

Council hopefuls introduced, 6A



Gridiron update, 1D

Boat club continues a river tradition, 1D

# Farmington Observer

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## farmington FOCUS

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**CITY logo**  
Farmington City Council is looking for public support in formulating a city seal to use on stationery, signs and promotions.  
Mayor Richard Tupper recently attended a community marketing seminar in which the importance of a city logo was underscored.  
Send ideas to City Manager Robert Deadman at the city hall, 23601 Liberty, Farmington 48024.

**SAY no to drugs**  
Tickets for the Oct. 4 kickoff breakfast of Substance Abuse Awareness Month in Farmington and Farmington Hills are available by calling the chamber of commerce, 474-3440. Michigan drug czar Donald Relsig will be guest speaker.

**Memory Jane**  
50 years ago  
Leo Gildemester was named mayor this week after Howard Warner resigned his seat. Gildemester has been a member of the city commission since the municipality was incorporated in 1926.  
It was decided this year that kindergartners would be bused to school, because of traffic hazards they faced walking home. Also new this year was the creation of the Home Economics department.  
Farmington Enterprise, Sept. 14, 1939

**This week**  
A consultant for Farmington Public Schools' nationwide superintendent search will be selected at Tuesday night's school board meeting.

## what's inside

- Around Farmington . . . 5B
- Classifieds . . . Sec. C, 6E
- Index . . . 6E
- Auto . . . Sec. C, F
- Real estate . . . Sec. E
- Employment . . . Sec. E, F
- Creative living . . . Sec. E
- Crossword puzzle . . . 3E
- Entertainment . . . 5D
- Obituaries . . . 4A
- On the agenda . . . 4A
- Police/fire call . . . 7A
- Sports . . . Sec. C
- Street Scene . . . Sec. D
- Taste . . . Sec. B

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WAYNE COUNTY 591-0900

# Marcher proposes racial unity plan

By Susan Buck staff writer

A black Farmington resident planning a fall peace march along Grand River said he's willing to march alone and rededicate the masses to city hall if city leaders agree to adopt five proposals to promote racial harmony and unity.

In an interview Friday, Derwin Success, whose wife and two young children are white, said he's putting the ball in the court of the mayor, city council and school board.

"LET'S WORK together," he said. "Feelings of hostility need to be addressed."

Success, leader of the grass-roots coalition Love Force United, planned to deliver a letter in that regard to Farmington Mayor Richard Tupper this week. Success would like a written agreement that the city will adopt his proposals.

Success is concerned about public safety in the wake of a request by the Security Services Action Group, an arm of the Dearborn Heights-based National Socialist Party to counterdemonstrate at the peace march to fight "the Communist influence."

Tupper is receptive to discussion: "If he is showing some concern (about public safety), then that's great.

**'This is really getting dangerous; I don't want anybody to get hurt. I don't want the Nazis to get publicity.'**

— Derwin Success  
Love Force United leader

Our city council acts and reacts as a body."  
The Love Force United Progressive March of 1989 — along Grand River, from Mooney to Liberty — is scheduled to start at 3:07 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 15. The march will culminate in a rally at the steps of the city hall until 6:07 p.m.

A SAGINAW native, Success has been a lay minister at Berea-St. Paul United Methodist Church in Highland Park since February. He said his family has been the target of racial slurs and hate messages for the past two years.

The SS Action Group is an American political group dedicated to preserving the white race and the U.S. Con-

Please turn to Page 3

## Success' 5 requests

Derwin Success' five major requests — The Farmington City Council should:

- Adopt a proclamation recognizing the anniversary of Martin Luther King's birthday and King's civil right accomplishments (effective January 1990).
- Designate February as Black History Month in Farmington. Putting up posters and billboards in the Farmington Community Library downtown branch, Farmington City Hall and local schools are

examples of a positive effort (effective February 1990).

• Create of a biracial task force to create racial harmony in Farmington.

• Work with the school district and incorporate into the elementary school curriculum an appreciation of the diversity of culture (effective 1991-92).

• Recruit and hire one qualified black person for the public safety department or the city hall staff in Farmington (effective 1991-92).

# Closed pool at North High riles parents

By Casey Hans staff writer

Things aren't going swimmingly at North Farmington High School. Parents of the 25 members of the girls swim team say their daughters aren't properly training because the pool has been closed since March. The roof in the pool area collapsed last spring and is not yet fixed; the girls are being shuttled to Harrison High to practice.

But school officials say they are working as quickly as possible to repair the roof, which officials believe collapsed because of humidity.

By the time it is repaired late this month, or in early October, parents say the team will be halfway through their season. State swimming tournaments are at the end of November.

"They've been fiddle-faddling around for five months," said Lynn Schwartzberg, whose daughter is a junior at North Farmington. "Our girls are suffering and the Harrison girls have to be too."

During the summer, team members practiced at Woodbrook Swimming Club, a neighborhood pool that closed on Labor Day.

The close-knit group of swimming parents started a telephone blitz last week to the Lewis Schuman Administrative Center trying to put pressure on the school district to accelerate the project. After several calls, Schwartzberg was told by school officials the roof would be repaired by Oct. 1.

SCHOOL OFFICIALS haven't ignored the problem, despite the seemingly long delay with repairs.

A memo from Farmington school architect Ron Aten said the repairs were postponed because of a delay in delivery of steel webbing that holds the ceiling. He said the earliest the pool would be open would be Sept. 21, but said any rain would delay the project further.

The district is moving as quickly

**'They've been fiddle-faddling around for five months. Our girls are suffering and the Harrison girls have to be too.'**

— Lynn Schwartzberg  
NF parent

as possible. North Farmington principal Don Cowan said. He said school officials worked hard to stagger schedules so the girls could use the Harrison pool.

"The coach is kind of frustrated, and I can understand that," he said. "But when you start dealing with contractors, that's what happens. You're at their mercy."

According to Aten's report, the following timeline occurred:

- The roof in the pool area failed on March 22. School officials spent several weeks talking with roofing consultants, decking manufacturers and reviewing drawings of the building roofs. Similar problems were discovered in older construction at Farmington High.
- Architectural consultants studied the problem through April and May, offering a report on the situation in early June.
- In June, the district went through the bidding process, awarding bids on July 19, then completing a construction schedule. Expected delivery of steel webbing was delayed. Metalwork installation was to have begun last Friday, Sept. 8.

OTHER DISTRICT plans call for repair of mechanical systems causing condensation problems at both North Farmington and Farmington High so the roof problem will not recur. Aten said he plans to pursue

Please turn to Page 2.



RANDY BOSTAT/staff photographer

Baahar Hannose supports a mentor effort, having high school juniors and seniors talk to middle school students about the dangers of drugs.

# Bush drug message spurs mixed reaction

By Casey Hans staff writer

One Farmington High student believes drugs should be legalized and regulated, saying, "It's harder to get a case of beer than a bag of pot."

"You've got to legalize it to solve the problem — I believe that," said Mike Sheehy. "We've got to take away the profit motive."

But others disagreed last week during a discussion among seniors in Rich Roy's American government class, after President George Bush announced an \$8 billion national war against drugs.

"How do you tell your kids,

"Don't do drugs" if they're legal?" argued Kim Marks, a member of the Students Against Driving Drunk chapter. "They're going to say, 'It's legal. I can do it.'"

"TAKE ALCOHOL — we're not supposed to drink, but people do." Bush offered his plan to the nation Tuesday night, in which he advocated stepped up law enforcement, an anti-American war on drug cartels, prevention and education measures, expanded drug treatment, and a \$2.2-billion increase in the federal drug budget for the coming year.

The Farmington High students had their own suggestions, includ-

ing: better drug information for parents, earlier drug education efforts in the schools, and mentor programs between high school and middle school students. One student even suggested rap music with anti-drug messages. "Just put the message in the music, and they'll listen," he said.

He also thinks the anti-drug television, with its negative imagery, helps.

DESPITE THEIR many good ideas, most students agreed the drug problem was not going to evaporate. Mike Kargin believes better

Please turn to Page 4

# Car computers help cops nab suspects

By Amy Rauch staff writer

In-car computers are the latest technology to come to police patrol cars, allowing officers to make more arrests and be better prepared before stepping out of their vehicles.

Called a Mobile Data Terminal, the computer is perched between the passenger and driver side of the patrol car.

Farmington and Farmington Hills police installed the terminals about a month ago. MDTs also are being used by police in West Bloomfield, Novi, Franklin, Walled Lake and Wilkum, said Farmington Hills Police Chief William Dwyer.

"Things are going fantastic," said Farmington Department of Public Safety director Frank Laubhoff. "We're already seeing an in-

**'The biggest thing it has helped with is to radio traffic. . . it used to be the biggest problem.'**

— Officer Daniel Dellar

crease in arrests in different traffic areas."

Officers from around Oakland County were sent to the Farmington Hills Police Department for training, then returned to their departments to train other officers.

Please turn to Page 2



RANDY BOSTAT/staff photographer

Officer Daniel Dellar of the Farmington Department of Public Safety demonstrates use of the mobile computer terminal.