

WHAT'S HAPPENING

POTPOURRI

Blood Drive
The City of Farmington Hills will hold a blood drive 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 30, at the Costick Center in Farmington Hills. Great Harvest Bread Company will provide cookies and a gift basket raffle. For appointments call (248) 473-1896. Walk-ins welcome.

Bowl-A-Thon
Team Farmington Special Olympics 11th annual Bowl-A-Thon will take place Saturday, Feb. 15, at the Skateland lanes in Farmington Hills. There will be two sessions of bowling at 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. Refreshments will be provided at both sessions. For additional information call Nancy Melochie at (248) 888-5022.

Valentine Dance
The Farmington Community Dance Band will hold a Valentine Dinner Dance at 6:30 p.m. Friday, Feb. 14, at the Glen Oaks Country Club in Farmington Hills. Call (734) 261-2202.

Present Laughter
The Farmington Players will perform *Present Laughter* beginning Friday, Jan. 31 through Feb. 22 at the new Players Barn in Farmington Hills. For ticket information call (248) 219-0800.

Vegas Night
The Finnish Center in Farmington Hills will host Vegas Night 8 p.m. to midnight Saturday, Feb. 1. The cost is \$10 per person and includes food and drinks. Call (248) 478-6937.

Sunday Brunch
Enjoy Sunday Brunch at the Finnish Center in Farmington Hills Feb. 9, March 9, April 13 and May 11 (Mother's Day). Call (248) 478-6937.

Talent Show
Harrison High School will hold a talent show at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 6. Call (248) 439-3412.

Accessory Demo
Local wardrobe consultant May Arvo will hold a free scarf and accessory demonstration at 1 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 26, at the Now Dress Barn at West Oaks II.

Art Splash 2002
Farmington and Farmington Hills city halls will be displaying an emerging artists exhibit through Jan. 31.

Stronger Women
Strengthen your body, soul and spirit. 9:30-11:30 a.m. every Thursday morning through April 3 at Faith Covenant Church in Farmington Hills. This program offers aerobics and walking, speakers, crafts and food. Baby-sitting is available for children up to five years old. Call (248) 661-9191.

Child Health Clinics
Oakland County Health Division offers free well-care services for children birth through school entry. For more information call (248) 424-7066 or (248) 926-3314.

KID STUFF

Chess Tournament
Farmington High School will host a chess tournament 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 1, for students in grades 1-5. Students must know how to play chess to enter, and will play against other students at their own grade level. Call (248) 469-3333.

Youth Theatre Workshop
A Night of Improvisation: a youth theatre workshop will be held 6-9 p.m. Friday, Jan. 24, at the Costick Center in Farmington Hills. Call (248) 473-1857. A Night of Pantomime will be Jan. 31.

Framing Your Art
Kids can learn to create and frame their own artwork 10 a.m. to noon Saturday, Jan. 25, at the Heritage Park Studios. Call (248) 473-1800.

CLUBS

Farmington Garden
The Farmington Garden Club will meet at noon Monday, Feb. 3, at the Longacre House in Farmington Hills. Scott Knuts will discuss antique gardening. Visitors welcome. Call (248) 615-3616.

North Women
Join the Women of North Farmington for a day of relaxation and enjoy at Updowns in Birmingham on Friday, Jan. 24. There will be a movie (title to be announced) and enjoy a wonderful buffet. The cost is \$25 and covers everything including valet parking, popcorn and pop. For further details and reservations call Diane at (248) 478-1855.

North Garden
North Farmington Garden Club will meet at noon Tuesday, Feb. 11, at the Aldo Vagnozzi Visitor's Center in Heritage Park. The program will be *An Afternoon at Lakeside Lane* with Laura Zebrosky. Call (248) 553-2368.

Musicals
The Farmington Musicals presents its Valentine program *Love, American Style* at 1 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 5, at Hammill Music Auditorium in Livonia. The show will feature a variety of piano and vocal solos. The public is invited. Guest fee is \$3.

Hill & Dale
Hill & Dale Garden Club will meet at 7 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 13, at the Vagnozzi Visitor's Center in Heritage Park. Guest speaker Lori Schneider will discuss the garden tools of Feng Shui.

Embroiderers
Farmington Hills Embroiders' Guild at 9:30 a.m. Wednesday, Feb. 5, at Faith Covenant Church, 14 Mile & Drake. The project will be a three stitch bookmark. Call Michelle Sayers at (248) 348-1921.

Exchange Club
The Exchange Club will meet at noon Wednesday, Jan. 29, at the Brass Pointe Restaurant in Farmington Hills. Farmington Hills Police officer Kase and his police dog Kasper will be the guests.

CLASSES

Eliminate Stress
Learn how to eliminate stress 7-9 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 30, at Health Dimensions in Farmington Hills. Call (248) 409-1573.

Jewelry Making
Learn how to make jewelry 7-9 p.m. Wednesdays, beginning Jan. 29 at the Costick Center in Farmington Hills. Classes are six weeks. Call (248) 473-1857.

Acoustic/Electric Guitar
Acoustic and electric guitar for beginners and intermediates begins Jan. 25 at the Costick Center in Farmington Hills. Call (248) 473-1800.

Middle Eastern Dance
Learn "Belly Basics" and discover the beauty of the world's most ancient dance 7:30-8:30 p.m. Mondays, beginning Jan. 27 at the Costick Center in Farmington Hills. Call (248) 473-1800.

Ballroom Dance
Learn how to Fox Trot 7-8 p.m. Wednesdays, beginning Feb. 5 at the Costick Center in Farmington Hills. Call (248) 473-1800.

Jewish Education
The Jewish Community Center in West Bloomfield is offering new enrichment courses which include: *Kav Mago*, The Israeli Art of Self-Defense; *Confounding Angels* in the Jewish Tradition; and *Talmud Tor* for Our Times. Classes begin Feb. 11 and run through March 13. Call (248) 432-5577.

Civilian Swim Classes
Clarencville Community Education offers the following swim classes beginning in January: Parent/Child Swim; Instructional Swim (8-15); Water Aerobics; and Water Walking. For more information, call (248) 473-8933.

Tae Kwon Doe
Clarencville Community Education will offer a six-week Tae Kwon Doe class for beginners and intermediates on Tuesdays and Thursdays beginning Feb. 6. For times and location call (248) 473-8933.

Home Building
Learn how to protect yourself and your money when building your new home 6-10 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays, Jan. 28-Feb. 6, at the Farmington Community School. To register call (248) 469-3333.

SUPPORT

Surviving Divorce
The Womencenter at Oakland Community College's Orchard Ridge Campus in Farmington Hills presents *Surviving Divorce*, a six-week seminar on issues for divorced women. The seminar runs 7-8:30 p.m. Mondays, beginning Jan. 27 in the campus' Building J room 309. Registration is necessary. Call Arlene Frank at (248) 527-3442.

Non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma
A free supper lecture for understanding Non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma will be held at 6 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 29, at the Weisberg Cancer Center, 31995 Northwestern Hwy in Farmington Hills. RSVP (248) 538-6507.

Educator will kick off seminars

International Jewish educator Dr. Daniel Gordis will kick off the Jewish Community Center's SAJE - Seminars for Adult Jewish Enrichment program at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 5.

On behalf of SAJE, Dr. Gordis will give the fourth annual Shiffman Family Lecture at the JCC D. Dan and Betty Kahn building on the Euyene and Marcella Applebaum Jewish Community Campus in West Bloomfield.

Director of the Jerusalem Fellows program and a member

of the senior staff of the Mandel Foundation Sector on Jewish Education and Continuity, Dr. Gordis writes and speaks extensively on Israeli society, life in Israel and on the collapse of the Oslo peace process.

His works have appeared in many journals and newspapers, the *New York Times* and the *New York Times Magazine*. His newest book, *If a Place Can Make You Cry: Dispatches from an Anxious State*, focuses on the demise of peace in Israel. He has numerous other

books to his credit and has published many articles on issues related to the future of Jewish life in America, as well as on Jewish law and ethics.

SAJE is the adult Jewish program sponsored by the JCC in partnership with local congregations and organizations. It will run on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays, Feb. 11-March 13.

For information and brochure, call the JCC Jewish Life and Learning Department at (248) 432-5577.



Dancing again

In the popular Food Court, Renee Hideshima and clown Mike Kish took a spin around the floor at last fall's Heritage Festival, sponsored by the Multicultural Multiracial Community Council. This year's event has been scheduled Sunday, Sept. 21, at the William Costick Activities Center in Farmington Hills.

Famed soloist to perform at Nardin Park

Nardin Park United Methodist Church in Farmington Hills presents Soprano Glenda Kirkland at 2 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 2. Kirkland will perform music by such composers as Schubert, Schumann, Brahms, Strauss, and Debussy and will show her versatility by also including beloved spirituals and hymns.

She has been the guest artist in concerts with such noted

artists as Luciano Pavarotti, Barbara Hendricks, Leona Mitchell, James McCrecken and Gwyneth Jones. Her appearance with the Detroit Symphony Orchestra on tour at Carnegie Hall and the Kennedy Center earned her rave reviews.

Trained at the famed Juillard School of Music, Kirkland is currently a professor of voice at Eastern Michigan University. The public is invited to this free concert. A light reception will precede the program at 1:30 p.m.

Nardin Park Church is located at 29887 W. 11 Mile Road. For more information call (248) 476-8860.

Jewish Scouts invited

Jewish Cub Scouts and Boy Scouts from all Metropolitan Detroit Councils are invited to join in the National Jewish Committee on Scouting's local Scout Shabbat observances in commemoration of the 93rd birthday of Scouting in the U.S.

Shabbat services will be held as follows: 8:45 a.m.-noon Saturday, Feb. 1, followed by a Kiddush, at Congregation Beth Ahm, 5075 W. Maple Rd., West Bloomfield; and 5:45 p.m.-6:45 p.m. Friday, Feb. 7, at Adat Shalom Synagogue, 28900 Middlebelt, Farmington Hills. Services are free. The community is invited. All Scouts who attend in uniform will qualify for an official Scout Week patch. Contact Allen Olander at (248) 682-4824, or warlwk@aol.com.

FCB to host Valentine dinner dance

The Farmington Community Band will host its annual Valentine Dinner Dance on Friday, Feb. 14, at the Glen Oaks Country Club in Farmington Hills.

Once again, the entertainment for the evening will be provided by Paul Barber and the FCB dance band.

Each bar will be open for cocktails at 6:30 p.m. followed by a lavish

buffet dinner at 7:30. Enjoy dancing or listening to the big sound of the 18-piece dance band until midnight. Tickets are available by reservation only, either individually for \$43, or reserve a table for eight people.

To purchase tickets or for information about the Farmington Community Band call (734) 261-2202 or visit the Web site at www.fcband.org.

Fun, romantic marriage proposals wanted

"Will you marry me?" Those four simple words, uttered a billion times since Adam and Eve, continue to stir the heart, raise legions of goosebumps and even tickle the funny bone.

They're not always accompanied by wine and roses. Sometimes, they're written across the sky, announced at sporting events or delivered by a messenger in a gorilla suit.

But always, they're so meaningful.

In honor of Valentine's Day, the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers is sponsoring its second annual Lessons in Love Contest.

Winners receive a romantic evening on the town Thursday, Feb. 13.

We want to hear about your romantic — or funny — wedding proposal.

In 100 words or less, tell us how he (or she) popped the question.

You could be one of two lucky couples to receive the following:

■ Transportation, compliments of J.R. Tours, Inc. of Novi

■ A dozen red roses from Wesley Berry Florist of West Bloomfield

■ A romantic dinner for two at Little Italy in Northville

■ Candy from Kilwin's in Birmingham

■ A \$250 gift coin from Orin Jewelers of Northville and Garden City

■ One-night stay at Fraser Inn of Northville

■ Two tickets for the Feb. 13 Red Wings game

Sorry, you'll have to buy the fancy duds, up your hair stylist and pay for the baby sitter — a small price for romance.

On a romantic note, Orin Jewelers plans to make an album of all the entries for future customers in need of wedding proposal ideas.

Your words — from "Hey, babe, wanna get hitched?" to "May I have this petal-soft hand in marriage?" — will forever be immortalized. Sigh.

Now for the contest rules. They're simple: You must be at least 18 years old, limit your entry to 100 words or less and send your Lessons in Love entry to us by Friday, Jan. 24.

Entries must include name, age, address, phone and/or e-mail.

And, of course, you must be very romantic or very funny... or both! Winners will be announced in your hometown newspaper Thursday, Jan. 30.

Send entries to: "Lessons in Love Contest," Cathy Young, promotion manager, the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia, MI 48150; e-mail: cyoung@oe.hometown.com.net; fax: (734) 953-2232.

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ACCOMMODATION