for residents and \$5 for nonresidents 18 and over.

Opponents say CCW petitions are ready to roll

BY MIKE MALOTT
HOMETOWN NEWS SERVICE
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Opponents of the recently passed "shall issue conceal weapons" legislation say they have enough signatures to put the law to a referendum on the November 2002 elections ballot.

The People Who Care About Kids Committee has gathered an estimated 200,000 signatures, well over the 151,000 needed, according to Assistant Wayne County Prosecutor and committee member Ruth Carter. She said the group hopes to get 225,000 signatures before the March 27 deadline.

Committee members gathered at Mulligan's Golf Center in Auburn Hills March 14, to turn over petition forms.

Glenda Edwards, of National Petition Management, a circulation company based in Southfield, said late petition forms can still be turned in through March 21 at 25320 Southfield Road, Suite 208, in Southfield. Anyone who would still like to sign petitions may go to that location to add their names.

The referendum is an attempt to overturn a bill passed last year by state lawmakers that requires local county gun boards to issue permits to carry conceal weapons unless applicants have a criminal record or a history of mental illness.

The law also mandates that applicants take weapons training classes, be over age 21, and establishes gun-free zones.

Opponents are petitioning against the law on the belief it will put 200,000 new guns on the streets in Michigan.

Despite the fact the bill included a \$1 million appropriation for the distribution of trigger locks, Carter said the group has continued to collect signatures. The state Constitution prohibits referendum petitions on appropriations bills, but Carter explained it will be up to lawmakers to sue to keep the referendum off the ballot.

More likely, Sen. Thaddeus McCotter (R-Livonia) said, the petition will be rejected by the Secretary of State's office and committee members will have to sue to get the question placed on the ballot.

Referendum supporter and Wayne County Prosecutor Mike Duggan has said attempts in the past by the legislature to protect bills by adding appropriations provisions have proven unsuccessful.

The courts have overruled lawmakers and placed the question on the ballot anyway.

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