

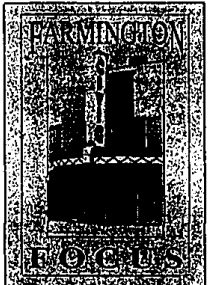
Stay Preserving
It's Newsworthy

Diamond
Wraps 3¢

Principal, FHS' 102nd
class say farewell, 3A

Farmington Observer

Volume 102 Number 74 Monday, June 17, 1991 Farmington, Michigan 58 Pages Fifty Cents



Varied responsibilities throughout her career have given Mary Lou Ankele, Farmington's assistant superintendent for finance and planning, a daily lift. Here, some of the district's finance and business staff including Sharon Cassie (left), Helen Johns, Pat Swanderaki, Doris Spencer, Jean Miller, George Jacks, Norma Goers and Diane May show their support for her. Ankele plans to retire at the end of this month.

SHARON LAMIEUX/staff photographer

Safety first!

Fireworks laws strictly enforced

By Joanne Maliszewski
staff writer

It's the time of year again when you'll start hearing the crack and bang of fireworks as the July 4 holiday draws near.

No doubt, fireworks are fun and colorful. But Farmington and Farmington Hills firefighters will tell you they can be dangerous. In fact, not all fireworks are legal.

"The city is really cracking down on illegal fireworks," said Farmington Hills fire inspector Al Ellis. "We go strictly by what the state allows."

And so does Farmington.

"We get a lot of calls from people who are going to sell them," said Farmington Fire Marshal Joe Schornack. Even with the phone calls and education by the department, "we've had to ask at least one store to take questionable materials off the shelves."

In Farmington Hills, store owners who wish to sell legal fireworks must obtain a permit from the fire department. "They need a permit to sell that stuff. All fireworks are controlled one way or another," Ellis said.

The permit process includes an inspection to be sure what's being sold is legal.

FARMINGTON MERCHANTS are not required to obtain a permit. But Schornack conducts many of his fire inspections at this time of year to check for problems at stores that sell fireworks.

The reason for the permits and inspections and state law prohibiting certain types of fireworks is safety. "Anything that leaves the ground or explodes is illegal," Ellis said.

In other words, stores can sell, and you can buy and use, those fireworks classified in state law as Class C. These fireworks are the only ones that are legal.

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Risks yield rewards

Challenge is spice of life for retiring educator

By Casey Hans
staff writer

Mary Lou Ankele's late-in-life career has been a hearty blend of responsibility, which has given her life spice and put the challenge in her day.

Whether working with children who have special needs, helping shape educational policies, or learning to understand different cultures, she thrives on the new and exciting and lives by the credo "high risk... high reward."

"I like to do lots of different things," said the assistant superintendent for Farmington Public

Schools who will retire June 28 with 19 years under her belt. "I like legal issues. I like challenges. I like making things work."

"Being a risk taker," she added. "That's exciting."

In 1969 she began her career teaching and working with abused and special-needs children at the Sarah Fisher Home. Then she came to Farmington schools in the early 1970s where she pumped her personal brand of energy into any number of departments.

STARTING AS a reading specialist, she eventually moved into a special education teaching consult-

"Being a risk taker. That's exciting."
— Mary Lou Ankele
assistant superintendent

ant's position. She was supervisor of the special education department for eight years and served as the department's interim director before being promoted to assistant superintendent for special services in 1986. In 1990 she moved into the finance and planning areas, where she has been instrumental in budgeting, day-to-day business opera-

tions and working with the school board on setting policy.

She has also involved herself in a number of community groups, most recently the Multi-Cultural Community Council, a 2-year-old organization of community leaders devoted to learning about changing cultures in the community and educating the public. "Prejudice is a difficult thing to counter — it's deep in our bones," she added.

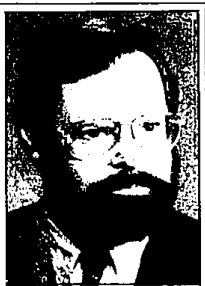
While a top administrator with Farmington schools, Ankele has found herself on the hot seat a number of times over program and policy issues, but has always kept

Papers get new columnist

John Telford — educator, school administrator and social activist — will become a contributing columnist beginning in this Thursday's Observer & Eccentric on the op-ed page.

The controversial Rochester Hills resident has served in a number of roles, most recently as senior assistant superintendent for instructional administration in the Rochester School District. From 1977-84, he worked in the Plymouth-Canton District as executive director of secondary education.

"Throughout his career Telford has acted as a thought-provoker, a



John Telford
defender of unpopular ideas, an advocate for justice and tolerance.

Please turn to Page 2

Startup of curbside recycling on July 1 signals big changes



During the next two weeks, the Observer will publish information about curbside recycling to help ease residents into the new program that will begin July 1 in Farmington and Farmington Hills. Information will include what residents can expect, what is expected of them, and how to separate their refuse for curbside recycling.

By Joanne Maliszewski
staff writer

It's just next-looking... the new recycling truck, that is.



Don't be alarmed when you see this big truck come down your neighborhood street. This is the new recycling truck, one of four vehicles that will collect your refuse, compostables, regular refuse and bulk items when the Farmington-Farmington Hills curbside recycling program begins July 1.

The white, odd-shaped truck is just one of its many new things Farmington and Farmington Hills residents will encounter when curbside recycling begins July 1.

That's right. Life will change.

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Contest helps kids read better

With concern over literacy growing, the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers have invited Rex and Rita Saurus to spend the summer with you and your family.

In the 1991 Family Reading Challenge, children between the ages of five and 12 years will be able to hone their reading skills and, at the same time, qualify for a nationwide drawing on Sept. 6 for thousands of prizes.

Beginning in this issue of the Observer & Eccentric, your children will be provided with a reading activity that will help you and your family to read and use the newspaper together. Today's newspaper contains the entry form on 6A.

Among the prizes available to win are an IBM Writing to Read Laboratory for your school and an IBM PC for your family, Rex and Rita Saurus hand puppets, bicycles, World Book encyclopedias, and much more. Entry forms will be available in the newspaper throughout the summer.



MEMORY LANE — From the June 21, 1951, Farmington Enterprise:

- A green Anchor-Hocking teed tea tumbler was to be given to every customer at the Zephyr gas station on Grand River on June 22, 1951.
- "Sodtime For Bonzo" starring Ronald Reagan was the attraction at the Civic Theatre in Farmington.
- Lemons cost 32 cents for six at the Hunt Orchard on Grand River near 10 Mile Road.
- A grand opening was planned for Berling-McHugh, a new Ford agency at 30711 Grand River.

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