





Water Tower Pedestal Construction



## City Council

Mayor - Barry Brickner

Mayor Pro Tem - Richard Lerner

Nancy Bates Michael Bridges Randy Bruce Ken Massey Cheryl Oliverio

City Manager - Steve Brock

Each issue of the Focus newsletter can also be found on the City website at **www.fhgov.com**. Go to Quick Links on the home page and click on Newsletter. Click on the "+" button on the toolbar to increase the magnification of the entire page.



Register online for classes and programs

at **https://recreg.fhgov.com**. Or go to www.fhgov.com, click on Quick Links, then Recreation Online Registration.

If you have an account, follow the prompts to register. If you're new, create an account by registering online or in person at the Costick Center, Monday thru Friday, 8:30am-4:30pm.

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# **Water System Improvements**

Construction of a three-million gallon elevated water storage tank has begun on the Division of Public Works property at 27245 Halsted Road, south of 12 Mile Road. Construction of the foundation was competed last fall and work has started on the concrete pedestal. Erection of the pedestal is expected to be completed by mid-summer and then the tank work will begin. These water system improvements will help with system pressure distribution, increase fire flow capacity, provide system pressure during power outages, and minimize future water rate increases. The project also includes installation of new water mains and pressure reducing valves at several locations within the City.

The new water tower is expected to be completed by the summer of 2014.



#### **City of Farmington Hills 40th Anniversary Celebration**

July 3, 7-10pm (Raindate July 4)

Founders Sports Park — 36000 W. Eight Mile Road, two miles east of I-275

Featuring live music from Steve King and the Dittilies, plus fireworks at dusk! For details, call 248-473-1800.

# Fire Department — Severe Weather and Tornado Safety

A **TORNADO** is a column of violently rotating winds extending down from a thunderstorm cloud that may sound like an airplane or train. Most tornadoes occur April through August between 3pm and 9pm, but have been known to occur any time of the day or night. On average, 18 tornadoes occur every year in Michigan. Since 1950, Michigan has experienced 772 tornadoes and 239 people have been killed.

A **TORNADO WARNING** means a tornado has been sighted or is strongly indicated by radar.

A **TORNADO WATCH** means there is a strong possibility of a tornado developing in the area. A tornado has not been seen, but conditions are very favorable for one to occur at any moment. Weather may include hail and damaging winds.

Local Warning Sirens in Oakland County are activated when the National Weather Service issues a Tornado Warning or a Severe Thunderstorm Watch. Seek shelter immediately and listen to the radio or television for more information.

In your home, a basement offers the greatest safety. In a home without a basement, take cover in the center of the house on the lowest floor in a small room such as a closet or bathroom or under sturdy furniture. In a manufactured/mobile home or vehicle, leave and go to a substantial structure before the storm arrives. If there is no shelter nearby, lie flat in the nearest ditch, ravine or culvert with your hands shielding your head. At work or school, move to interior hallways or small rooms on the lowest

floor. Avoid areas with glass and wide, free-span roofs. In open country, if possible get into a sturdy building or lie flat in a ditch or depression and hold onto something on the ground. Unless you are injured or truly in need of emergency services, do not call the police or fire departments.

Oakland County has 244 outdoor warning sirens located on fire stations, utility poles or buildings throughout the county with each siren capable of covering about a one-mile radius. The three-minute tone is designed to alert citizens who are outside, but people inside buildings may also be alerted if they are close to the siren location. Sirens are activated on the first Saturday of each month at 1pm: June 1, July 6, August 3, September 7, October 5, and November 2. Sirens are not activated in December, January or February.

#### **EMERGENCY KITS**

The Farmington Hills/Farmington Emergency Preparedness Commission (EPC) urges residents and businesses to have a 72-hour disaster "Go Kit" which should contain:

- Flashlights
- Battery operated radio (AM 1650 for updates)
- Can openerBottled water
- First aid kit

Extra batteries

- Canned food
- Extra clothing

As always, any time you have a life safety emergency, call 911.

# **Clerk's Office** – 2013 Election Dates

Tuesday, August 6, 2013 – Potential Election Date

**Note:** As of April 1, 2013, no official Election has been scheduled for August in Farmington Hills; however the deadline for items to be approved for an August ballot is not until late May.

**Tuesday, November 5, 2013 – General Election Day** (This ballot will include Mayor and City Council Offices)

#### **Important Deadlines**

July 8, 2013: Last day to register for August Election (if scheduled)
October 7, 2013: Last day to register for November Election

#### **New Election Law Requirements**

Please note the new Photo ID Requirements for In-Person Voter Registration and In-Person Absent Voter Ballot Issuance, effective as of March 28, 2013.

In-person voter registration applicants are required to provide photo identification. (Mail-in voter registration applications are not subject to this new ID requirement.) A voter who obtains an Absent Voter Ballot in person at the Clerk's Office is required to present Photo ID.

If a person does not present Photo ID when registering to vote in person at their local City Clerk's Office, County Clerk's Office or any Secretary of State branch office and/or when obtaining an Absent Voter Ballot in person at their local Clerk's Office, they will be required to sign an Affidavit of Person not in Possession of Photo ID.

Visit www.fhgov.com for detailed information on obtaining an absent voter ballot and absent voter ballot application, precinct locations, maps, and more.

# Door To Door Soliciting/Peddling:

Soliciting is defined as door to door requests for contributions/services for charitable, religious or political organizations. Each person or group must be registered with the City and each person soliciting must have appropriate paperwork with them at all times.

Peddling is defined as door to door requests/sales for profit. Each person must be licensed with the City and secure a City-issued Photo ID tag on the exterior of their clothing at all times.

Soliciting/peddling may occur only between 10am and 8pm or sunset, whichever is earlier. Solicitors/peddlers are not permitted to solicit on property signed "No Soliciting or No Peddling." State Law dictates that soliciting/peddling cannot be prohibited in Farmington Hills, but licensed parties must adhere to City ordinance requirements

Please contact the Police Department at 248-871-2600 if you have concerns with a solicitor/peddler.

# **Attention All Homeowner Associations:**

The City Clerk's Office maintains a list of all Homeowner Associations and contact information. This enables the City to notify Associations of upcoming developments, road projects, etc. that may affect your subdivision. Please call the City Clerk's Office at 248-871-2410 to update the contact information for your Association. Please be sure to do this annually or as your officers change.

# **Police Department**

In 2012, the City had the lowest total number of burglaries in recorded history. Residents heeded the strong recommendation to practice the basic, but often overlooked, crime prevention tactics of locking your doors and windows. In 2011, 62 unlocked homes were broken into, compared to 37 unlocked homes in 2012.

Locking up homes is not the total solution to preventing burglaries. The Police Department counts on citizens to act as "eyes and ears" and report suspicious persons, vehicles, solicitors, and strangers at the door. Burglars are known to knock on the door and ask for a fictitious person or inquire if you have seen their pretend lost dog.

The Police Department has begun revitalizing many crime prevention services. Residents are invited to a City-wide Neighborhood Watch meeting on June 11 at 7pm at the Costick Center. Chief Chuck Nebus will give a PowerPoint presentation of the Department's 2012 Annual Report and answer residents' questions about police

services. The new members of the Crime Prevention staff will discuss Neighborhood Watch. Residents attending the meeting will hear a summary of the City's points of pride:

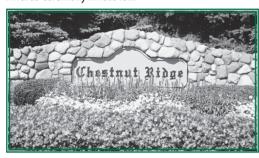
- All crime categories against persons decreased last year
- Serious Part A Crime is down 18% during the past five years
- Farmington Hills is the fourth safest large city in the State of Michigan
- There were no traffic fatalities in Farmington Hills last year for the first time in 34 years and the lowest total number of traffic crashes since 1992
- Our Department received the **Voice of the People Award** from the International City/County Management Association for having the top-rated police services in the country.

Sign up to receive e-mail or text alerts about crime in your neighborhood at **www.nixle.com**.

# Department of Planning and Community Development

# **Beautification Commission Awards**

The Beautification Commission presents annual awards to businesses, offices, and subdivision or condominium entrances with attractive and well-maintained landscapes. Judges visit nominated sites to look for landscape variety, imaginative use of color, and overall property maintenance. If you would like to nominate your property or any other deserving property, nomination forms are available after May 10 at www.fhgov.com or call the Community Development Office at 248-871-2543 to have a form mailed. Judging takes place from July through August. Awards will be presented at the 2013 Beautification Commission Awards Ceremony in late fall.



The Beautification Commission presented the Beautification Commissioners' Award to Chestnut Ridge Condominiums, located on Halsted Road between 12 and 13 Mile Roads, in recognition of the complex's extensive plantings and maintenance efforts.

# **Building Division**

#### **Routine Maintenance Protects Your Investment**

Even if home renovations aren't in your immediate future, basic routine maintenance helps make the most out of your investment and keeps your residence functioning smoothly.

- Change the filter on your heating and air conditioning system. A clean filter will help the system run more effectively in removing dirt and dust from the air.
- Do some spring cleaning! Accumulated dust and dirt can harm the finish on blinds, cabinets, countertops, floors, sinks, tubs, toilets, walls, tiles, and other items. Use a cleaner that doesn't scratch or damage finishes.
- Clean out gutters and downspouts so they're not clogged with leaves or other debris.
- Clean the exterior of your house to prolong the life of siding or other outside areas.
- Check with the Building Division at 248-871-2450 before you start a project to see if a permit is required.
- Obtain the required permits for all projects, including do-it-yourself jobs. Permits ensure that
  the project meets minimum safety standards and allows code officials to protect the public
  by reducing potential hazards of unsafe construction. Property insurers may not cover work
  done without permits and inspections, so property value could be affected and problems
  might arise when the property is sold.

# **Housing Discrimination Notice**

Housing discrimination is prohibited by law. For more information on housing discrimination, visit www.hud.gov/fairhousing. If you have a housing discrimination complaint, contact the Michigan Department of Civil Rights at 313-456-3700 or the HUD hotline at 1-800-669-9777 or 1-800-927-9275 (TTY).

# Zoning Division

# Help keep our City a great place to live!

- Property owners are responsible for cutting grass and weeds as often as necessary before any plant growth reaches eight inches in height.
- Outdoor storage of improperly licensed vehicles is prohibited.
- Pet owners must keep all outdoor areas free of animal waste.
- Trash containers are required to be watertight with handles and tight fitting lids. Trash must be put at the curb no earlier than 6 p.m. on the day before pickup. Empty trash containers must be removed from the curb within 12 hours after pickup.
- Trash and rubbish must be removed from the premises to prevent health and safety hazards.
- Shrubbery, trees or other vegetation cannot block a driver's view at intersections.
- Compost piles are regulated by size, location, and composition. No readily apparent odors may emanate to adjacent properties.
- No garage sale signs may be placed on poles or be located on public property.
- Three inch high (or larger) property identification numbers must be posted on your house.

*Call the Zoning Division at 248-871-2520 with any concerns about property maintenance, grass cutting or blight issues.* 

# **Planning**

The Planning Office has reorganized and reformatted the Farmington Hills Zoning Ordinance in order to increase efficiency and encourage redevelopment of older commercial areas. The new version, called **Clearzoning**, is user-friendly, well organized, and uses more illustrations to clarify regulations.



#### **Giant Hogweed** - Be on the lookout for this dangerous plant!

Giant hogweed is an invasive plant that has been found in Oakland County and requires extreme caution! It looks like a weed commonly known as Queen Anne's Lace, only much bigger with white clustered flowers around two feet across, leaves from three to five feet across, and a height that can reach over 15 feet.

Giant Hogweed is a health hazard because it exudes a clear watery sap that can cause painful burning blisters, usually within a day or two after exposure. Immediate washing with soap and water and keeping the skin covered for several days is recommended. Eradication requires the use of herbicides according to the label's directions. The Giant Hogweed is a federal noxious weed, which means it is unlawful to grow, sell or transplant in the U.S.

For more information about Giant Hogweed, visit the Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development website at www.michigan.gov/exoticpests. If you have seen a plant that appears to be Giant Hogweed and need help identifying it, email photos to MDA-Info@Michigan.gov or call 1-800-292-3939.

# Treasurer's Office Reminders

Summer property tax bills are mailed around July 1 and may be paid without penalty through August 31. Tax bills are mailed to the address of record and not forwarded by the post office, except for temporary forwarding orders. Changes of mailing address should be filed with the Assessor's Office. By law, failure to receive a property tax bill does not waive the bill or any charges for late payment. Every property should receive a bill, even if the bill is to be paid via an escrow account. *If you have questions about your taxes, call 248-871-2480.* 

The Longacre House - 24705 Farmington Road, between 10 and 11 Mile Roads | 248-477-8404

Mother's Day Brunch (Reservations Required)

Sunday, May 12, 1pm | \$30 adults | \$20 children (under 10) | 3 & under free (gratuity not included)

Longacre Porch Parties – "Made in America" – Food, drinks, and entertainment from around the United States (ages 21+ only)

June 14, 6:30–8:30pm: SOUTHWEST TEX MEX – \$15 per person | \$20 at the door

August 2, 6:30–8:30pm: HAWAIIAN LUAU – \$17 per person | \$22 at the door

September 20, 6:30-8:30pm: MARDI GRAS - \$16 per person | \$21 at the door

The Longacre House offers a unique and charming atmosphere for weddings, birthdays, and showers. Call 248-477-8404 for a tour or visit www.longacrehouse.org.

#### **Adults 50 & Better**

**First Friday Ballroom and Buffet:** Ballroom dancing, a delicious buffet, and music by the Mike Wolverton Band most first Fridays each month, 3—6pm. All levels of dance, couples and singles welcome. May 10, June 7, August 2. Purchase tickets by Monday before the event for \$9/\$10 after. Resident member discount \$8.

**No Senior Left Inside:** Celebrate National Senior Health and Fitness Day on Wednesday, May 29 in Heritage Park at the Nature Center and Spicer House. Start with a mini health fair, a morning stretch, a naturalist presentation, then a healthy box lunch and musical entertainment, plus guided hikes, a sampler Tai Chi or yoga class, and a tour of the Nature Center in the afternoon. Sponsored by Botsford Hospital. Pre-register by May 24. Fee \$5.

**Blueberry Cookie Sale:** The famous blueberry cookies will be sold at Art on the Grand on June 1 and 2 at the booth on Grand River. Proceeds support Senior Transportation.

**Shredding for Safety:** June 11, 10am—12pm. Bring up to four paper grocery bags of sensitive documents to be shredded in the Costick Center parking lot.

Pies on the Grand: Pie baking July 16 and 17. Pies will only be sold at the Costick Center on July 18 and 19. Proceeds support Senior Transportation. To pre-order, call 248-473-1830.

**Concert in the Courtyard:** Celebrate the end of summer at a "meet and greet" with live music from popular local band "Strings and Rhythm," 7–9pm, Tuesday, August 20, Costick Center Courtyard. **Newcomer Welcome Tour:** August 22, 10:30–11:30am. Farmington Hills and Farmington Adults 50 & better can tour the facility and learn about services, trips, classes, and activities. Welcome packet includes a coupon for a complimentary lunch, gym class, swim or line-dance class.

**Sixth Annual Free Total Wellness Fair:** September 17, 10am—1pm. Exhibits on exercise, holistic healing, financial planning, healthy cooking, health screenings, chair massages, housing, & more. For more info on the Center for Active Adults, call 248-473-1830 or visit www.fhqov.com and click on Departments/Adults 50 & Better to view "The Messenger" monthly newsletter.

# **Public Services Department**

#### **Voluntary Water Use Restrictions**

Do you know which days to water your lawn?

The City is asking all property owners with automated sprinkler systems to follow Voluntary Water Use Restrictions in an effort to control future water rate increases. Compliance with the Voluntary Water Use Restrictions results in less water usage during peak times and helps hold down costs by increasing the efficiency of the water system.

#### Under the voluntary demand management system, water users are asked to:

- Water residential and commercial lawns/landscaping and subdivision common areas between the hours of midnight and 6 a.m. Experts recommend that lawns be watered closer to the morning hours so the lawn will have moisture during the heat of the day. Restrictions are for automatic sprinkler systems, not hoses or sprinklers connected to hoses. Please adjust automatic sprinkler timers so that irrigation is completed by 6am.
- Water lawns and landscaping for properties with even-numbered addresses on Monday, Wednesday, Friday, and Sunday.
- Water lawns and landscaping for properties with odd-numbered addresses on Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday, and Sunday.

The City will be complying with these regulations and watering public areas in accordance with these restrictions. The Farmington Hills Golf Course and Founders Sports Park, however, are exempt from following these guidelines because they irrigate using water from drainage ponds that are not part of the City's water system.

Farmington Hills is a customer of the Detroit Water and Sewerage Department (DWSD). DWSD determines rates to suburban communities based on various significant factors that include maximum day demand and peak hour demand. By shifting usage to non-peak hours and reducing spikes in the daily demand, water cost increases can be reduced. If you have any questions, call the Department of Public Services at 248-871-2530.

#### Fertilizer Education: Do you know how to create a sustainable lawn?

- Mulch nitrogen-rich grass clippings when mowing to reduce fertilizer use.
- Rake in compost and increase the organic matter of the soil to greater than 5%.
- Select pesticide-free, earth-friendly fertilizers with no phosporus, and 50% or more of the nitrogen in slow-release form. Look for the "Earth Friendly Fertilizer" label at participating retailers.
- Sweep up fertilizer on sidewalks and driveways. Put it back into the lawn to keep it from washing into storm drains.
- Request the Healthy Lawn Care Option if you use a lawn care company. For a list of companies endorsed through the Michigan Green Industry Association, visit www.landscape.org or call 248-646-4992.
- If you live on a lake or river, leave a "no fertilizer" 25-foot buffer zone planted with native grasses, shrubs or tall wildflowers to help trap pollutants and keep out geese.

#### Important Information for Rental Property Owners – Landlords Take Note

If you are a landlord, it is your responsibility to verify that tenants are paying their quarterly water bills. Water service invoices are always sent to the address of the property that is receiving the service. Delinquent water invoices are then rolled onto property taxes if unpaid. If you own the property, you may request in writing that a duplicate bill be sent to your address as well as to the service address. If you own the property, you may request in writing that a duplicate bill be sent to your address as well as to the service address.

## Recycling Cart "Dos & Don'ts"

The total recycling rate in the City of Farmington Hills has risen to almost 40% with the recent switch to new wheeled recycling carts.

The bigger size and greater ease of use with the new wheeled recycling carts has led to a significant increase in the number of people who



recycle and the amount of recyclable items put out at the curbside. Waste Management, however, is asking residents for their help in making the program even more efficient. By following a few simple tips, such as correctly placing the carts at the curbside, residents can help make sure that carts are emptied quickly and effectively without the operator having to exit the vehicle.

#### Here are a few recycling cart "Dos and Don'ts":

**DO** put only recyclable items in the recycling carts.

**DO** follow the reference list of allowable materials on the cart lid. If you're unsure if something can be recycled, go to www.rrrasoc.org for further details.

**DO** set your cart "apart." Place the recycling cart away from mailboxes, parked cars, trees, and other garbage cans.

**DO** place your cart the right way so the automated lift device can grab it. Follow the directional arrows and remember — "hinge toward the house."

**DO** drill a small hole (approximately one quarter inch) in the bottom of the cart for rainwater drainage.

**DO** write your address on the side of the cart with a permanent marker.

**DON'T** put garbage in the recycling cart. Farmington Hills now has single stream recycling, which refers to the sorting process at the recycling facility; it does not mean that garbage and recycling can be combined.

**DON'T** pile extra items next to the recycling cart. Only recyclable items that are in the cart will be recycled.

**DON'T** worry if the lid is sometimes left open and sometimes left closed — it's still been emptied by the recycling truck.

**DON'T** put your cart out if it's not full, it doesn't need to be emptied each week.

For more information, call the DPW at 248-871-2850 or visit www.fhgov.com.

## **West Nile Virus Prevention**

Did you know that creeks and retention areas that are healthy and running are not considered a prime area for mosquito breeding?

**REDUCE** mosquitoes breeding areas. Eliminate standing water in toys, buckets, flower pots, tires, pet water bowls, unused pools, birdbaths, clogged rain gutters, and other containers.

**REPEL** mosquitoes. Use insect repellants, but follow manufacturers' guidelines and don't use on children younger than two. Wear protective clothing such as long sleeves and pants.

**MOSQUITO-PROOF** your home. Keep mosquitoes outside by fixing or installing window and door screens.

For more info, go to www.oakgov.com/health or www.michigan.gov/westnilevirus.



The Focus is printed on recycled paper with a 30% post-consumer waste content. Please recycle this newsletter when you are done with it.

# Holiday Delays for Garbage, Recycling and Yard Waste Pickup

Memorial Day — Monday, May 27: Monday — No collection scheduled. All pickups delayed by one day during that week with Friday's collection on Saturday.

Independence Day — Thursday, July 4: Thursday — No collection scheduled. Regular pickups Monday thru Wednesday. Pickups delayed by one day Thursday and Friday.

Labor Day — Monday, September 2: Monday — No collection scheduled. All pickups delayed by one day during that week with Friday's collection on Saturday.

To ensure pickup, have your garbage at the curbside by 7am and limit containers to a 32 gallon, 60 pound capacity. The last week of yard waste pickup will be the week of November 25.

# **Disposal of Tree Limbs and Logs**

Large tree limbs and logs (larger than 6" in diameter) are not picked up as part of normal curbside yard waste removal. If a contractor or landscaping firm is responsible for cutting or trimming trees, then the removal of the wood and debris should be included in their contract. If the property owner is responsible for the cutting or trimming, call the DPW at 248-871-2850 for the Waste Management contact number to call for a special request pick-up and a cost quote.

#### **2013 Road Construction**

13 Mile Road (Orchard Lake Rd to Middlebelt Rd) — Rehabilitation will be from mid-May thru September. Work includes: reconstruction and resurfacing of pavement, addition of a center left turn lane, sidewalk installation on the south side of the road. 13 Mile Road will remain open to traffic for the majority of the project.

**Freedom Road (Drake Rd to 400 feet west of Hillview Court)** — Rehabilitation will be from from May thru August. Work includes: milling the existing asphalt and replacing it with a new overlay, paving & improving the shoulders.

**Drake Road (Grand River to Freedom Rd)** — Rehabilitation will be from July thru October. Work includes: milling off the existing pavement and placing a new top course, pavement widening including a right turn lane for southbound Drake Road at Freedom Road.

**Haggerty Road (1000 ft north of 9 Mile Rd to 1000 ft south of 10 Mile Rd)** – This Road Commission for Oakland County (RCOC) project involves widening lanes throughout the project limits to accommodate an industrial complex in the area. Construction is scheduled to start in late summer.

**Middlebelt Road (lane improvement north of Northwestern Hwy)** – This RCOC project involves filling in a gap to allow for a continuous right turn lane just north of Old Franklin Towne Drive. Construction is scheduled to start in late summer.

**Road improvement Special Assessment District** — Staman Acres and Stratton Hill Subdivisions will have their roads reconstructed this summer.





# **Special Services Department**

# **Youth & Family Services**

The After School Program has been around for 18 years! Over 10,500 youth in 5th thru 8th grades have participated since its inception. Summer Drop-In Center: June 24 – August 16. Ice Arena 2nd Floor. Open to incoming 5th graders and current 5th - 8th graders. \$275 for the eight-week program, plus \$40 for the After School youth membership fee. Open 10am—5:30pm, Monday — Thursday. Fridays are waterpark field trip days. For a nominal fee, Summer Drop-In Youth Members can attend one of 25 field trips including a zipline and ropes course, a Tigers game, canoeing, and fishing. Register at the Costick Center.

Tuesday, September 3: School begins! All upper elementary and middle school students are welcome at their favorite Youth Center; open immediately after school until 5:30pm. The cost during the 2013-14 school year is a \$40 one-time membership fee. Call 248-473-1841 for more information.

# **Recreation Division**

Discover fun programs offered by the Department of Special Services including tennis, archery, karate, adult fitness, babysitter training, golf, and more.

**Check out the summer camps** — Over 3,000 kids each year attend licensed day camps and specialty camps at Heritage Park, the Costick Center, Jon Grant Center, and other locations. Campers make new friends, create memories, and gain self confidence in camps focusing on sports, arts, nature, and more!

Nature Center — Free and open to the public: 10am-5pm, Monday — Saturday; noon-5pm, Sundays. Sign up for a program or check out the live bee display, black bear display, and more! For info on Scout badge programs, birthday parties or nature camps, call 248-477-1135.

Riley Skate Park — Open 8am-dusk, Monday — Sunday, with Skate Camps for skilled and unskilled skateboarders, competitions, and special guests. Visit www.rileyskatepark.com.

#### **MARK YOUR CALENDAR:**

Great Farmington Hills Campout: June 8–9. Camp out in your own backyard or at Heritage Park! Visit www.F2H.org for details.

Free Daily Summer Fun at the Nature Center: Monday thru Friday, June 18 — August 23

Mondays: Nature Movie, 2pm | Tuesdays: Story & Craft, 2pm | Wednesdays: Scavenger Hunt, 2pm Thursdays: Evening Nature Hikes, 7-9pm | Fridays: Friday Night Fires, 7-9pm

Fitness Classes: Zumba, Z-Box, cardio boxing, and more. Summer sessions begin the week of June 24.

Youth Soccer League: Recreation Fall Youth Soccer for K-1, grades 2-3, and grades 4-5 is open for registration until July 25. For more information on adult and youth sports leagues, go to www.fhgov.com.

Marshmallow Fly & Fry: August 20, 5-8pm. Watch 1,000 marshmallows fall from the sky! Sponsored by Busch's and LOC Federal Credit Union.

Splash Bash: August 26, 6-10pm. Free event in Heritage Park. Play in the splash pad, do crafts, and play games, plus see the movie The Lorax at 8:30pm in the park.

Check out the 2013 Special Services Summer Brochure for hundreds of other wonderful opportunities for fun and fitness. Try out one of this year's new programs - cricket or stroller fitness!

#### City Directory

Emergency Calls Only	
Fire Department	9-1-1
Police Department	
Central Services/Purchasing	
City Clerk	248-871-2410
City Hall	248-871-2400
City Manager's Office	248-871-2500
Council Newsline	
District Court	
Farmington Community Library	
Finance Department	
Assessing	248-871-2470
Treasury	248-871-2480
Fire Department	
Non-emergency	248-871-2800
General Information	
Human Resources	
Planning Department	210 07 1 2170
Building	248-871-2450
Community Development and	210 07 1 2130
Housing Rehabilitation	248-871-2549
Planning	248-871-2540
Zoning	248-871-2520
Police Department	
Non-emergency	
Public Services Department	248-871-2530
Engineering Division	248-871-2560
Public Works	248-871-2850
Special Services Department	
Costick Center	
Cultural Arts Division	
Golf Club	248-476-5910
Ice Arena	
Jon Grant Center	248-8/1-2849
Longacre House	248-4//-8404
Nature Center	248-4//-1135
Parks & Golf Maintenance	
Recreation	248-4/3-1800
Senior Adult ProgramYouth & Family Services	240-4/3-183U
Volunteer Center	248-4/3-1813

vcus is produced by the City of Farmington Hills and mailed to residents three times a year. Articles are submitted by City department directors. We welcome your comments.

Editor: Gillian Pines | Phone: 248-871-2500 | Fax: 248-871-2501 Website: www.fhgov.com | E-mail: gpines@fhgov.com Address: 31555 W. Eleven Mile Road | Farmington Hills, MI 48336

## Farmington Hills Golf Club

This beautiful course, located at 11 Mile Court and Halsted Road, boasts 18 challenging holes (measuring 6,413 yards) with manicured bent grass tees, fairways, and greens surrounded by trees, ponds, and gently rolling hills. The Clubhouse includes the Greek Islands Restaurant, a full-service bar and grill, plus a pro shop and a huge outdoor patio that provides great views of the course.

The Driving Range is open daily from 7am until 10pm, weather permitting, from early spring until late fall. It features 32 stations and two practice greens. Golf lessons are available for all skill levels with qualified instructors to help improve your game. For tee times & lesson schedule, call 248-476-5910 or visit www.fhgolfclub.org.

# Ice Arena

Seventeenth Annual Ice Show: Friday, May 3 at 7pm and Saturday, May 4 at 4pm. Skating Night at the Museum showcases Skating Club members, Synchronized Skating Teams, and Learn-to-Skate students. Purchase tickets at the Ice Arena or Costick Center. \$8 adults (19 & up); \$6 seniors (ages 65 & up) and students (ages 6 to 18). FREE for children five and under.

**Learn-to-Skate:** Group instruction for students ages three to adult. Summer Session I starts June 18 with registration beginning June 3. Summer Session II starts July 30. Registration begins July 15.

**Hockey Schools:** Future Pro Goalie, Mannino Hockey, Turcotte Stickhandling, and Pro Ambitions Hockey Schools are all available throughout the summer.

**Public Skating:** Skating times are offered almost every day of the week for

Visit www.fhice.com or call 248-478-8800 for the monthly public skating schedule and program information.

# Parks – Get up, get out, and play at one of the City's beautiful parks!

The City of Farmington Hills operates and maintains over 600 acres of parkland, numerous baseball diamonds, soccer fields, and over six miles of nature trails. The newest addition to the park system is the William Grace Dog Park located at 29040 Shiawassee Road, between Inkster and Middlebelt. For a map of area parks, go to www.fhgov.com or call 248-473-1800.

# Residential Customer

Presorted Standard Michigan 48334 Permit No. 36

Spring/Summer 2013

31555 Eleven Mile Road | Farmington Hills, MI 48336

# **Cultural Arts Division**

# Art on the Grand

Grand River Avenue in Downtown Farmington Saturday, June 1, 10am-8pm Sunday, June 2, 11am-6pm

Artwork for sale from over 100 artists including paintings, glass, pottery, jewelry, and photography. Children's hands-on activities, beer/wine tent, food, and entertainment.

#### Mercedes Benz Financial Services **FREE** "Stars in the Park" Concert Series:

Heritage Park Amphitheater — Thursdays at 7pm (Rain-out site: Costick Center. For information, call 248-473-1848.)

June 20: Dragon Wagon Bluegrass with an attitude

June 27: The Groove Council R & B, Detroit Music Awards Winner

July 11: FCB Concert Band

Pop, swing, jazz, and more

July 18: *Bill Bynum & Company* Traditional and original folk music

July 25: Mass Transit

Motown and Chicago-style rock

August 1: Persuasion

Classic Detroit sounds and contemporary pieces

August 8: Parrots of the Caribbean Jimmy Buffet tribute band

August 15: FCB Big Band Vocals and Big Band selections

August 22: Farmington Community Chorus Pop, jazz, and more

#### **Art Exhibits**

Looking for more great art? Visit the City Gallery at the Costick Center or view the 70+ works of art on display at the Farmington Hills City Hall, Monday thru Friday, 8:30am-4:30pm.

The Cultural Arts Division offers art, music, and theater camps for kids of all ages. For details, visit www.fhgov.com or call 248-473-1870/1859.

