



Farmington Observer

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FIFTY CENTS

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IN THE PAPER TODAY

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All set to sing: *The Farmington Community Chorus will be accompanied by a guest harpist for its upcoming concert.* /4B

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Selling houses: *Columnist Judith Doner Berne and a representative of the Western Wayne Oakland County Association of Realtors disagree over soliciting home sales.* /9A

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Raising voices to save adult ed



By LARRY O'CONNOR
STAFF WRITER

Voices carry. Just ask Farmington Hills residents Angie Waack and Wayne Santsche.

While lobbyists and special interests are stumbling over themselves to have their say in the school funding battle in Lansing, adult education

students and graduates also are making themselves heard.

Senate Bill 1 would eliminate funding for adult education. Instead, Gov. John Engler proposes job banks take over the lion's share of training and teaching for adults.

That would spell doom for such Farmington Public Schools programs

as English as a Second Language, Adult Basic Education and the Alternative Academy.

Waack and Santsche, at the urging of Adult/Community Education director Terry Klencznr, have let legislators know how they feel.

Waack is a senior in the Alternative Academy; Santsche is an adult education graduate, went on to college and is a year away from getting a teaching certificate.

"I love our school," said Waack, 17, who wants to go to Oakland Community College and later to the University of Michigan. "We do things togeth-

er . . . There's more to this school than what you're looking at . . . It's a great cause."

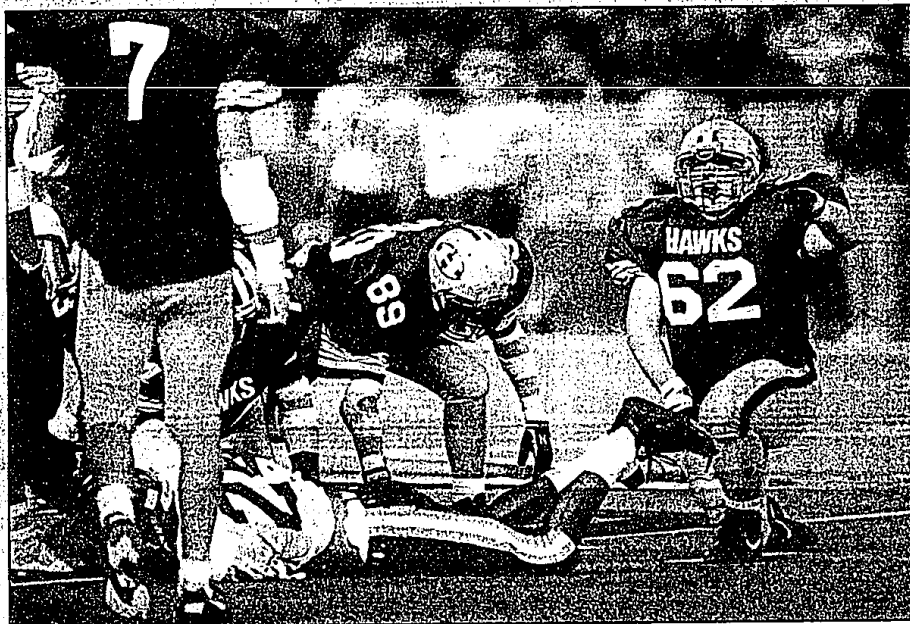
Added Santsche, 46, who dropped out of high school and went back to get his diploma in his 30s, "Who needs adult education? We're proof that it is needed."

Both have written letters to legislators. Santsche has contacted state Rep. Jan. Dolan, R-Farmington Hills, who voted for Senate Bill 1.

"I'm really surprised at Jan's stance on it since she is a former educator," said Waack. "We do things togeth-

See ADULT ED, 2A

State champions again!



DANIEL LAFFITE/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Good defense: *Harrison senior defensive tackle Gary Lesperance (62) celebrates a tackle for a loss on Midland's Jake Miller in the Silverdome. Helping on the tackle are teammates Ed Kennedy (74) and Charles Bambenek (89). The Hawks won their sixth state title Friday, 12-9. See story on Page 1C.*

Hills council mystified by cart-before-horse request

By BILL COUTANT
STAFF WRITER

An attempt to obtain a liquor license after starting to build a restaurant on the site of the original Roman Terrace restaurant smacked of intimidation to some Farmington Hills City Council members.

The mistake-riddled attempt by Morrison Restaurants Inc. attorney John C. Polasky to obtain a Class C liquor license for its new Ruby Tuesday restaurant "mystified" councilman Larry Lichtman.

"How would your client begin construction of a restaurant before obtaining a liquor license?" Lichtman said. "It seems almost foolhardy." Polasky had mistakenly thought his request was scheduled for the Nov. 22 meeting and had missed the Nov. 15 meeting when council mem-

bers voted down his client's request for the city's last remaining liquor license, G-1, with councilman Aldo Vagnozzi dissenting.

After realizing his mistake, Polasky asked and was granted a rehearing on the issue for the Nov. 22 meeting. But, as councilman Terry Sever pointed out, "you've gotten off on the wrong foot."

Polasky said, in a conversation with city attorney John Donohue, he had been led to believe that if all the applications were in order, his restaurant would get a liquor license. In that conversation Donohue had confirmed that the council had no policy the would limit its ability to grant the city's final (of four, based on the 1990 census) liquor license.

But city clerk Kathy Dorman had told Polasky that the council had

considered such a policy and suggested he try for a resort license through the state or an existing license in escrow.

Polasky said he found those avenues to be dead ends; the state's last resort license was issued in August and the only city license in escrow belonged to C.E. Muer and went with a former restaurant (Digger's) on Grand River.

"Buying a building just to get the (liquor) license would be a very costly way," he said.

That still didn't answer the burning question for council members, who said they would not allow Polasky's predicament to influence a decision on a license.

See REQUEST, 2A

Board set to narrow 'super' list

By LARRY O'CONNOR
STAFF WRITER

The pool of seven finalists in the Farmington Board of Education superintendent search will shrink tonight.

After conducting initial interviews, trustees will decide who they are going to ask back for another round of interviews. The meeting starts at 6 p.m. in the Lewis Schulman Administration Center, Farmington and Shawanee roads.

"I have two or three in my mind," said trustee Helen Prutow, who wouldn't mention any names, "but I'm just one-seventh of the board. It could change in discussion."

See SUPERINTENDENT, 2A

Light up City Hall!

Farmington Hills' inaugural "Holiday Lighting Ceremony" will take place at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 30, at the City Hall, 11 Mile and Orchard Lake roads.

Residents are invited to be on hand as the switch is pulled to light up City Hall. Then they can participate in a sing-along, visit with Santa and enjoy refreshments.

Volunteers take note

The second annual Gala for volunteers at the American Cancer Society's Discovery Shop will take place at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 1, at the shop in the Downtown Farmington Center. For more information, call 477-1081.

FARMINGTON FOCUS

Who was that driver?

Kenichiro Shinoda and his wife, Akemi, residents of Tokyo, Japan, were tourists in the Detroit area recently. They won't be carrying any horror stories about metro Detroit back to their homeland.

"We had a wonderful time," said Kenichiro Shinoda in a letter to the Observer. "Our experience was completely different from what we had read about Detroit. The people were kind and the service was good."

However, the Shinodas wish to locate the taxi

driver who took them from the Farmington Holiday Inn to the Northwest terminal at Detroit Metro Airport on Sept. 24. They'd like to reward an honest and considerate man.

"The taxi fare was \$30, and I gave the driver \$40, intending a \$10 tip for his good service," Shinoda explained. "As we entered the Northwest terminal, the driver suddenly appeared to return our \$10 change."

The Shinodas would like to treat that driver to dinner at the Cherry Blossom Restaurant in Novi. He has only to call Shinoda's friends at the firm of Suzuki, Myers & Associates at 344-0909 to make arrangements.

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