



IN THE PAPER

TODAY

Cranbrook stories: A Farmington Hills student at Cranbrook tells what it was like to be stranded in the storm-ravaged Great Smoky Mountains. There are other stories — and photos./3A

COUNTY NEWS

100-year war: An Oakland County nurse sees herself as a foot soldier in the battle for public health./7A

OPINION

Readers write: Farmington-area people give their views on a variety of subjects./10A

MALLS & MAINSTREETS

Special events: An Oakland County man sends exhibits to malls around the country./11A

TASTE



Winner Dinner: Symphony League volunteers Jill Licata and Cathie Layman work in concert to prepare dinner./1B

Magnificent muffins: When your stomach grumbles in the morning, reach for a low-fat muffin. It's a delicious way to start the day./1B

SPORTS

Hoop champions: Farmington Our Lady of Sorrows completed an undefeated season and won the CYO championship in boys basketball./1C

CABLE TV WEEKLY

Local access: "Marie Kaigler's Perspectives" will be presented on Channel 12. Check your cable guide for time and date.

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No truth to LSD rumors — cops



BY BILL COUTANT
STAFF WRITER

Rumors that the hallucinogenic drug LSD is making the rounds at Farmington area schools aren't true, police and school officials said.

A letter saying LSD use has reached "epidemic" proportions among school children in Farmington

and Farmington Hills is not only false, but has been causing needless concern among parents and school officials, said Lt. Dick Murphy of the Farmington Hills Police Department.

"About two months ago (Sgt.) Paul Cavan had a call from somebody asking about an LSD alert from the Michigan State Police," Murphy

said. "We didn't hear any more about it until now."

In the past few days, parents, teachers and school administrators have called police asking about the problem. An article in the North Farmington High School Newspaper, Ralder Rep, even warned students about a type of temporary tattoo called Blue Star that was soaked with LSD.

The article explained that children would unknowingly lick the tattoo, apply it to their skin, and suffer the effects of the drug.

The article, although intended as a warning for children to avoid being tricked into taking a "fatal trip," added to the concern of some parents.

"The article said that this was authenticated by the Farmington Hills Police," Murphy said. "But we didn't know a thing about it."

North Farmington Principal Debbie Clarke said the article was well-intended, but may have worried some parents.

"It didn't say that it was at Farm-

See LSD, 2A

Lucky puppies



Care and feeding: Veronica Skue provides nourishment to one of the seven puppies (bottom photo) found freezing in a Farmington dumpster recently.

Trashed puppies saved

BY LARRY O'CONNOR
STAFF WRITER

When someone decided to throw the litter out with the trash, some people hauled it to the rescue.

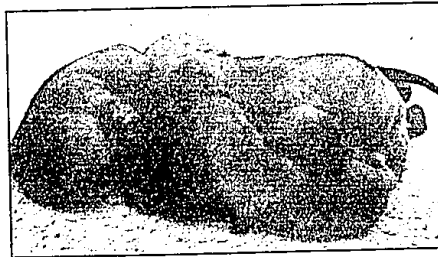
Seven puppies will be forever grateful.

An employee at the 9 Grand Party Store in Farmington took out the garbage around midnight March 6.

He noticed a box out of place in the dumpster. He felt the cardboard carton, and from it came a howling noise. Inside he discovered eight newborn puppies.

"They didn't look like they were there that long," said Mark Zetuna

See PUPPIES, 4A



Reform OK with group

BY LARRY O'CONNOR
STAFF WRITER

Let's see . . . there's BLT, MEA, "Sweet 16" and the Governor's plan. They're all buzz words and acronyms for school finance reform.

Finance reform is OK with Jan Bennett and Debbie Lukasak, who are Farmington parents involved with

See SCHOOLS

a statewide petition drive to get the Olmstead/Kearney proposal before the Legislature.

"Lansing is not taking care of it," said Lukasak, who with Bennett is a member of the Coalition of Michigan Parents. "We have to do it for them."

Olmstead/Kearney . . . proposal . . . known as O/K for short, requires the state to pick up 60 percent of the cost of local schools and reduce the schools' reliance on property tax money.

Out-of-formula districts, such as Farmington, would be held harmless under the plan.

Once 205,166 signatures are collected, the state Legislature will have 40 days to adopt it or it gets placed on the state ballot. Bennett and Lukasak are trying to amass 2,500 signatures locally for O/K. "I know we can get more than that," Lukasak said.

A similar drive in Garden City netted 6,500 signatures.

With the glut of proposals in Lansing, O/K would seem to have a difficult ride.

"This proposal is not in trouble," said Bennett, also a COMP member.

"We're exactly where we want to be."

"We don't want to be in the Lansing foray right now. What's going to happen . . . these plans (Bl-partisan

See REFORM, 2A

Tuition hiked for non-resident students

BY LARRY O'CONNOR
STAFF WRITER

Don't live here? Well, expect to pay more to go to school here.

The Farmington School Board passed a 25 percent tuition increase for non-resident students. Changes take effect for the 1993-94 school year.

Tuition for elementary school students will be \$1,340, a \$288 increase over this year's fee of \$1,072.

Tuition for secondary students will be \$2,213 next year, a \$442 increase from \$1,771.

The board has passed 10 percent increases the previous three years. In-

itially, they were going to do the same this year.

School board member Cathleen Webb didn't think that was enough, proposing a 25 percent increase instead.

"Especially in light of the state reductions we're forced to deal with in funding," Webb said at the March 9 meeting, "that we work more quickly toward a more realistic tuition fee."

Webb pointed out Farmington is well behind the \$4,000 average other Oakland districts charge non-residents.

For example, non-residents who attend Bloomfield Hills and Birming-

ham schools pay close to what those districts allot for per pupil spending.

Bloomfield Hills spends \$8,477 a student; Birmingham \$5,321. Farmington's expenditure per pupil is \$7,713.

A 25-percent increase would bring the district in line with the average in six years as opposed to 12 years with a 10-percent increase, Webb said.

The motion for a 25-percent increase passed 6-1. Treasurer Helen Ditzhazy opposed the amount.

"I would not want to discourage in any way district employees who have youngsters here," Ditzhazy said.

"That's a real plus for us. I think it

puts a real hardship . . ."

Non-residents may include a child of a district employee; a child of any person moving into the district; a child of any person who is building a home in the district; or a senior student who has completed the junior year and whose parents/guardians have moved.

There are 24 students paying non-resident fees, including 18 children of district employees. The others include five seniors and one child who recently moved to the district, according to building and student services Director Don Cowan.

A prom for seniors

A "senior" prom for senior citizens is in the works for residents of the Grand River Village retirement community in Farmington.

Farmington High School students will host the event, which will have an "April in Paris" theme, at Grand River Village the evening of Friday, April 2.

Make a basket

An area business — Antonio hair salon on the Commerce Township side of 14 Mile Road — is sponsoring an Easter basket drive for residents of the Sarah Fisher Home in Farmington Hills.

Participants are asked to make up the Easter baskets with candy and toys — no gum or toy guns, please — and drop them off at either of An-

FARMINGTON FOCUS

tonino's two locations: 39590 W. 14 Mile Road at Haggerty, or 167 Townsend, Birmingham.
 Call Jodi Gibson at 669-0900 for more information.

Aquatic gardening

Aquatic gardening — the growing of plants in water — will be the subject on a Farmington Garden Club program at noon Monday, April 6, at the Farmington Community Center, 24705 Farmington Road, Farmington Hills. The public is invited to attend.
 Wayne Wilson, who holds a degree in environ-

mental education from Michigan State University, will speak on the subject.

In addition, Ann Audette of the Farmington Garden Club will discuss the newer varieties of seeds and plants available from the 1993 garden catalogues.

For more information on the program or the club's activities, call Gerry Tobin at 478-9710.

Memory Lane

From the March 19, 1953 issue of the Farmington Enterprise:

Tommy Bartel and Sandy Sek were headliners in the 1953 Farmington Jayces Musical and Variety Show. Co-directors were Art Mann and James Warner.