

Y sports are for fun and learning, 1B



Surf's up again, 1D

Doctors keep check on eye health, 3A

Farmington Observer

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Farmington FOCUS

If you have a news item or an idea for a feature story or an action picture with a Farmington-area connection, send a note to our downtown office at 33203 Grand River, Farmington 48024.

TV alert.
A special late-summer feature of "Community Update," a locally produced cable-TV program seen in 300,000 homes, will help educate viewers about the health and safety hazards associated with the Rouge River.

Program co-producers Sharon McDonald and Denise Swope are working with the Friends of the Rouge, a group formed in February to clean up the Rouge River, and with the Ford Motor Co., a financial supporter of the cleanup.
The TV feature will kick off a 20-year project designed to improve the water quality of the Rouge.

MAKING music.
Marianne Letch, daughter of Dr. and Mrs. John Letch of Farmington Hills, has returned from the National Music Camp at Interlochen.
The North Farmington High School junior was a principal clarinetist with the University of Michigan All State Orchestra.

HE'S tops.
Dr. Stanley Levine of the Levine Clinics in Clawson and Farmington Hills was named Outstanding Doctor of the Year by the Michigan State Chiropractic Association.
He was honored for "his years of exceptional and dedicated service to the chiropractic profession and to the people of the state of Michigan."
Levine is a past president of the association.

STAYING on.
Robert Button was reappointed to a second three-year term on the Farmington Economic Development Corporation, effective Aug. 1.
The city council approved the appointment July 21.

THE low bidder comes out on top.
Farmington Public Schools awarded a Farmington Hills company the bid for a three-year dump truck.
Tom Holzer Ford submitted the low bid of \$19,568 for the replacement truck. Money will be taken from the vehicle replacement account.

OAKLAND University physical therapy student Catherine Crane of Farmington has earned a \$400 health career scholarship from the March of Dimes Southeast Michigan Chapter.
She was one of seven scholarship recipients chosen from among 28 applicants.

FOOTNOTES: One year ago this week — The Farmington Hills Beautification Commission is about to get a new lease on life. City council members agreed unanimously to reactivate the commission and authorize the mayor to prepare a list of recommended appointees. The commission, which dates back to the days of Farmington Township, has been dormant since 1980.

Hills appoints new assistant city manager

By Casey Hans
staff writer

Acting on the request of City Manager William Costick, the Farmington Hills City Council voted unanimously Monday to recreate the position of assistant city manager.

They also voiced support for Costick's appointment of city engineer David Call to the \$50,000-per-year position effective Aug. 4.
"Today we are experiencing perhaps the biggest construction period ever witnessed in the Farmington Hills community and numerous demands and problems have been placed on our city government," Costick told the council in a written report.

Citing the "tremendous burden" on the administrative staff because of the city's growth, Costick stressed the need for the assistant's position. He added that he expects Call's promotion to "bolster our capabilities to deal with the issues."

THE NEWLY APPOINTED assistant "has shown an extraordinary ability to handle a variety of problems, and ... be dealt very effectively with the public," Costick's report said. "He has established himself in our municipal organization as a true professional

and his credibility throughout the community is well-known."
Councilman Ben Marks praised Costick "for recognizing the need for the office ... and I commend him on his choice. He (Call) will fit in very well. I'm happy we have these kinds of people within our city."

Costick detailed 16 key areas of concentration for the new assistant city manager — mostly involving city road systems.
First on the list is the completion of 12 Mile master planning and initial engineering and right-of-way work, including coordination of improvements between Inkster and Orchard Lake roads.

In his new position, Call is expected to work closely as a liaison with state and county transportation officials, and also with other local governments on road issues touching several communities.

THESE INCLUDE: 1-696 improvements, the Northwestern Highway joint study with West Bloomfield Township, the Haggerty Road corridor at the west boundary of the city, Orchard Lake Road problems, working with the city of Southfield to resolve traffic concerns at the Inkster/I-696 area, and improvements to the M-102/Grand River interchange.



David Call, newly appointed assistant city manager, confers with Farmington Hills City Manager William Costick about roads, one of the city's most pressing problems.

Call's responsibilities will also include development of the city's upcoming road bond issue, a master storm drainage plan, parks and recreation facility, construction and development of citywide beautification and sidewalk/bikepath programs.

He will also study possible creation of special assessment districts in commercial and office areas for needed public improvements.

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Officials vow to fix roads

By Mary Lou Callaway
and Casey Hans
staff writers

It will be a whole lot easier to get there from here when Haggerty Road is widened into a parkway south of Commerce Township's M-59 through West Bloomfield to I-696 in Farmington Hills.

Monday after Gov. James Blanchard, State Sen. Richard Fessler (R-West Bloomfield) and James Pitz, state transportation director, toured the roads by helicopter, they pledged their support for widening Haggerty.
Following their tour, a West Bloomfield press conference was attended by state, county and local officials from West Bloomfield, Commerce and Highland townships, and the cities of Farmington Hills, Walled Lake and Novi.
Haggerty is one of three major north-south arteries and is the western border for West Bloomfield Township and the city of Farmington Hills.

"THERE IS NO question in my mind that something has to be done as soon as possible," said Blanchard, adding that Pitz will submit a plan with cost estimates within 30 days to improve Haggerty.
Farmington Hills Mayor Joe Alkateeb, who attended the press conference, said he is pleased with the state's attention. The city recently invited Blanchard to visit the Hills during a weekday rush hour for dinner and a drive through clogged area arteries. He said the governor has agreed to visit.

"Obviously they saw the need," Alkateeb said of Monday's visit. "The governor, staff and state highway department ought to be complimented for standing up to the issue. It's gone beyond the local level. He's quite convinced there is a problem." Asked about project funding Blanchard said, "The state is solvent now. We don't want to propose anything without funding. We hope to put our budget priorities where our mouths are. This transcends (political) parties."

"I'M CONFIDENT of a solution over the next several years," Pitz added, adding that the Haggerty plan could go into effect in 1988 or 1989.

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Primary: Low turnout expected

By Joanno Maliszewski
staff writer

Farmington-area voters will go to the polls Tuesday, Aug. 5, to nominate candidates in Democratic and Republican primaries for contested partisan offices.

Contested races for political offices that concern Farmington and Farmington Hills voters include state governor and Oakland County commissioners in the 15th and 21st districts. Voters will also nominate candidates for non-partisan Oakland County Circuit judgeships.

Primary winners will square-off in the Nov. 4 general election.

'I expect it to be average for a primary. They (primary elections) are not usually as well attended as general elections.'

— Josephine Bushey
Farmington city clerk

Despite a rather lengthy ballot next week, low voter turnout is expected in both Farmington and

Farmington Hills, according to city clerks.

"I expect it to be average for a

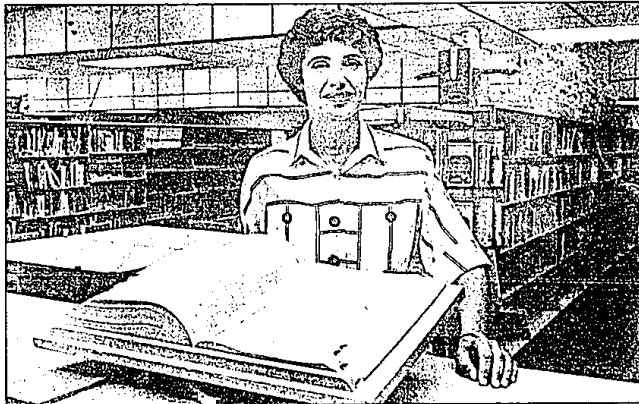
primary," Farmington City Clerk Josephine Bushey said. "They (primary elections) are not usually as well attended as general elections." Farmington has 7,723 registered voters.

FARMINGTON HILLS City Clerk JoAn Reynolds offered a similar prediction. Approximately 12-14 percent of the Hills 41,353 registered voters are expected at the polls next Tuesday.

"I am getting more AV (absentee vote) requests than I expected, however," Reynolds said, adding 1,000

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Helping Friends' influence goes a long way for library



Roslynn Greenberg, president of the Friends of the Farmington Library, takes pride in the organization's time and efforts in improving

the children's library in both the Farmington and Farmington Hills branches.

By Christine Rizk
staff writer

They are an inconspicuous bunch. But their influence goes a long way — as far as the city limits and possibly beyond — as they propel the image of the library forward.

They are the Friends of the Farmington Library and their task exceeds that of a typical library user, possibly even the librarian.

The Friends initiate fund-raising drives, solicit donations and coordinate activities aimed at supplementing a \$1.5 million annual library budget.

"The Friends help provide those services that are non-traditional or those that we normally couldn't fund," Library Director Beverly Papp said. "Without them we would not have all the special programs we offer."

Currently under way is a membership drive to increase the more than 400-member group.

Last year, patrons donated \$20,000 to the library coffers. This year, benefactors will receive a coffee mug or a tote bag for a \$30-\$50 donation or both for \$100.

The money from Friends' activities is used in sponsoring theatrical

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