

Father's got a new role, 1C

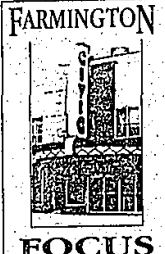


Observer Relays, 1B

Volunteers saluted for caring, 3A

Farmington Observer

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FARMINGTON FOCUS

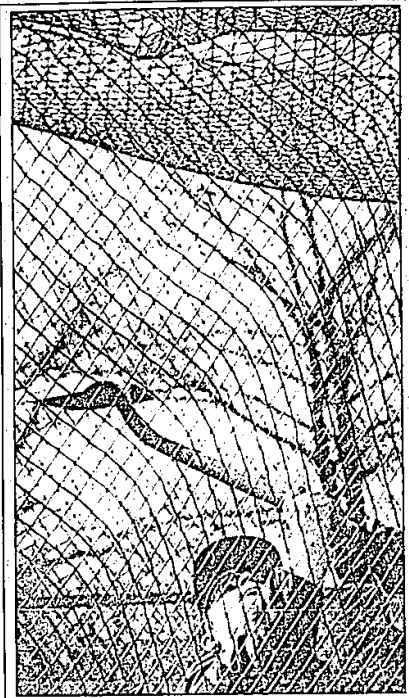
APPLAUSE! Applause! And well deserved, too! Lenore Dunskey-Weiss, a Farmington Hills resident, has been named to the Governor's Honor Roll for her many years of hospital volunteer work.

Dunskey-Weiss, a past president of the Sinai Hospital Guild and volunteer at the Detroit hospital for 40 years, was one of several honor roll recipients recognized during a breakfast program Monday at the Westin Hotel's Renaissance Ballroom.

Former Michigan Gov. George Romney, the honorary chairman of National Volunteer Recognition Week, made the presentations to the honorees.

Dunskey-Weiss is one of Sinai's longest serving volunteers and currently works daily at the hospital's Berry Surgery assisting in patient transportation and in various clerical duties.

Many more local volunteers were honored Monday at a ceremony at the Mercy Center. For a story and photos, please see page 3A.



SHARON LAMIEUX/staff photographer

High and outside

Aaron Shepherd of North Farmington retrieves a ball that landed on top of the batting cage during the North-John Glenn game Monday afternoon. More, Page 1B.

MIX AND MINGLE at an after-hours setting... that's the advice of the Farmington/Farmington Hills Chamber of Commerce, which is co-sponsoring a Business Mixer 6-7 p.m. Thursday, May 7, at the Hotel Baronette, 27190 Novi Road, Novi.

Cost is \$5 for chamber members and \$10 for non-members. Reservations should be made before May 1. Call the chamber at 474-3440.

IT'LL BE "Wednesday Night Live" for the Farmington School Board candidates at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, May 13, on Metrovision's Channel 12.

The three school board hopefuls — incumbent Helen Prulow and challengers Richard DeVries and Joe Svoice — have agreed to participate in the candidate forum, according to Barbara Lanigan of the American Association of University Women, which is sponsoring the event with the League of Women Voters, Oakland Area.

The forum will be held at the Southwest Oakland Cable Television Studios, 24021 Research Drive, Farmington Hills. District residents are invited to attend in person, although seat is limited at the studio.

Questions may be submitted in advance for Candidate's Night 22782 Hayden, Farmington 48336.

MEMORY LANE — From the May 1, 1952 edition of the Farmington Enterprise:

- Funeral services were held for Mrs. Eva R. Schulte, wife of Judge John J. Schulte Jr. She died April 28, 1952, at St. Joseph Mercy Hospital in Pontiac at the age of 62.
- More Farmington area homes were to be fitted with gas heat because Consumers Power had been given permission to supply natural gas to 15,000 new house heating customers in Michigan.
- County health department officials urged parents to have their children vaccinated against diphtheria.

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

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Cities won't pay in composting suit

By Casey Hans
staff writer

The cities of Farmington and Farmington Hills will not be liable for costs in a lawsuit involving a Canton Township composting site, although both cities are named as defendants.

City councils from the two agencies have signed an agreement with the cities' garbage hauler, Waste Management of Michigan, indemnifying them from paying costs in the civil action filed last November in Wayne County Circuit Court by residents living near the composting site.

"They (Waste Management) will bear any cost brought against the cities," said John Donohue, city attorney for both municipalities.

Farmington approved the agree-

'They (Waste Management) will bear any cost brought against the cities.'

— John Donohue, city attorney for both municipalities

A GROUP of residents calling itself the South Canton Citizens Association seeks damages totalling nearly \$1 million from Compost Systems, Inc. which owns the facility, several communities including the two local cities, and a number of garbage haulers including Waste Management, which hauls grass clippings and leaves to the site for Farmington and Farmington Hills.

The residents living near the Canton Township composting site off of Michigan Avenue near Morton Taylor have complained since the site opened one year ago about odor problems at the site, which takes yard waste from a number of communities. After only two months of operation in June of last year, the

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Muirwood struck down again in rezoning bid

By Joanne Mallazewski
staff writer

It's déjà vu for Bestak Building Co., which has been zapped twice in almost three years in its rezoning attempts to enlarge ailing Muirwood Square for an anchor store, such as a supermarket, on the Farmington-Farmington Hills border.

"I'm not one who's going to promise something and not deliver," said councilman Terry Sever, who with three other council members denied Bestak's rezoning request Monday night.

The lack of a guarantee that indeed the property would be built as offered by Bestak officials was a primary concern among the four council members — including Nancy Bates, Jonathan Grant and Aldo Vagnozzi — who opposed the rezoning request.

The three remaining council members expressed surprise at the desire for a guarantee. "Then I don't know why we rezoned anything. We don't give guarantees. I don't know why this should be any different," councilwoman JoAnne Smith said.

Planning commissioners in March recommended approval of the rezoning request that would have led to the demolition of 30,000 square feet of the existing center and construction of 84,000 square feet of new space — for a grand total of 105,000 square feet — using six of 12 vacant acres immediately west of the center.

BEZTAK OFFICIALS said they planned to spend about \$10 million on the center, including \$3 million for the proposed demolition of the most western edge of the structure.

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He recalls blast from his past

By Joanne Mallazewski
staff writer

Jack Curd remembers that a tall man saved his life the day the USS Hornet was sunk, Oct. 26, 1942, in the Battle of Santa Cruz in the South Pacific. But that's all he knows about him.

"I was on the third deck mess hall. An armor-piercing bomb hit. Fifty-four men died. Six got out. I got out because a real tall soldier reached up and undugged the hatch and pushed us up," said the 69-year-old Farmington resident. "We don't think he saved his own life."

Curd isn't alone with his memories of life aboard the aircraft carrier during World War II. He and other sailors met Saturday, April 18, at the Farmington Elks Club.

Fifty years ago on April 18, the Hornet had a most famous day. It was the carrier from which the famed Gen. Jimmy Doolittle and

know your neighbor

16 B52s were launched in the first aggressive response to Japan's bombing of Pearl Harbor Dec. 7, 1941.

"We felt we were part of the Doolittle raid and we didn't do anything but haul them over there," said Curd, a retired Bedford Township real estate salesman.

THE BOMBING mission wasn't successful from a military standpoint. The bombers had to leave a bit earlier and farther away from their Japanese target because Japanese ships were sighted.

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SHARON LAMIEUX/staff photographer

Framed newspaper articles and a drawing on a wall in Jack Curd's home office keeps him touch with his days on the USS Hornet, which was destroyed in the Battle of Santa Cruz.

Curd was injured when the Hornet was attacked by the Japanese in one of the many sea battles for the South Pacific.

New city budget proposed with eye on expenditures

By Casey Hans
staff writer

Farmington officials will dip into city reserves and keep a close eye on expenditures in the coming fiscal year, but won't have to increase the city's tax rate.

This, according to a proposed 1992-93 budget offered to the city council recently by City Manager Robert Deadman. The proposal, which Deadman termed "conservative," would allow the city to maintain the same level of services.

Costs were contained by reducing expenditures, not planning to fill employment vacancies, and delaying purchase of large capital equipment, Deadman said in his budget report.

HE ESTIMATED that the city will enter the new fiscal year with a \$206,000 reserve — a little more than two percent of the overall budget and less than what the city has carried in previous years.

The difference from previous years is that "we're starting to use it (the reserve)," he added. "I'm confident we're going to get through the current year."

What the future holds is uncertain.

Concerns include a depressed state economy, possible rise in inflation and future ballot proposals that may affect property taxes — the city's major income source. The Farmington City Council has scheduled work sessions at 5 p.m. May 7 and May 11 to fine-tune the budget.

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