

Film effects wizard waits on Oscar, 6D



Swimmers lauded, 1C

Tornado safety week begins today, 4A

# Farmington Observer

Volume 98 Number 48

Monday, March 23, 1987

Farmington, Michigan

44 Pages

Twenty-Five Cents

## School boundary plan debated

**'It's already April — nobody likes a surprise.'**

— Trustee Jack Colton

Harrison High School debated: 6A.

By Casey Hans  
staff writer

Several Farmington school trustees suggested postponing a recommended high school boundary change — something parents protesting at a board study session last week said they found encouraging.

Over the next three years, an estimated 68 students, who previously would have attended North Farmington High School, would attend Harrison High School under a proposal made by the Farmington Public Schools boundary/facility study committee.

The proposal affects students living east of Orchard Lake Road in Farmington Hills and part of West Bloomfield Township.

No vote was taken on the proposal, which will be reviewed and considered at a later date.

Parents of some of the 17 students who would be affected by such a change this fall appeared at the board study session Tuesday to protest the proposal. Several said they had bought houses in the area based on their children attending North Farmington High School.

SOME TRUSTEES commented about how late in the year it would be to make a change, and with only 17 students affected in the coming year the board might consider deferring such a plan to the following year.

"Sixty eight — is that a difference that's going to make a difference?" Janice Holnick asked.

Please turn to Page 6

## Farmington FOCUS

If you have a news item, feature story idea or an action picture with a Farmington area connection, send a note to our downtown office at 33293 Grand River, Farmington 48024.

**T**HEY paid their last respects. Fifteen Farmington Hills Fire Department members were among the 5,000 people who gathered at Cobo Arena March 16 to honor the three Detroit firefighters killed March 12 battling a fire in an abandoned warehouse in Detroit.

Firefighters from throughout Michigan and from as far away as Texas and Montreal came to mourn the deaths of Lt. David Lau and Paul Schmeck and firefighter Larry McDonald Jr.

Among those representing Farmington Hills were Chief Richard Marincuk, Deputy Chief Peter Baldwin and Lt. Thomas Shurtleff.

"We're all part of the same brotherhood," Baldwin said. "These were people who are part of our fraternity. We felt it was necessary to recognize their efforts and the efforts of all firefighters who have served and died in the line of duty."

THERE'S a Farmington Hills connection to a new series of radio and television commercials designed to promote tourism during Michigan's 150th birthday year.

Thelma and Gene Dawber, parents of North Farmington High School graduate and TV actress Pam Dawber, are among the celebrity stars in the ads, to begin in April.

Other stars in the Ross Roy of Detroit production are Fred Ross of Southfield, singer Diana Ross' father, and Martin Ciccone of Rochester Hills, brother of rock star Madonna.

The three 30-second TV spots and other Michigan Travel Bureau ads encourage people to hold family reunions in Michigan this year. The ads will run in the bureau's regular midwest market from Chicago to Minneapolis.

KEEPING Farmington beautiful.

Farmington Hills resident Rena Swanson was recently appointed to the Farmington Beautification Committee by Mayor William Hartsock. Swanson is currently community involvement director for the Farmington Area Jaycees.

KEEP these numbers handy for reference when calling the Farmington Observer: news line, 477-5450; sports line, 591-2312; home delivery, 591-0500; classified ads, 591-0900; display ads, 591-2300.

**FOOTNOTES:** One year ago this week — Despite a spurt in the growth of hotels and motels in Farmington Hills, a request to rezone land on Orchard Lake Road, across from Oakland Community College, for a hotel and retail shopping center, has been denied. Farmington Hills City Council denied a request to rezone 6.5 acres on the east side of Orchard Lake Road, north of Springland subdivision, from single-family residential to general business.

## Boulder may hold Indian carving

By Joanne Maliszewski  
staff writer

A rock is just a rock, right? Ask John Wolford, a former Farmington Hills resident, and he'll say, "not always." One rock in particular has piqued his archaeological interest.

Wolford, an amateur hiker and backpacker, believes the rock, in the heart of Farmington Hills' Heritage Park, is special. He suspects the rock — more the size of a boulder and bearing face-like carvings — is an Indian petroglyph of anywhere from 4,000 to 10,000 years old.

Admitting he's not an authority, the Milford resident, whose avocation is American Indian history and culture, wants Farmington Hills officials to bring in archaeological and geological experts to look at the rock.

"We're going to need some outside expertise," Farmington Hills Special Services director Dan Potter said. "We're investigating it. But we haven't made a determination."

"What we're going to do is take some photographs of it and send them out," Potter said, adding that he hasn't determined who to contact. "We'll let them [experts] using



RANDY BORNST/staff photographer

John Wolford believes this large rock in Heritage Park could be a 4,000- to 10,000-year-old petroglyph — a rock bearing primitive Indian carvings. He has asked Farmington Hills officials to contact experts to verify his findings.

Please turn to Page 2

## Assaults go up in Farmington, reports chief

By Casey Hans  
staff writer

Numbers of assault-related crimes, including sexual assaults, rose in Farmington during 1986, according to information from the public safety department's annual report.

The report showed a decrease in other major crimes, including robberies, arson fires and burglaries. Minimal increases were noted in larcenies and auto thefts.

A continued upward trend was shown in calls from citizens needing assistance in a variety of areas, from vehicle lock-outs to medical emergencies.

"The crime profile of the community over time has been relatively stable," Director of Public Safety Frank Lauhoff said in the report.

Report figures are categorized for, and reported to, the state.

ALTHOUGH ASSAULT crimes increased, 95 percent of all major crime in the city was committed against property, not people, according to the report. The total of 535 major crimes in the city during 1986 was below the city's 10-year average of 551. Figures also compare with a high of 635 incidents in 1981 and a low of 471 reported in 1977.

Sexual assault cases totaled two in 1985, compared with six cases reported during the past year. The cases involve criminal sexual conduct at all levels, which can range from fondling to rape, Lauhoff said.

Four of the cases involved child abuse, five involved people known to each other and all six assaults occurred indoors. One case was reported between two males.

Please turn to Page 8

## Country club eyes move to Lyon site

By Joanne Maliszewski  
staff writer

After years of talk, the Farmington Hills Country Club is pulling up stakes and moving to Lyon Township.

The club's membership Thursday "voted to approve a resolution that says the board of directors can consummate pending deals with potential purchasers," said Frank Car-

Please turn to Page 2

## Kitchen talk: Food service chief looks to new ways

By Mary Klemic  
staff writer

On March 3, his last day of work as food service director with the Farmington Public Schools, J. Michael Howard was out and about at 5:30 a.m., picking up a truckload of carrot sticks and entrees.

The next day, he started his new post as food service supervisor with the Livonia Public Schools. "It's not a normal situation, but you have to get the job done," Howard said.

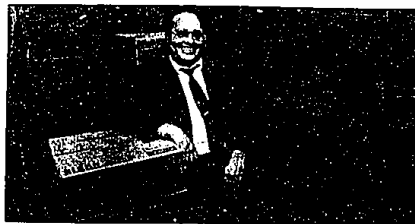
To explain his job, Howard told about a time when he was meeting with elementary school students in the Farmington district to ask them about lunches. "I remember one little boy saying,

### people

'I have a question. Do you make enough money?' " Howard said. "I said, 'Well, I'm the manager. I refer to my computer. I get meetings I've got to go to. You do everything to make the operation as efficient as possible.'"

The fourth grader still didn't understand, so Howard explained further. "It boils down to, when you come down and you want to have lunch, I

Please turn to Page 2



STEVE FECHT/staff photographer

J. Michael Howard, new food service director for Livonia Public Schools.

## Rooms filling quickly

Farmington Hills motel and hotel rooms already are filling up for Pope John Paul II's Sept. 18-19 visit to the Detroit area.

The city sits near the middle of the two public events scheduled for Saturday, Sept. 19 — the 11:15 a.m. papal address on social justice from Hart Plaza in Detroit and the 5 p.m. Pope-mobile ride and papal Mass at the Silverdome in Pontiac.

"All 140 of our rooms are committed for that weekend either through reservations or through blocks of rooms we've given to the convention bureau or travel agents," said John Brissette, general

manager at the Dillon Inn, on 12 Mile.

Two bus groups that need 15 rooms each — one from Illinois, the other from Indiana — are among those with reservations, Brissette added.

At the 260-room Holiday Inn on 10 Mile, five bus groups from Ohio and Illinois have reserved 175 rooms.

"Between our regular corporate accounts and people coming to see the pope, there's no reason why we shouldn't sell out," said Judith Lloyd-Smith, general manager. AT THE Botaford Inn on Grand

River, a bus group from Ohio has reserved 24 of the 85 lodging rooms.

"We've set aside blocks of rooms for the convention bureau, as we often do, but it doesn't always accommodate us," said Germaine Coupal, group tour manager. "So we're sending out general information to bus and tour operators to let them know we still have some space available."

The Quality Inn on 12 Mile has reservations for 72 rooms from a group coming by bus from Iowa, reported Pam Fischer, office manager. The inn has 160 rooms.

## what's inside

Around Farmington . . .	6B
Crossword puzzle . . .	2E
Entertainment . . .	4B
On the Agenda . . .	7A
Police/fire calls . . .	7A
Short takes . . .	3A
Sports . . .	1-3C
Street Scene . . .	Section D
Taste . . .	1-3B
Classifieds . . .	Section C, E
Index . . .	1E
Auto . . .	16E
Real estate . . .	1E
Employment . . .	5E

*Reminder*

Your Observer Carrier will be stopping by this week to collect for the month. Please have the money ready and be sure to get your receipt. It's worth a \$2.00 discount on the next classified advertisement you place in your hometown newspaper.