

## IN THE PAPER TODAY

**Tuition up: OCC students who live in Oakland County will pay \$2 more per credit hour starting this fall./9A**

**OCC board: Compare how candidates would spend limited dollars and what they can do for the college. Then take a look at who we endorse and why./7A, Opinion page, 18A**

**Tee time: Area country club officials are tight-lipped about discriminatory policies that the state Legislature says must be changed./5A**

## SPORTS

**Local driver: Jim Stevens of Farmington Hills will compete Saturday in the Trans Am race as part of the Detroit Grand Prix on Belle Isle./1B**

**State golf: The Farmington Hills Mercy golf team looked on the bright side of its experience Saturday in the state finals./1B**

## BUSINESS



**Fresh start: With 50 years at the company that bears his name, Bob Awrey is helping to write a new chapter for the business that is synonymous with baked goods in Detroit./12B**

## SUBURBAN LIFE

**Classic good looks: West Bloomfield resident Sarah Keiden, who teaches at Oakland Community College in Farmington Hills, prefers classic attire and is the subject of "Off the Cuff."/1C**

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# Uncontested budget gets council nod

By JOANNE MALINZEWSKI  
STAFF WRITER

Not one of the more than 74,000 Farmington Hills residents had a word to say Monday night about the city's 1992-93 \$30.9 million budget or the slight decrease in the tax rate.

And with that, the city council adopted the new budget — with two revisions — and a tax rate of 8.86 mills, a decrease from last year's 8.87 mills.

"Essentially, the property tax rate is the same as last year," City Manager William Costick said.

One of the revisions is the addition of

## THE HILLS

a police officer, which was not recommended in Costick's proposed budget. The new position will cost an additional \$40,000, which will come from unappropriated reserves.

"As a result of the city council's concern for public safety and keeping up with the growth in the community, the city council has recommended we add one police officer's position in the budget," said Costick, who had earlier informed all department heads there would be no additional personnel as an

effort to minimize costs.

The second revision is an increase in the Farmington Community Library's book budget of \$20,000 — \$18,000 from Farmington Hills, \$2,000 from Farmington. That money comes from a reduction in a 47th District Court salary contract.

"We are now the largest city in Oakland County with a tax rate fifth from the lowest," Mayor Jonathan Grant said. "There is no reduction in city services while holding a tax rate at last year's rate."

Taxpayers' relief this year comes in the form of a slight reduction — four-

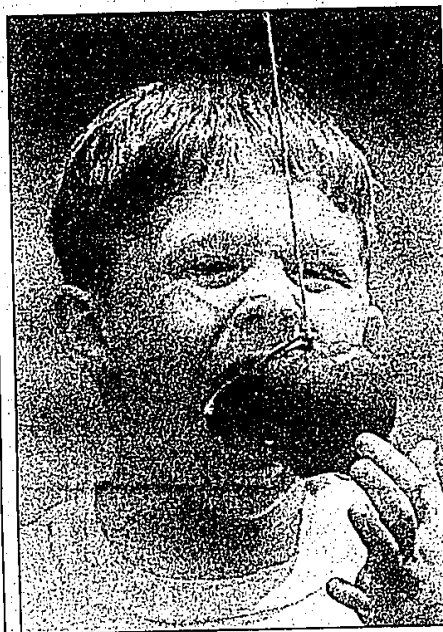
hundredths of a mill — in the debt levy.

If your house has a market value of \$130,000 and assessment of \$65,000, you would pay \$576.29, compared to \$576.61 on the same house in 1991-92.

Monday night Costick showed how \$1 of tax revenue is spent in Farmington Hills. The police department gets the greatest share with 40 cents, followed by fire for 10 cents; refuse disposal, 11 cents; library services, 8 cents; and recreation 5 cents. Twenty-five cents of the dollar is spent on paying off bills on projects or paying for other major projects.

See BUDGET, 2A

## 1867 Day festivities



**Bobbing: Max Rosenhaus, 6, says the trick to snagging an apple is to press it against his armpit and bite down. Max joined several hundred people for 1867 Day, 2A.**

SHARON LEMMIS/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

# Check precinct before voting



By CASEY HANS  
STAFF WRITER

Monday is school election day, when voters in the Farmington Public School District will go to the polls to fill two terms on the non-partisan board.

Three candidates are vying for four-year terms including four-term incumbent Helen Prutow, 51, challenger Richard DeVries, 42, a Ford Motor Co. engineer who is making his third run for the board, and newcomer Joseph Svoke, 48, a longtime school board watcher.

The two top vote-getters will win seats on the board, effective at the first board meeting in July when they will be sworn into office.

Both Farmington Hills city clerk Kathy Dorman and the school system's business support services director Brets Rothrock said they were fielding questions this week about changes in polling places which will be in effect for Monday's election. The district includes a portion of Farmington Hills, all of the city of Farmington and a small part of West Bloomfield Township.

Residents with questions about where to vote in Monday's election should contact the school district's election office at 489-3304. School election precincts are different than those used in city and state elections.

The candidates include:

- Incumbent Prutow, who was just

Helen Prutow, incumbent on the Farmington Board of Education, will face challenges from Richard DeVries and Joseph Svoke in Monday's school election. The top two vote-getters will earn four-year terms on the board.

**■ Polls will be open from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. on Monday. School election offices at the Lewis Schulman Center will also be open this Saturday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. for others wishing to cast absentee ballots.**

re-elected this week to a six-year term on the Oakland Intermediate school board, where she currently serves as president. She has served 16 years on the Farmington board, getting involved as a PTA activist and because of concerns over special education issues. She has made teamwork her theme in this year's campaign. Her main issues are technology, school finances and teacher retraining. She lives on 18 Mile Road in Farmington Hills with her husband, William, and has two grown sons who graduated from North Farmington High School.

• Challenger DeVries, who is one of the most vocal critics of the school system and who believes the district can better use the money it already has, despite financial problems from the state.

See ELECTION, 4A

# Summer fun returns to downtown series

By CASEY HANS  
STAFF WRITER

Summer fun returns to downtown Farmington this month, with weekly events featuring everything from magic shows to life-size puppets.

It's the start of the Downtown Farmington Summer Fun Series, the second year the city's Downtown Development Authority has sponsored Wednesday events in the city center. With the exception of one event, all activities are offered at no charge.

"We really want them to make a day of it," said DDA executive director Wendy Strip-Sittsamer. "Come downtown for the series, have lunch and

maybe take in a movie."

Strip-Sittsamer said this year's 10-week program which begins June 17 and runs through Aug. 19 is a well-rounded group of activities with some changes for kids and others which can simply be enjoyed by watching and listening. The series is designed to appeal to all ages. Each event is scheduled for Wednesday afternoon and will take place in the green and white striped tent in the Downtown Farmington Center parking lot at Grand River and Grove streets.

Last year's events drew an average of

See SUMMER FUN, 2A

## 3 happy grads



**Photographic memory: Three graduating Mercy seniors, Angela Shallah (left), Shannon Goff and Wendy Walks pose for a picture taken through the crowd by a relative of Shallah's. For more on the graduation, please see page 3A.**

SHARON LEMMIS/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

## Open house at cop shop

Ever wonder what it's like to be a police officer who's facing a robbery suspect?

You can find out — sort of — noon to 4 p.m. on Sunday, June 7, at the fifth annual Farmington Hills Police Open House at the police department, 11 Mile and Orchard Lake roads, just west of the City Hall.

Visitors will be able to try the popular Firecracker Automatic Training System during the open house. The system provides "scenarios" with both good and bad guys popping up on a screen. Participants must decide when (and whom) to shoot.

Tours of the police station will be given and equipment like police cars, fire trucks, ambulances and a Michigan State Police SWAT vehicle will be on display.

"The open house is to give the community a better chance to know the police department and to get a sense of how it works," said Lt. Richard Murphy.

## FARMINGTON FOCUS

"It's also a chance to meet the officers and ask them questions."

Farmington Hills Fire Department clowns, the Burger King Magician, Ronald McDonald and Little Caesar will be on hand to welcome the kids.

Visitors also will see a Tao Kwan Do demonstration, a U.S. Secret Service display and drug education setups. The Oakland County Sheriff's Mounted and Marine divisions also will be on hand, as well as the Ferndale police robot.

"It's a robot police officer who walks and talks to the kids," Murphy said.

A drunk tank and cake walk also will be part of the fun. Visitors also can have their blood pressure checked.

Free parking will be available and refreshments

will be provided by the local Optimist Club.

## Memory Lane

From the June 2, 1952 edition of the Farmington Observer:

- Fred Raupp, Farmington High School senior, was the guest of honor at the annual awards dinner for outstanding students sponsored by the Engineering Society of Detroit. Raupp received an achievement award from J.L. McCloud of the Ford Motor Co.
- Clarenceville High School, behind the pitching of Elmer Rousseau, beat Milford, 6-4, to clinch the Wayne-Oakland League baseball championship.

Items for Farmington Focus may be mailed to the Farmington Observer, 21899 Farmington Road, Farmington 48336, or dropped off at the newspaper office.