

Community-minded women called, 1B



Rolling in, 3D

Home day cars legal with limits, 2A

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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 48023.

VISITING from the Big Apple. These clowns of the hard court, the Hankoni Globe-writers, will judge at the Holiday Inn of Farmington Hills during their performance April 4-5 at Joe Louis Arena and the Silverdome. The city lies roughly midway between Detroit and Pontiac — one reason the roundheads chose to stay here.

CHANGING locations. A parcel owned by the city of Farmington has been rezoned from one-family residential to one-family office district. The new zoning allows a local credit union to build its new headquarters in downtown Farmington. The land, just south of Wyset Condominiums on Farmington Road, will be new home to the Livingston-Gakland County Federal Credit Union, now 68 Liberty Street.

KEEP these numbers handy for reference when calling the Farmington Observer: news line, 477-5450; sports line, 491-2312; home delivery, 591-0500; classified ads, 591-0900; display ads, 591-2300.

FOOTNOTES: One year ago this week — A "cafeteria" salary and benefits package with a dollar cap was recommended to trustees as the deadline for selecting a new Farmington Public Schools superintendent. Sixty applications were received before the March 31 (1986) deadline.

Future school revenue in limbo

By Casey Hans staff writer

The impact of increased commercial property tax assessments, plus a lower Consumer Price Index, may add up to a reduction of several mills for Farmington schools in 1988, according to the district's chief financial administrator.

Such changes would take the district below its current operating millage level because of Headlee Tax Limitation Amendment restrictions

and adjustments, deputy superintendent Michael Flanagan said last week.

School officials are awaiting final state equalized value results on property in Farmington and Farmington Hills, which will paint the future financial picture for the district. Officials expect a final figure at the beginning of May — well into the district's budgetary process.

"For the coming year, we are in good shape," Flanagan told the school board during a study session

last week. "The danger is . . . next year, we might only be able to levy 29 mills."

THE DISTRICT currently levies 32.5 operating mills, although it is authorized to levy 37.29. A reduction in the Consumer Price Index to 1.9 percent, which the Headlee Amendment follows, will reduce the district's authority to 33.48 — nearly four mills, according to Flanagan's projections for the coming year.

If the downward CPI trend continues, under chunk of the authorized millage will be taken in the 1988-89 budget year — leaving the district below current levied amount.

If the district was levying the maximum allowable amount this year, officials would have faced the problem today, Flanagan added.

He bid his figures on the lower CPI an estimated SEV increase of about \$2.5 billion, with 60 percent of the gain coming from increased SEV from current properties and 40 percent from new construction —

figures he called conservative. The SEV rate is also part of the formula followed by Headlee.

When SEV figures are final, the school board may face one of the following choices, Flanagan said:

- levying the lower millage and "taking the consequences" which would mean cutbacks in operating services,
- going to voters to "roll the authorized millage back up," or

Please turn to Page 6

EDC changes orientation in shifting times

Farmington Area Michigan Business Retention and Expansion Program findings: 3A.

By Joanna Maliszewski staff writer

After six years of business, the Farmington Hills Economic Development Corporation is taking on a new role.

"What I see is a changing role for the EDC. We will evolve to where we

can become a catalyst, a planner, to encourage others to improve the business environment," said William Costick, Farmington Hills city manager and EDC member.

The EDC's changing role has been prompted by changes in the federal tax code.

"The cities can no longer issue tax-free notes or bonds if it's not for traditional public works purposes," Costick said. "The tax exemption was the inducement (to bring business into the community). And the bonds were at no cost to the city."

In other words, the 20-30 commercial and office development projects financed with EDC tax-exempt bonds — designed to entice business to and retain it in Farmington Hills — totaling \$125-\$130 million over the last six years are successes of the past.

As of Jan. 1, 1987, the new tax code "eliminates commercial and office — the majority of the city's non-residential tax base — bond funding," EDC Chairman Robert H. Council said.

UNTIL JANUARY 1988, the EDC, however, can continue to issue tax-exempt bonds for industrial and



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Harrison seniors and newspaper editors Rachel Lichtman (left) and Amy Menken (right) with advisor Kathy Nyberg.

Write: Community yields news for students

By Casey Hans staff writer

WHEREVER THEIR lives extend, so does their beat.

Stuffers from the Calyst not just wander the halls of Harrison High School to find their stories. They pound the pavement of their local community.

From the Orchard Lake Road in newsworld controversy to the dingy cultural face of the Farmington area, writers and pho-

tographers of the student publication seek their stories beyond the front doors of the Farmington Hills high school and bring them back for their readers.

Their attitude recently brought them a first place award — for the fourth year in a row — from the national Columbia Scholastic Press Association competition, based at Columbia University in Missouri. High schools and colleges compete annually.

Please turn to Page 6

what's inside

- Around Farmington . . . 2B
- Business . . . 1-3C
- Cable connection . . . 14A
- Club circuit . . . 4B
- Creative Living. Section E
- Crossword puzzle . . . 11E
- Entertainment . . . Section C
- Obituaries . . . 15A
- Opinion . . . 16A
- Police/fire calls . . . 9A
- Readers' forum . . . 7A
- Sports . . . Section D
- Classifieds. Secs. G,E,F
- Index . . . 7C
- Auto . . . 18E, 1F
- Real estate . . . 2E
- Employment . . . 7C

Homes You'll Love at First Sight

CREATIVE LIVING RESTATEMENT GUIDE

IN EVERY THURSDAY EDITION

Power praised as mentor, leader

By Wayne Peal staff writer

Sarah. It's how she lived that counts.

That's what those who knew her say.

"Sarah Goddard Power is being remembered as a tireless champion of women's and human rights, a mentor to a generation of Michigan's female activists and politicians."

She balanced her career as homemaker, mother and wife.

"She was a person of exceptional integrity," state Sen. Lana Pollack, D-Ann Arbor, said. "People depended upon her."

Longtime friends expressed shock and sadness over Power's death.

"She had everything," said Frances Greenbaum, executive director of the Oakland Parks Foundation. "She was bright, she was ahead of her time in her thinking. She was a leader."

As an employer, Power treated staff members with dignity and respect, Tucker said.

"She spoke up to you, not down to you," Tucker said. "She always assumed your intelligence."

Power is survived by her husband, Philip, chairman of the board of Suburban Communications Inc.; son, Nathan, 5; mother, Katharine R. Goddard; brothers, Russel and Wendell H. Goddard; and sister Margery G. Whitman.

Power was elected a University of Michigan trustee in 1974 and re-elected in 1982.

A political liberal, Power devoted

her adult life to advancing issues of women and minorities. In recent years, she expressed frustration with the "women's rights impasse" she said began with the Reagan Administration. Long involved in feminist and human rights issues, Power served on a variety of National Organization for Women-affiliated organizations.

Among her activities, Power served as an advisory board member of the Michigan Project on Equal Education Rights, a pilot NOW effort to monitor sex discrimination in public schools.

"She was a pioneer in the women's movement in Michigan," state Rep. Lyn Bankes, R-Livonia, said. "In the 1960s and early '70s it was hard to get people's attention. You knew you could call on Sarah and she would say yes. And you knew the name Sarah Goddard Power on a letterhead would get results."

"We're still second-class citizens. We've come a long way, but we still have an enormously long way to go," Power said during her honorary degree address in 1981 at Schoolcraft College.



Sarah Power is survived by her husband, Philip, and a son, Nathan, 5. The family is pictured here at their Christmas celebration in 1985.

BUT HER DEVOTION apparently never wavered. Pollack recalled attending a Michigan Women's Foundation function with Power the day before her death.

"As always, she was very insightful and helpful," Pollack said.

Female politicians from all levels

Please turn to Page 5

Service planned

A memorial service for Sarah Goddard Power, wife of Philip Power, chairman of the board of Suburban Communications Corp., will be held 10:30 a.m. Friday in Hill Auditorium on the University of Michigan campus in Ann Arbor.

In addition to her husband, Mrs. Power is survived by her son, Nathan; mother, Mrs. Katherine R. Goddard; brothers, Russel and Wendell Goddard, and sister, Mrs. Margery G. Whitman.

In recognition of her career and commitment, contributions should be made to the Sarah G. Power Fund within the President's Fund at the University of Michigan. Checks should be made payable to the U-M and sent to: University of Michigan, Office of the President's Fund, 6000 Fleming Building, Ann Arbor, Mich. 48109.