

'Get involved' says political activist, 1B



Soccer story, 3D

Fire Prevention Week nears, 10A

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.

IN the dark.
It was dark in some quarters of Farmington Hills City Hall Monday after an early morning storm knocked out power. Some offices were lit by emergency generator, but others remained in the dark. At 8:30 a.m., workers eagerly awaited the sun to rise higher in the sky and provide natural lighting until power was restored.

AWARD time.
The St. Francis Council of the Knights of Columbus recently donated \$2,400 to the Farmington Training Center. Building Supervisor Fred Parker sent a letter of thanks to the Farmington Hills lodge.

AIRBORNE.
Joseph Smith of Farmington Hills has received his pilot's license.
The 17-year-old took flying lessons at Pamco Airport in Milford this past year. In August, he also completed ground school training and passed his Federal Aviation Administration exam.
Smith plans to study aeronautical engineering at Michigan State University on a scholarship.
"Joe has worked very hard to complete all of this before he left for college. He has paid for all of these lessons himself," said his mother, Lynne Hinshon.

THIS birthday's special.
Michigan Metro Girl Scouts is looking for women previously involved in Girl Scouting.
Former camp counselors, Brownies, leaders and board members are all invited to join in the fun of the 75th anniversary.
Events are planned throughout the country and in the Detroit area to celebrate 75 years of growth and success.
To join, write Michigan Metro Girl Scouts, 28 W. Adams, Suite 612, Detroit MI 48226.

ON BOARD.
Lisa Illich of Farmington Hills was elected to the Eastern Seal Society of Oakland County's board of directors.
She will serve a three-year term.

TAKE note.
Gov. James Blanchard has proclaimed October as Michigan Minority Business Month.
"Minority businesses are an important part of the economic development of our state," Blanchard wrote in his Executive Declaration. "The theme of this observance, 'Mainstreaming Minority Business,' will emphasize and celebrate the accomplishments and contributions of minority businesses in Michigan."

FOOTNOTES: One year ago this week — Beginning Sept. 30, 1985, the Farmington Hills Police Department will operate under a new organization plan highlighted by the creation of a deputy chief position.

Enrollment increase is unexpected

By Casey Hans staff writer
An unexpected surge of students into the Farmington schools was reflected in the 1986-87 Fourth Friday count, as 320 students were added to district rosters.
This is the second year the district showed enrollment increases, following many years of declining enrollment, according to Assistant Superintendent Lynn Nutter. The Fourth Friday count will not be official for at least 10 days — the amount of time given by the state for local districts to make adjustments for error.
A total of 169 more students than officials projected arrived for the first day of school in September, causing major rerouting of buses, the purchase of several used buses and the hasty hiring of several new teachers to handle the load.
"Last year was a very slight increase — not what we're faced with this year," Nutter said. In years past, enrollment decreased by about three percent annually.
Nutter attributed the student increase to the building boom on the west side of the district, and to interest rates which have enticed new residents — with children — to buy previously owned homes within the district.

Zoning staying as it is

By Joanne Maliszewski staff writer
It was a decision by default.
The majority of Farmington Hills City Council members knew what they wanted, but just couldn't make it happen.
What they wanted was a change in the Farmington Hills Planning Commission's newly revised master land use plan for Orchard Lake Road.
But council members failed after two attempts Monday to agree on the type of residential zoning that should replace what has become the city's controversial, higher density, single-family residential RA-3 zone along the thoroughfare.
The city's master plan will remain unchanged and continue to feature the RA-3 zone along the majority of Orchard Lake Road's eastern side.
Mayor Joe Alkateeb reacted to the council's impasse by abruptly adjourning the special meeting Monday, leaving some council members surprised.

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ALTHOUGH THE district uses building information from area cities to help predict student enrollments, Nutter said there was no way to foresee the growth in present homes being sold.
Farmington is an out-of-formula district that relies on local property taxes for its operating expenses. Costs for educating the additional students will come from the district's fund equity at the rate of about \$4,818 per student — an amount figured by formula using the 1985-86 Fourth Friday count, according to Nutter.
For in-formula districts depending on state aid to operate, Fourth Friday count determines how much revenue the district will receive.
In Farmington's case, the count determines categorical aid — money for special education programs sponsored in Farmington.
The largest increase was at the middle school level where 135 more students arrived — mostly in grades seven and nine, Nutter said.
Power, which educates students from the growing west side, had the largest increase, followed by Duncenel which has the "up considerably."
Eastwood Warner also showed increases, Nutter said, although not as much.

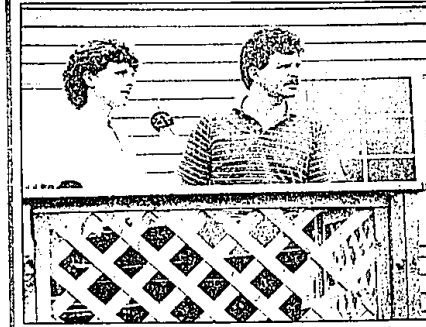
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This house under construction on Derby Lane was lifted from its foundation, moved forward, then dropped.

Windswept Storm roared like a tornado

By Bob Sklar staff writer
Cheri and Rick Cruse stood in the kitchen of their newly built home on S. Bridge Hills Saturday, thinking how lucky they were when "a train" roared through Bridge Hills Estates the night before.
To them, the electrical storm that doused metro Detroit Friday night might just as well have been a tornado.
An unconfirmed sighting of a funnel cloud four miles away — over Green Hill Apartments, at Nine Mile and Drake — was reported about 7:45 p.m. A line of property damage extended eastward into Southfield from that area.
"I thought a train was coming," said Cheri, still a bit shaken while assessing the damage to her Farmington Hills home, in the 10 Mile-Inkster area.
"We were really lucky."
Across the commons, a house under construction was lifted from its foundation, moved forward, then dropped, leaving the shingled roof relatively intact. Across the street, siding was ripped from an occupied house.
A LIMB from a tall tree in the Cruses' yard crashed through a rear window of their house with such force, it bent the window frame and sprayed glass as fine as sugar through the dining and living rooms. The toll included a pitted wall, a marred cabinet and a glass-coated sofa.
Other limbs pelted the house's siding and gutters, a second-floor screen and two cars in the driveway.



Cheri and Rick Cruse, whose own house was damaged, gaze toward the house lifted from its foundation.

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Inside look: Former priest captures El Salvadoran struggle

By Casey Hans staff writer
The eyes of Salvadoran people as seen through Jim Harney's camera reflect their years of struggle.
Many of them are now dead.
At least 20 of the photojournalist's peasant friends were killed in military attacks made on their homes in rural areas of the Central American country of El Salvador, Harney told a small community group last week at Our Lady of Sorrows Catholic Church in Farmington.
He brought a slice of El Salvadoran life to the church hall Sept. 25 with his firsthand accounts of the civil strife between the military forces and the peasants.
A photo showed Pedro holding a piece of a 500-pound bomb dropped near his house is not an uncommon occurrence, according to Harney. Pedro is one of 80 percent of the illiterate peasant population living in the country, which is the size of Massachusetts, Harney said.
"He's much more literate than those leaving the countryside in the U.S. He's involved in a process of liberation."
THE FORMER diocesan priest-turned-lecturer on Central America has traveled extensively through the countries of El Salvador — translated to mean the Savior — Honduras, Nicaragua and along the borders of Mexico. His first trip to Central

America took 10 days as he hitchhiked south from his home base in Massachusetts. He recently had a humanist's opinion piece published in the Boston Globe, a daily newspaper.
Jim Harney

Harney is a mirror of the peasant communities he has lived in and traveled through on his 10 trips to the country. He has shared tortillas, beans and bomb blasts with them since Nicaraguan dictator Anastasio Somoza fell and war broke out in El Salvador in 1979.
"He (Somoza) was the strong man in Central America," Harney said, adding it was at that point that 20,000 contra guerrillas came to the United States to receive their training in Miami, New Orleans and San Diego.
Since then, the peasants in El Salvador have fought a democratic government, headed by Napoleon Duarte, who has no control over his military, Harney said. The United States has 170 administrative advisers, nine jet bombers and 74 helicopters, including 15 of a heavy-assault type, in the country, he added.
"Once in a while, you'll hear a peasant yell out... 'revolution or death,'" Harney said. "The peasants cannot be pushed further into the earth."

HARNEY HAS seen the plight of the Salvadoran peasants. And he has seen how a new liberation theology practiced by the mostly Christian peasant population works. He first visited El Salvador in 1979, following several trips to Columbia where he learned Spanish. "I hang out with the threatened and the poor, and try to associate with the Church," he said.
His talks have taken him throughout the United States in the past four years where he preaches his message in living rooms and church and school halls.
His visit to the Farmington church was co-sponsored by church leaders and Witness for Peace, an organization that coordinates delegations of United States citizens to Central

American countries to observe conditions and report back to local religious groups.
The Farmington visit was his last stop in Michigan before he continued to Washington, D.C.
The political strife in El Salvador is backed by the United States government, Harney said. "Our country has always controlled Latin America. The enormous power we have keeps them dependent on us. It isn't a pretty history."
The United States has invaded Latin American and Caribbean countries 50 times since 1896, he said.
Harney called the U.S.-backed military war in El Salvador a "national disgrace" and the "most in-

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House race spotlighted

Democratic contender Michael Breshgold and Republican incumbent Wilbur Brotherton will square off for the Michigan House of Representatives 69th District seat Tuesday, Nov. 4.
While Brotherton is concentrating on promoting his years of service and positions on the issues, Breshgold has chosen to go door to door to spread his message and build name recognition.
The 69th District includes the

cities of Farmington and Farmington Hills, the villages of Beverly Hills, Bingham Farms and Franklin, and the township of Southfield.
Michigan's 110 state representatives serve two-year terms. They must be registered voters and residents of the district they represent. Their salary is \$30,520 plus expenses of \$6,700.
For a closer look at the 69th District race, see Page 3A.

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