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in an exotic way



# Farmington Observer

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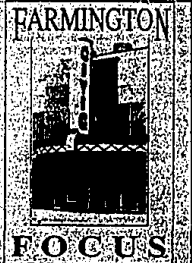
Monday, April 8, 1991

Farmington, Michigan

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Fifty Cents

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**FOCUS**

**COOKIES** look good, but do they get cookies? Girl Scout Troops 690 and 1231 say yes. A few cookies — 91 boxes to be exact — were left over after their annual sale. They're going for \$2.50 a box, said Teresa Deacon, leader of the Farmington-area troops.

"We thought we could bring in the Pinella boxes," but we couldn't," she said. "We had to pay the national Girl Scout Council for them."

Anyone interested in buying a box or two should call Deacon at 477-1883, or Nancy Parbonnet, cookie manager, at 477-8941.

**OVER HILLS** over the hills, order now for the big plant sale.

The 19th annual spring plant sale is on, and member/gardeners of the Hill and Dale Garden Club of the Farmington area are taking orders which should be placed before April 30.

Plants, potted plants and hanging baskets can be ordered now and picked up May 18 at the Community Center. Money raised supports the garden therapy classes the members lead in special education classrooms of the Farmington School.

Order forms will be mailed on request. Call Eileen Abbott at 618-8587 or Betty Mitchell at 477-3317.

**ENJOY A "Taste of Spring"** ... and a sip or two of excellent wine.

That's the suggestion offered by The Community Center, which will host the inaugural "Taste of Spring" benefit at 7 p.m. Saturday, April 13, at the center, 24705 Farmington Road.

The evening will begin with champagne and the music of pianist Jim Nockola. The highlight of the evening will be coordinated by John Jones of the Merchant of Vino. He will present a wine tasting featuring more than 30 domestic and imported varieties.

A supper buffet will be prepared by Franco's Gourmet To Go. The menu will include a choice of entrees, salad and rolls. The culinary students of Oakland Community College and several local bakers will provide a taste of their desserts.

Reservations must be made by calling The Community Center at 477-8404 by Tuesday, April 9. Cost is \$35 per person. Proceeds benefit the center.

**MEMORY LANE** — From the April 12, 1951, Farmington Enterprise:

- Gerald White, a safety patrol boy at Farmington's 10 Mile School, received two awards for bravery from the Automobile Association of America. While on duty as a patrol boy on Feb. 5, he snatched a 5-year-old girl from the path of a speeding car.
- Doris Mae Moffatt, member of Farmington Girl Scout Troop 172, presented Mayor Delos Hamlin with the first box of Girl Scout cookies.
- Voters in the Clarenceville School District approved a 5-mill increase, 171 votes to 80. There were about 2,700 registered voters in the district. Officials said school buses were on the list of things to buy.

Items for Farmington Focus may be mailed to the Farmington Observer, 21888 Farmington Road, Farmington 48336, or dropped off at the newspaper office.



Farmington Hills resident Beverly Cornell is licensed through the state DNR to care for wild orphaned animals. Here, she holds a six-day-old baby raccoon, that has just had his hourly feeding.

photos by SHARON LEMIEUX/staff photographer

## Animal activist

### Hills woman upset by new DNR rule

By Casey Hans  
staff writer

As Beverly Cornell busied herself with hourly feedings for the seven-day-old baby raccoon named Bambi, the phone began ringing.

Friends were licensed over new state DNR regulations which call for animals captured by animal control firms to be destroyed beginning June 1, as detailed in morning news reports Thursday.

The Farmington Hills woman, licensed by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources to care for wild orphaned animals in her home, is sick about it too.

"It makes me upset because we are paying the DNR — our tax money is paying for it and they're doing this to the animals. It just bothers me they're going to kill those animals and not even give them a chance," said the wildlife rehabilitation specialist, a long-time animal lover who formerly worked for a veterinarian.



Bambi gets one of his hourly feedings by Beverly Cornell at her Farmington Hills house. Between feedings, he is kept in a small carrier, zipped into a quilted bag with a heating pad.

under the new regulation. Cornell has contacted the DNR about her concerns, and said they are apparently taking names and noting concerns from residents. She said she will remain DNR licensed, "but the only way I'll get animals is from other individuals."

That's where she got Bambi, the newest addition to the Cornell household who will live there through the summer before being released back into the wild.

March 29 neighbors heard noises in their fireplace and discovered the 1-day-old raccoon, which weighed about one ounce, had fallen down the chimney, apparently deserted by its mother.

Under the new DNR rules, the

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## Library board: Reserve Peltz property for us

By Joanne Maliszewski  
staff writer

The request to reserve about 10 acres of the city-owned Peltz property in the heart of Farmington Hills for a new 80,000 square foot library will be made official tonight.

After reviewing two architectural plans to expand the existing 38,000 square foot Farmington Hills branch on 12 Mile, between Orchard Lake and Farmington roads, library trustees think building new is better.

"We still feel the best course of action is to build a new building," library board president Bob Plummer said. "We are asking the city council to reserve land at Peltz until a time when the voters can decide."

Making a choice of whether to pay for a new library won't come to voters in 1991. But the library's proposed 1991-1992 budget includes money for site development for a new building. If a new facility is built, the existing library would be sold to pay costs.

"Preparatory to a campaign we need to know exactly how much money is needed and how it would be spent," library director Beverly Pa-

pai said. "Board members feel it's extremely important for the voting public to know exactly what they will be voting for."

PLUMMER SAID library trustees are committed to building a facility that complements the Peltz property, south of I-696, west of Farmington Road. "The building design should enhance the property, not be a detriment to it," Plummer said.

Expanding the library at another location has been a bone of contention for Farmington Hills city councilman Ben Marks. He prompted a January review of building options when he asked library officials to hear Southfield architect Ken Neumann's opinion on how the branch could be renovated and expanded, using 2.75 acres immediately west of the building.

Library officials agreed and also asked Bloomfield Hills architects Cliff Snyder and Robert Szasiner for their opinions.

"There's no question, yes, we could build something here but it isn't without great risk and what

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## Official says stop focusing on Peltz

By Joanne Maliszewski  
staff writer

As far as Mike Horner is concerned, there's too much attention on the Peltz-MDOT acreage and not enough attention on other facets of the proposed half-mill levy for Farmington Hills' parks and recreation plan.

"They have won the war," said the parks and recreation commissioner about some residents who are demanding a more specific commitment about the fate of the city-owned Peltz property, south of I-696, west of Farmington Road.

"They have the city council, the Say Yes to Parks committee and the parks and recreation commission on their side. So they should quit confusing folks," said Horner, chairman of the Say Yes to Parks committee.

A commitment to maintain the

pristine 78-some acres of parkland in its natural state — except for an entrance road, nature trails and picnic area — is in black-and-white in the parks and recreation master plan, Horner said.

"Their concerns should be laid to rest. They've got this microscopic vision on this one piece of land," he continued.

BUT SOME residents aren't buying that argument. Kurt Yockey of Quaker Valley subdivision, just south of the acreage, will receive a response at tonight's council meeting to his public letter requesting an assurance the Peltz-MDOT will not be developed, particularly for ballfields and soccer fields. Some residents, including Yockey, say they are uncertain of the city's plan for the land

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## Tax cuts could hurt downtown project

By Casey Hans  
staff writer

Property tax cuts could endanger the remainder of Farmington's downtown streetscape rejuvenation and projects in other cities which rely on tax increment financing.

As the issue is discussed in both

state legislative chambers with a strong push from the governor's office, it has local officials concerned.

"It is possible ... in the worst case scenario, that TIFs (tax increment financing projects) would stop" as of January, said Farmington's as-

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