

Fanzines cover U2, 'Star Trek,' more, 9A



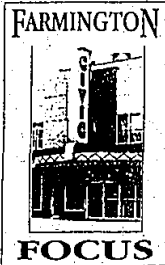
Basketball district, 1C

Traditional Irish fare, 1B



Farmington Observer

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LET THE MUSIC play... at "Evening Eleganza" featuring members of the Farmington Musicale, at 8 p.m. Friday, April 3, in the auditorium of Farmington Harrison High School, 29995 W. 12 Mile.

The Grunions, a vocal jazz group, also will be featured. Tickets at \$10 each may be purchased at the door. Call 661-0707 or 476-6221 for more information.

IF THIS IS Hastings, then where is Hog's Hollow? Good question... and also the title of a presentation about the lost villages of Oakland and Macomb counties to be held in the Founder's Room of the Botsford Inn at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, April 8.

Pat McKay, curator of the Van Hoosen Museum in Rochester Hills, will narrate a slide presentation on lost villages. Botsford Inn is at 2600 Grand River, just north of Eight Mile Road, Farmington Hills.

For more information, call Linda at 858-0906.

SAVE THOSE returnable bottles and cans... the Farmington High School Instrumental music students are planning a drive on Saturday, April 11.

Students will collect the bottles and cans from front porches. Residents also may bring them to the parking lot behind the A&P store in the Downtown Center from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. that Saturday.

Proceeds will help with expenses for band and orchestra Festival performances and band camp.

APPLICATIONS for the Miss Farmington/Farmington Hills Scholarship Pageant are being accepted. The pageant, part of the annual Founders Festival, will be held July 8.

Women ages 17-24 from the Farmington area are eligible. Call Joan Lamarra at 779-9171 for more information.

Volunteers are needed to work on this year's pageant. Many positions are open. If interested, send a resume to Lamarra, P.O. Box 159, Walled Lake 48390.

IT'S NEVER too early to start thinking about the American Association of University Women's annual book sale, say the women of the AAUW.

The sale is Oct. 15-18 at the Livonia Mall, but used book donations are being taken at the Orchard/Ten IGA, Orchard Lake and 10 Mile roads, and the Farmington Area YMCA, 38100 Farmington Road. For more information, call 456-5458.

MEMORY LANE — From the March 20, 1992 Farmington Enterprise:

- Fred Raupp and Eugene McCracken were named valedictorian and salutatorian, respectively, for the class of 1992 at Farmington High School.
- Candidates for the Farmington High baseball team reported for practice in the school gym, said coach Bill Huse.
- Items for Farmington focus may be mailed to the Farmington Observer, 21888 Farmington Road, Farmington 48336, or dropped off at the newspaper office.

Mom attacks crime trading cards



By Casey Hane
staff writer

A Farmington Hills parent, upset about non-sports trading cards that feature sociopaths, mafia kingpins and cops, is taking her case to other parents, stores and schools in the area.

Publishers of the "True Crime" trading cards say similar cards have been produced for years, and that a nationally syndicated television program broadcast in January has upset people all over the country needlessly.

But Barbara Kranitz, Hills mother of two, has taken her case to the Farmington school district, the Forest Elementary PTO and to friends and relatives throughout the state and country. "I'm not a rebel, but I feel very strongly about this," she said.

She expects a letter-writing campaign against the trading cards to begin soon.

"I was appalled. I couldn't believe someone would try to make a profit making a hero out of a killer."

"Do we really want our kids trading Jeffrey Dahmer?"

The "True Crime" cards — which will include FBI agents, police, mafia bosses and sociopathic criminals like Dahmer — are being published this spring by Eclipse Enterprises, a northern California publisher of comic books, trading cards, records and other items. Co-owner and editor-in-chief Catherine Yronwode said the entire issue became blown out of proportion during Dahmer's trial, when the television program Entertainment Tonight produced a segment linking the cards to the trial and sensationalizing them.

COLLECTABLE trading cards with criminals have been published for years, she said, including a 1988

Letter-writing has been a primary focus these days for Farmington Hills resident Barbara Kranitz who is campaigning against the marketing of trading cards which feature mass murderers.

She is most concerned about young children who might buy the cards without parents' knowledge. Behind her is her 11-year-old daughter, Amy, who supports the effort.

SHARON LEMIEUX/staff photographer

Merchants organize to attract shoppers

By Joanno Mallazowski
staff writer

Farmington Hills has no downtown. But it does have an Uptown Shopping District on Orchard Lake Road.

And that newly designated shopping district is the focus of a new organization formed by and for merchants in the corridor between 12 Mile and 14 Mile roads.

"Driving up and down the stretch, it seems it needs attention; some love and care," said Alan Burnett, general manager of Taco Bell, 29925 Orchard Lake Road, north of 13 Mile.

In fact, a letter will soon be mailed to merchants along the corridor announcing a mid-April meeting to get the organization off the ground. The date hasn't been set yet.

"We'll see if there is an interest among merchants in making some improvements," said Kim McNamara of Mr. Sports One at a Kind, 30600 Orchard Lake Road, just south of 14 Mile.

Attracting customers to the corridor is a premium focus for the infant organization. "We're talking about

beautifying the area with landscaping and maybe some merchants would like to do something with the store fronts," McNamara said.

EASY ACCESSIBILITY to the stores and services along Orchard Lake is another top of concern because of the high traffic volume and plenty — some believe too many — of exits and entrances into shopping areas along the thoroughfare.

But there's also an effort afoot to see if merchants want to get themselves and their corridor more involved in community celebrations, such as the annual Founders Festival. And there's talk about Orchard Lake Road going to town with a big celebration in 1993 — the city's 20th anniversary, McNamara and Burnett said.

The idea of a merchants organization along Orchard Lake Road began with Farmington Hills city councilman Ben Marks who organized two initial meetings for merchants and property owners along the corridor.

"Inadvertently, we have not paid the kind of attention we should have

Please turn to Page 2

Why was my son killed? father asks of everyone

By Bill Casper
staff writer

John Mallon is trying to cope with the March 8 shooting death of his 16-year-old son, a Farmington High freshman. But the question that continues to haunt Mallon is "why?"

Mallon said that investigating Detroit police officers haven't called him, and he hasn't been able to contact them to learn the details surrounding the death of his son, John Jr.

"I loved my son," Mallon said. "He got robbed, cheated out of his life. I haven't heard anything from Detroit police, and I can't get a copy of the police report."

ALL MALLON KNOWS is what he has been told by some of his son's teenage friends, who were with him on Detroit's west side early on the Sunday morning when he was shot to death.

"They have told four or five dif-

ferent stories," Mallon said of conversations he had with the teens paying last respects to their friend at the Bedford Township funeral home. "I wish I could get the story straightened out."

According to one version, Mallon's son and his friends were at a house party, and someone attending the party was throwing bottles at a car outside. A man, armed with a shotgun, opened fire from the street, and a lead pellet struck the back of Mallon's head.

Detroit police say an argument between two men led to the shooting at about 12:30 a.m. in the area of Acaela and Dacosta. One man left and returned with a gun, police said.

The gunman ordered Mallon to the ground and shot him, before fleeing. Mallon died from the gunshot to his head in the emergency room of Botsford General Hospital in Farmington Hills.

Mallon learned of his son's death shortly before 1 a.m. when Bots-

ford personnel called him at his home.

"It was a bad-news call," Mallon said.

A SUSPECT was arrested Monday and charged with the shooting death.

Darrell Rager, 17, was arrested Monday and arraigned before Detroit's 36th District Court Magistrate trella Bright on first-degree murder and felony firearm charges. He was sent to the Wayne County Jail without bond to await district court preliminary examination Friday.

If he is convicted of the crime, Rager faces mandatory life in prison.

In another version, the teens told Mallon that his son was riding in a car with two other guys, and some girls and a gunman ordered everyone to get out of the auto at Lahser and Penkel in Detroit. The younger Mallon was slow to get out of the car and was shot.

Please turn to Page 2

Election '92

Tuesday will be presidential primary

Niki Teongas fills in, 5A

Primary afternoon, 8A

Don't forget to vote in the presidential primary Tuesday. Polls in both Farmington and Farmington Hills will be open 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Tuesday is the day you can cast your ballot for either a Democratic candidate or a Republican candidate and let delegates in each party know how you want them to vote at each party's national conventions later this year.

Anyone can go to the polls Tuesday without having declared a party preference. If you haven't declared and want to vote Democratic, you must sign a declaration form at the polls. Voters who plan to vote Republican need only tell election workers they want a Republican ballot.

Keep in mind that if you are a declared Republican, you can't change to vote the Democratic ballot. But if you are a declared Democrat, you can switch the day of the primary.

Voters who have not declared a party preference are free to vote either way Tuesday. Voters will be asked to choose one candidate only when given the Democratic or Republican ballot. Both ballots will give voters the opportunity of voting uncommitted.

Absentee ballots must be received by the Farmington or Farmington Hills city clerk's office no later than 8 p.m. Tuesday.

what's inside

Classifieds . . .	Secs. B-D
Index	7B
Auto	Sec. D
Real estate . . .	Sec. B, C
Employment . . .	Sec. C, D
Crossword	8B
Entertainment . .	8A
Obituaries	8A
Sports	Sec. C
Street Scene . . .	8A
Travel	5B
CLASSIFIEDS . . .	591-0900
CIRCULATION . . .	591-0500
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