

# Earth Angels to give away performance at annual benefit event

What started out as a dream of a young girl's heart has turned into a 17-plus year avocation for 43-year-old Lisa Campos, director of Earth Angels dance troupe.

To help keep that dream alive, the Earth Angels will hold their annual fundraiser 6-10 p.m. Saturday, April 12 at the Costick Center in Farmington Hills.

Originally formed in 1986, Earth Angels has evolved into a 20-member troupe, 10 boys and 10 girls, ranging in age from 10 to 17. They've performed at the Founder's Festival, at the Woodward Dream Cruise for the past eight years, at fundraisers and charity events throughout the state, at Disneyworld, on the Big Red Boat, as well as with the Beach Boys at the Bay City Fireworks last year.

Their show consists of choreographed dance routines done mostly to the Oldies with costumes from the era, including much audience participation, heavy on musical and comedic relief. Just good clean fun.

"The best way to describe it is a truly high energy, finger-snapping, toe-tapping, feel good group to watch," said

Dean Cobb, North Farmington High's director of TV. "You work away thinking, now that's entertainment."

What is it that makes this group so good at what they do? "A lot of sweat equity is the only way to describe it," says parent and fundraising chairperson, Bonnie Murphy. "The dedication of the director, Campos, and co-director Jen LeCarcue, who volunteer countless hours of practice, perfecting. And the payoff... performing, the self-discipline of the dancers themselves, combined with the teamwork of the parents of the group members is the perfect combination of ingredients that make each show so successful."

The group, which has operated as a not-for-profit organization, usually takes its members on tour every other year to either compete in dance competitions around the country or perform at larger venues such as they did at Disneyworld in July of 1999.

"When 9-11 happened, our performance schedule was drastically shortened. Shows were either canceled or put on hold. We ended up doing the majority of appearances pro

bono to uplift the spirits in our community and we cut our funding short for our planned outing to New York and anticipated appearance on one of the morning shows," Murphy explained. "We are counting on our upcoming fundraiser to help augment our budget and allow things to go as planned."

Admission for the show at the Costick Center is \$10 and includes all-you-can-eat pizza, salad and dessert, games for the young at heart, dancing, door prizes donated from generous merchants in the community and last but not least a show-stopping performance by the Earth Angels.

"Our grand prize this year is a one hour show by the Earth Angels. The idea of having a performance as the grand prize, we felt, was a win-win situation," Murphy commented. "If PTAs or civic organizations were thinking of booking the group, they could win that chance by attending our fundraiser and the kids would get to do what they do best...perform."

For reservations or information about the Earth Angels or to make a donation, contact the group at (248) 320-6747.



The Earth Angels will hold a fund-raiser April 12 at the Costick Center in Farmington Hills.

## SINGLES EVENTS

**METROPOLITAN SINGLE PROFESSIONALS**

Single Mingle Dances  
MSP's hold Single Mingle dances on Friday nights throughout the month. Call (248) 851-9907 for times and locations.

Golf/Softball Leagues  
Co-ed golf and softball leagues are now forming. Call (248) 951-9909 for sign-up information.

Book Discussion Group  
MSP's book discussion group meets on the second Wednesday of each month at 7:30 p.m. at Borders Books in Farmington Hills. Borders will offer a 20 percent discount on all titles chosen for discussion.

Volleyball  
Drop in and play volleyball 6:45-9:45 p.m. every Tuesday at the gym and fieldhouse at Bloomfield Hills Middle School, 4200 Quenton Road.

Euche  
MSP's play euchre 6:30-9:30 p.m. every

Monday at the Brass Point Inn in Farmington Hills.

**Social and Travel Club**  
For people 35 years old and up. Activities include dinners, dances, cards, camping, theater sports (travel). To learn more about the club call (248) 435-5320 or go to [www.sssc.org](http://www.sssc.org).

**Fun & Fine Dining Parties**  
Join MSP's every Thursday between 6:30 p.m. for socializing with dinner afterwards. Enjoy sampling some of the best and most interesting dining places in the metro Detroit area.

**West Side Singles**  
Friday dances to be held every Friday night at Burton Manor, located on Schoolcraft Service Drive, just west of Inkster in Livonia. The dances are open to the public. Doors open from 8 p.m. to 11 p.m. 25 years of age and older. Dressy attire required. Held in non-smoking ballrooms with a D.J. and budget bar. Admission price is \$4 before 8:30 p.m. and \$6 after 8:30 p.m. For information, call Anita at (734) 951-9909.

If you want to submit an item for the religion calendar, fax it to (248) 477-9722 or write Religion Calendar, Farmington Observer, 3340 Grand River, Farmington, MI 48335. The deadline for an announcement to appear in the Thursday edition is noon Monday.

## EVENTS

**Easter Eggstravaganza**  
Detroit First Church of the Nazarene will hold an Easter egg hunt 10:30 a.m. Saturday, April 19 at the church, 21260 Haggerty, north of Eight Mile, east of Haggerty.

**Spirituality talk**  
Suzanne Cowin, a nationally touring speaker on spirituality, will take the pulpit 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, April 1 at the Farmington Hills Community Library. She will speak about the power of spiritual solutions to life's problems.

## RELIGION CALENDAR

**Lenten Dinners**  
Mercy Marian Oakland West, located on 10 Mile just east of W. 66th, will host a Lenten Fish Dinner 4-6:30 p.m. Friday, April 4. The cost is \$7 for adults and \$4.50 for children under 12. Call (248) 474-7204.

**Detroit Lutheran Singers**  
The Detroit Lutheran Singers will perform at 4 p.m. Sunday, March 30 at Herdin Park United Methodist Church in Farmington Hills. Call (248) 476-8860.

**Jesus Christ Superstar**  
Salem United Church of Christ in downtown Farmington presents Jesus Christ Superstar at 7:30 p.m. Friday and Saturday, April 11 and 12. The performance will be given by Salem's Youth Group and friends. For reservations call (248) 474-6880.

**Coffee Talk**  
Single Point Lighthouse Cafe offers an evening of relaxation and fun while listening to live entertainment provided by other Single Pointers. Cost is \$5. Hot dogs, goodies and coffee provided. Call Single Point Ministries at Ward Evangelical Presbyterian Church, 40000 Six Mile Road (near Haggerty), Northville, at (248) 374-5920.

**LENTER SERVICES**

**Bethlehem Lutheran**  
Bethlehem Lutheran Church in Farmington Hills will hold Wednesday Lenten bible study sessions 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. April 2 and 9. Bring a brown bag lunch. Soup suppers will also be held on these days at 6 p.m. with a service following the supper. The Church is located at 35300 W. Eight Mile.

**ONGOING**

**Widow/ Widower Support**  
New Hope Center for Grief Support, a Christian based bereavement outreach center, offers support for widows and widowers with children on the second and fourth Thursday of each month. The group meets at 7 p.m. at St. Kenneth's Parish offices, 11251 Haggerty, Plymouth. New Hope for Kids meets at the same time and place and is a 4-6 at ages 4-11. (248) 348-0215.

**Aglow**  
Aglow International, a community, lighthouse for women, meets for dinner and discussion at 6 p.m. the second Monday of each month at Best Western Executive Hotel, 31525 W. 17 Mile in Farmington. For information or reservations, call (248) 476-1053.

**Wesley Berry**  
Flowers

**THE Observer & Eccentric**

*Congratulates the Feature Teachers for March*

Each teacher will receive a dozen roses and 4 movie passes courtesy of The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, Wesley Berry Florist and Star Theatres.

**Nancy Mahoney**

The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers congratulates Nancy Mahoney, a mathematics teacher and department chairperson at Clarkston High School, as Teacher of the Month for March.

She was nominated by Vincent F. Licata, associate principal, on behalf of students and administrators at Clarkston High School.

"As a teacher of high school mathematics since 1990, Nancy has demonstrated a thorough knowledge of the subject on a daily basis. Her expertise has allowed her to successfully teach Essential Math Skills and Advanced Placement Calculus side by side," said Licata.

"Nancy has demonstrated day in and day out the ability to create lessons that "break" students in paying attention. Her ability to meet the individual needs of students is second to none."

"Nancy exhibits an affect that tells the student this: You can take a risk in my classroom and be emotionally supported. That is how students grow academically," wrote Licata.

"She also makes a never-ending effort to give students a pat on the back or guidance on a consistent basis. As chair of a 20-member math department, she has led her colleagues through textbook adoption, curriculum coordination, MEAP review, development of math pedagogy and creation of policies on retention, calculator usage and mastery teaching."

Outside of the department, she sponsors the Wolves Renaissance Club, a student group which recognizes excellent teachers on a monthly basis and promotes perfect attendance for students. She also chairs the building flower fund which recognizes staff members (150 of them) for special events in their lives.

"Nancy Mahoney has risen to the top as an educator who cares, excels in the classroom and is committed to making Clarkston High School a better place for all students," added Licata.

The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers is proud to name Nancy Mahoney as one of our featured teachers for March.

**Ronald Ferenczi**

The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers congratulates Ronald Ferenczi, a science and math teacher at Bishop Borgess High School in Redford Township, as Teacher of the Month for March.

He was nominated by Sister Joan Charnley, school principal.

He worked last January, with eighth and ninth graders at Bishop Borgess to assemble an experiment that was selected for the Columbia Space Shuttle.

Ron Ferenczi entered the teaching profession after a successful career as a stockbroker from 1981 to 1997. He joined the Bishop Borgess staff in 1998 with a bachelor's degree in chemistry and math and a master's in guidance counseling. In 1999, he received the Teacher of the Year Award from the Catholic Association for Secondary Administrators. In the summer of 2000, he studied for three weeks under a scholarship program at Princeton University.

In the summer of 2001, he studied for two weeks under a scholarship program at the Goddard Space Flight Center near Washington, D.C. Also in summer of 2001 and 2002, he was a summer camp counselor at SeaCamp in Galveston, Texas where he taught students, ages 10-18, all about the sea and ocean ecology.

"As one can see, he is very active in bringing outside knowledge into the classroom to motivate and inspire his students," said Sister Joan.

Mr. Ferenczi wears a couple different hats at Bishop Borgess. In addition to teaching, he also is the development director and heads up the accounts payable at the school.

A man of many talents, the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers is pleased to honor Ronald Ferenczi as a Featured Teacher for February.

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