

Bridal gowns are their speciality, 1B



Girls track results, 1D

Local commissioners seek re-election, 2A

# Farmington Observer

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## farmington FOCUS

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**L**END a boost. Five percent of all sales at the Great Scott, Orchard Lake Road and 13 Mile, from 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. Wednesday, May 2 will go to support academic, club, drama, music and sports programs at North Farmington High School.

Band and choir students will provide entertainment. Students will provide free grocery carryout.

Hot dogs and pop will be sold for \$1, with proceeds going to the Booster Club of North Farmington High School, which is sponsoring the event.

**H**ELPING hand. In May, specially designed T-shirts will be sold at Applegate Square, Northwestern Highway at Inkster Road in Southfield, to benefit the abused and neglected children at the nearby St. Vincent and Sarah Fisher Center, Farmington Hills.

Shirts will cost \$15. All proceeds will go to the center. More than 95 cents of every donated dollar goes directly to a child or family in need, officials say.

### QUOTE of the week

"I'm looking for my day in court and I have not had it."

— William Shortt, Farmington Road resident, in reaction to noise agreement. Story: 1A.

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## Video tape admissible in Anthony Bonelli trial

By Dorrell Clom  
staff writer

Statements that accused murderer Anthony Bonelli made to police about the drowning death of his 17-year-old girlfriend can be used against him during his trial, a judge ruled Tuesday.

A tape-recorded confession that Bonelli made at the Orchard Lake Police Department and a murder-scene video in which he re-enacted the death of Kristina Marie Fracchia will be admissible in court, Oakland County Circuit Court Judge Alice Gilbert decided.

GILBERT'S RULING came at the conclusion of a two-day hearing on a motion that Bonelli's defense attorney James Andary, filed seeking to have the statements suppressed before the April 30 trial. Bonelli was present at the hearing, also attended by several of his re-atives.

Andary contended that Bonelli, 17 at the time, suffered from a severe mental disorder when he confessed to the death of Fracchia, whose body was found floating face down in Orchard Lake on March 17, 1989. Bonelli's confession came that same day after he was brought to the police department for questioning.

Andary tried to prove that Bonelli's statements were not voluntary, that he did not understand his right to remain silent and that police coerced him into confessing.

On Monday, Bonelli's mental state was described as acute psychotic by Dr. Douglas Sargent, a Grosse Pointe Farms psychiatrist who said Bonelli's condition worsened after the medication he was taking was switched from an anti-psychotic drug to an anti-depressant. Bonelli's problems began emerging when he was 12, Sargent said.

"He had a feeling . . . that there was somebody else living inside his body. . . . For a time he thought it might be the devil," Sargent said.

BONELLI ALSO thought he heard voices

whispering his name at night, and he suffered from hallucinations that ghosts were in his bedroom, the psychiatrist said. Bonelli believed he could travel through time and implant his thoughts in animals and command them, Sargent said.

At one point, Bonelli had told his mother he felt as though "he might explode" and that "if he did, the world had better watch out," Sargent said. Bonelli also had told relatives he had seen blood pouring from his eyes.

Prior to Fracchia's death, Bonelli suffered auditory hallucinations in which at least two voices told him to "do it, do it now," Sargent testified.

Bonelli, who attended the Farmington Training Center for mentally impaired students, showed a worsening performance in his school and social life and functioned in the bottom 10 percent of high school students, Sargent said.



DAH DEAN/staff photographer

Accused murderer Anthony Bonelli is held handcuffed from Oakland County Circuit Court following a hearing when a judge decided his taped confession can be used at his trial.

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## Accord reached in fight over noise levels

By Joanna Maliszowski  
staff writer

Farmington Road residents walked out of 47th District Court Monday disgusted after Judge Fred Harris gave his blessing to a noise agreement between Community Center officials and Farmington Hills administrators.

"Thank you very much for making agreements for us," a resident shout-

ed angrily as he passed through the courthouse doors.

Farmington Road resident William Shortt, who lodged a disturbing the peace complaint against Community Center director Dorothy Pfaff, was no happier.

"I have absolutely nothing to say. I'm looking for my day in court and I have not had it," said Shortt, who filed the complaint after an Aug. 23 outdoor concert at the center, on the

*'The resolution, while it is satisfactory to the city, it isn't satisfactory to Mr. Shortt.'*

— Tim Kenny

Hills city prosecutor

west side of Farmington Road, between 10 and 11 Mile.

The agreement, approved by Harris Monday, brought dismissal of

the disturbing the peace complaint against Pfaff. The Community Center will remain a defendant through Sept. 30, pending no further problems with noise complaints and no breach of the agreement.

Monday was the scheduled start of Pfaff's three-day trial on the disturbing the peace complaint. The trial was delayed in mid-March to pro-

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## Earth Day contest winners picked

More than 500 students from Rochester Hills and West Bloomfield to Canton Township and Livonia submitted essays in the Observer & Eccentric's Earth Day Writing Contest.

Sunday marks the 20th anniversary of Earth Day and a variety of events are scheduled throughout the area this weekend. To mark this special anniversary of Earth Day, the O&E is publishing the winning essays of students ages 13-18 on Pages 5A and 7A of today's paper.

First place winner in the 16-18 age group is Liz Newman, 17, the daughter of Elaine and Dan Newman of West Bloomfield. She wrote "Where's the Elephants?"

A senior at West Bloomfield High School, Newman plans to attend the University of Michigan or DePaul University in the fall, where she'll study a liberal arts curriculum.

Newman entered the contest because "it sounded interesting and was an opportunity to write something to prove a point."

In a tie for second place are winners Rocky Johnson, 17, a junior at Eisenhower High School in West-

ington, Mich., and Carrie Keese, 18, a senior at Franklin High School in Livonia.

Johnson, the son of Bill Johnson of Macomb Township and Mary Jane Johnson of Warren submitted "The Ultimate Firework."

Keese, the daughter of Darrell and Cheryl Keese of Westland, submitted "What the Earth will be like 20 Years From Now."

Taking third place honors are Sue Wilkerson, 17, of West Bloomfield High School, and Jean Stevens of Rochester Hills, a senior at Eisenhower

High School. Wilkerson is the daughter of Tom and Diane Wilkerson and a junior at West Bloomfield High School. Her essay was entitled "Someday." She entered the contest at the urging of her advanced composition teacher.

Stevens, who entered "Imagine," is the daughter of Richard and Catherine Stevens. She entered the contest because her "teacher wanted to get us involved."

In the 13-15 age group, top honor goes to Andrea Tawill, 15, of Livonia. The daughter of Gus and Sally Tawill,



she attends Churchill High School in Livonia where she writes for the school newspaper.

The second place winner is Nicole Valenti, 13, a student at the Academy of the Sacred Heart in Bloomfield Hills.

Third place goes to Karen Elsen-

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PHOTOPRESS INTERNATIONAL

Jane Broomfield stands in her husband's Washington, D.C. office. She has raised three daughters and traveled to more than half the countries of the world and kept up with current events.

## 'Wonderful life' Jane Broomfield once had dim view of politics

See related column.

By Judith Doner Berne  
staff writer

For Jane Broomfield's first dinner at the White House, she wore a pink satin strapless gown.

That was back in the '60s, during the Eisenhower presidency, the first of eight presidents her husband, U.S. Rep. William Broomfield has served over nearly 34 years in Washington.

"I'm sorry now that I didn't keep a diary," Jane Broomfield said, during a rare, recent interview in her husband's Washington, D.C. office. "It's been a wonderful life."

As wife of the longest-serving Republican in Congress, she has raised three daughters, traveled to more than half the countries of the world, maintained two residences in Michigan and in Washington — and carried out an obligation to keep up with events both in support of her husband and for herself.

IN FACT, it was Broomfield's political career that initially turned her off. Divorced and the mother of a small daughter, she was introduced to the Oakland County Republican, who was making a name for himself in the Michigan Legislature and had his eye on Washington.

"So it took some prodding from a friend to get her to take him seriously."

They found they had and continue to have a lot in common. Both are golfers — "We play public courses" — enjoy dining out with friends and quiet evenings at home where they read several newspapers and news magazines to a background of "nice music" or watch mysteries on television. Jane's favorites: "Murder She Wrote" and "Matlock."

Growing up, her parents dinner table was a forum for debate — and she says that has continued. "I like to argue better than Bill does. Sometimes, I stop and think — oh my, he probably has had this all day."

She knows her husband is viewed as a conservative and now counts herself as one also. "But when I was very young, I was a liberal."

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## Inside today: A local portrait

Have you ever wondered what a snapshot of the community might look like if a team of photographers was unleashed for 24 hours?

Well, that's what we did.

And the fruits of our efforts can be found inside today's Observer.

The special section, "Picture a day in the Farmingtons," is a reader service of the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers.

THE SECTION is the result of sending nine staff photographers into the community with one assignment: Capture pictorially a slice of life in Farmington and Farmington Hills.

We missed many things. We know that. We couldn't record everything on film, even some of the things that we planned to record. The 24-hour clock ticked on, not pausing for even an instant.

Still, we think you'll find our photographic portrait a sort of picture album of the community.

As always, we welcome your feedback.

— Bob Sklar, editor