

A table top 'affair' with tennis, 1D



Volleyball honors, 1C

Top cop award goes to 25-year vet, 3A

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EXTENDING a hand, er, foot. The annual CROP Walk Against Hunger begins at 2 p.m. Sunday, April 1, at First United Methodist Church of Farmington, 35112 Grand River.

Walkers from 13 local churches will follow a 10-kilometer route to earn pledges for Church World Service, the National Council of Churches' non-denominational relief arm. Last year brought \$22,000 for international relief, \$5,000 went to local relief agencies.

WHEN Rolling Oaks subdivision resident Richard Corey addressed the Farmington Hills City Council last week about a proposed zoning change permitting basketball hoops in front and side yards, councilman Aldo Vagnoni quipped: "I didn't think your sub had a driveway flat enough to play basketball."

Memory lane

- 25 years ago:
- A \$6.3-million Farmington Public Schools budget was approved for 1965-66, superintendent G. V. Harrison announced.
 - Sandy Brotherton, John Allen and Ralph Yoder were elected to the Farmington City Council.
 - Harley Walters, manager of the Farmington office of Detroit Edison, will step down after 39 years of service with the utility.
- Farmington Enterprise, March-April, 1965

This week

THE Farmington Hills City Council tonight will render its decision about three store owners whose liquor licenses are up for renewal but who have received a number of liquor law violations.

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Hills police hunt coin-roll con man

related story, 3A

By Bob Sklar
staff writer

Farmington Hills police have intensified their search for the coin-roll con artist, who last week preyed on four businesses, three in one day. He has alimed his rise at five businesses in the city this month.

He duped four businesses out of more than \$250 but was foiled in another attempt by an employee who checked some of the coin rolls and found pennies.

In at least a dozen recent suburban incidents, a man has approached area business and exchanged rolls of "dimes" for paper currency. Later, the merchants found that the rolls actually were filled with pennies, with dimes on each end.

Farmington Hills, Livonia, Southfield and Dearborn Heights have all been targeted.

"The description and method of operation is almost identical in every case," Farmington Hills detective Darrel Krause said. "We're fairly certain the same guy is doing it all."

He thinks two men are involved — one the con artist, the other the getaway driver.

ON FRIDAY night, a man who said he worked for the nearby Holiday Inn of Farmington Hills convinced an attendant at the Mobil station at 37810 Grand River to exchange six rolls of "dimes" for \$30.

At 6 p.m. Tuesday during a busy moment, he tricked an employee of the Marathon station on the southwest corner of Orchard Lake Road and 12 Mile in Farmington Hills out of \$89.38.

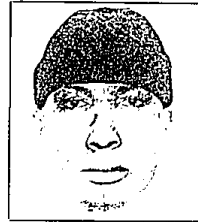
The man said he was from JW's Saloon next door and asked if 10 rolls of dimes could be ex-

changed for \$100 in cash. The rolls were in a brown paper bag with the words JW and a phone number handwritten on it. The man said the saloon manager would stop by later.

Thinking it was not unusual for neighboring businesses to help each other, the station employee complied. It wasn't until five hours later the employee broke open some rolls and found pennies with dimes on either end.

The phone number was not JW's. An employee at JW said no one worked there who matched the description of the con man and no one was sent to the station to exchange coins for cash.

Two hours later, a man asked an employee at Bavarian Village Ski Shop in the Orchard-12 Shopping Center if he could exchange 14 rolls of "dimes" for cash. He said he worked at the nearby Kerby's Koney Island and they needed the cash.



Composite drawing of the suspected con man.

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Triplets Elizabeth (left), Gregory and Alyson Workman, 3½ years old, took advantage of the milk and cookies in the cafeteria. Their mother, Susan, and their father, Greg, also attended the bedtime story session at Alameda.

RANDY DORST/staff photographer

Kids night out

Stories make bedtime special for preschools

Bedtime snacks, stories and songs were all part of a preschoolers' night out last week at Alameda Early Childhood Center in Farmington Hills.

The youngsters and their parents were invited to get comfortable and wear their pajamas to the

Thursday night event, which included milk and cookies, a book fair fund-raiser sponsored by the school's PTA, and bedtime stories and songs by the Song Sisters, otherwise known as Chris Barton and Julie Austin.

Even teachers and principal Gayle Zimmerman got into the act with robes and slippers.

"Just seeing them all smiles makes it all worthwhile," said PTA president Nancy Gaughan.

The Bedtime Stories program was divided into two sessions, with half the school coming at 6 p.m. and the other half at 7 p.m.

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Work at Hillside running behind

By Casey Hans
staff writer

A revised construction schedule released last week shows portions of the new 77,000-square-foot Hillside Elementary will not be done in time for the opening of school in the fall.

A wet fall, a bitterly cold December and ice storms this year have apparently put contractors farther behind than was anticipated only weeks ago. The school was to have been completed by Aug. 17.

"With the weather we had in February, it was really the straw that broke the camel's back," said project manager Bill McCarthy. "When it became clear (the project would be delayed), we went right to the board."

After receiving an update from a senior consultant on the project March 20, officials announced the problem at a board meeting, stating that auxiliary areas and some classrooms in the westside school would not be completed until October.

The school is being built on 11 Mile east of Halsted in Farmington Hills.

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Flanagan challenges business

By Casey Hans
staff writer

Farmington's school superintendent challenged the business community Thursday to take an interest in education and become mentors and role models for students.

Michael Flanagan also said it was time for educators to "fess up" to problems and start looking at how students are coming out of our public school systems.

"I genuinely believe the future of our country is at stake," Flanagan told business people attending the annual State of the Cities breakfast at the Alexander Hamilton Life Insurance Co. in Farmington Hills.

"The rest of the world is exploding with democracy and freedom. We have to be sure we're not sitting back taking ours for granted."

THIS WAS the first time a school official was invited to speak at the annual chamber of commerce-sponsored function, in which government officials offer an overview of projects, accomplishments and concerns to the business community.

Farmington Hills city manager William Costick concurred with Flanagan's comments.

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Karate kid

Farmington has its own version

By Jeanne Maliszewski
staff writer

"If every community in America has its own 'Karate Kid,' then Farmington's is 8-year-old Tony Kalos.

The Larkshire Elementary second grader, who's in the school district's gifted program, is considered the youngest to have a blackbelt in Choi Kwang-Do, a form of Tae Kwon Do.

"I used to watch karate movies, Chuck Norris and stuff like that," Tony said. "I always wondered what it would be like; if it would be easy or hard."

Tony found out what it was like when he had just turned 6. His parents decided to let Tony have a try with three introductory classes. That was it for Tony. His parents signed him up for the full year.

"A year to a 6-year-old can be a long time," said Tony's mother, Jennifer. "He stuck it out. This is something he enjoys very much."

That was about 2½ years ago. The blackbelt is relatively new for Tony, who says he's really more like 8½-years-old. He earned the blackbelt after the more than hour-long testing March 10 at the Michigan Blackbelt Academy, 24105 Orchard Lake Road, Farmington.

"I WASN'T nervous all the days before (testing). When it came to the day, I was scared," said Tony, his eyes lighting up as he recounts the test. "I had to do every form up to the old

people

one (forms required for the 12 belts Tony earned before the blackbelt).

Tony had to break a board, do a flying side kick, a four-directional break, and he sparred with three adults, all with blackbelts of their own.

What's neat, Tony said, is that with his blackbelt, adults studying Choi Kwang-Do must address him as "sir."

A little bashful about his accomplishments, Tony admits, "Yes, I work hard" and that his training has made him feel physically stronger. He's pretty sure when he grows up, he's going to be a Choi Kwang-Do instructor, not the police officer or astronaut he wanted to be when he was younger.

His mother says Choi Kwang-Do has done a lot for him. "He used to be shy. This has given him self-esteem and confidence. He's pretty determined. And he does really well at school."

Tony matter-of-factly explains how Choi Kwang-Do should not be misused. He recites his creed, part of which says, "I promise to fight only in self-defense."

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RANDY DORST/staff photographer

Tony Kalos, a Larkshire Elementary second grader, who's in the school district's gifted program, is considered the youngest to have a blackbelt in Choi Kwang-Do, a form of Tae Kwon Do.