



# Farmington Observer

MONDAY, MARCH 21, 1994 • FARMINGTON, MICHIGAN • 62 PAGES

FIFTY CENTS

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VOLUME 105 NUMBER 60

## Bus/car crash drives worries



There were no injuries in Friday's school bus/car crash in a Farmington Hills subdivision. However, the accident confirmed fears by some parents about the safety of some bus stops.

BY BILL COULTANT  
STAFF WRITER

A school bus/car accident on a slick subdivision street during Friday's late-winter snow caused no serious injuries but reopened some old wounds for parents of school children in Farmington Hills.

The accident, which took place at 8:40 a.m., involved an empty school bus and a 1993 Toyota Camry on a curve of Fredricksburg near Gaines Mill in the Farmington Green West subdivision north of 12 Mile and west of Drake.

Farmington Hills police said the

driver of the bus, Debra Carver, 42, of Farmington Hills, was uninjured. Kisho Kitano, 40, the driver of the Camry and a subdivision resident, suffered minor injuries in the accident. Both were wearing seat belts and there were no passengers in either vehicle.

But the accident, which left the back of the bus perched on the front of the Camry, had neighbors angry because of fears for their children who had only five minutes earlier caught another bus at a nearby stop.

"I won't let them (second-graders)

stand by themselves," said Janet Warsh, who lives near the accident and walks her twins to the bus stop on school days. "This mailbox (30 feet from the accident) gets wiped out on a regular basis."

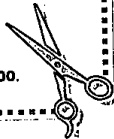
**They've complained**

Darla Dadey, a resident with school children who lives near the accident site, said she and Warsh have complained to the Farmington Schools about the problem. Nothing has been done, she said.

See CRASH, 2A

### Look for coupons today

- Cut your weekly grocery bill an average \$20 to \$30 a week clipping coupons that are inserted in today's issue of your home-delivered Observer newspaper.
- While you are clipping, check out the Taste section in today's paper for quick and easy recipes your family will enjoy.
- Don't miss out on the savings. To have the Observer delivered to your home, call 591-0500.



IN THE PAPER

## TODAY

**Telling tales:** An African-American had some intriguing stories to tell at Hillside Elementary School in Farmington Hills. /3A

**Sidewalk sense:** Farmington doesn't want residents taking a trip on the wildside, or their backside, for that matter. /3A

**Sounds of Austria:** The Clarenceville production of "The Sound of Music" is ready to go on the Schmidt Auditorium stage. /4A

### TASTE



**Passover:** Busy families share tips for celebrating the Jewish festival of Passover. /1B

**Wine column:** Merlot is the stylish "in" varietal among premium red wine consumers. /1B

### MALLS & MAINSTREETS

**Parisian's Promises:** The Alabama-based apparel store's president traveled to Livonia recently to talk about his company's service, style and Aug. 1 opening at Laurel Park Place. /4B

### SPORTS

**Track outlook:** Farmington Harrison will field a well-rounded team in boys track and field. /1C

**Title repeat:** Farmington Our Lady of Sorrows won its second consecutive CYO championship in boys basketball. /1C

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### He's still building a career



SHARON LEMIEUX/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Laying bricks: Christopher Guarano, a bricklayer since he came to the United States from Italy in 1962, works on a new house under construction in Farmington Hills. Guarano, 65, loves his job, says his wife, Josephine. "He works hard," she said. "I don't think he's ready to retire. He loves his job too much."

## Does student swimsuit feature bare review?

BY LARRY O'CONNOR  
STAFF WRITER

The next issue of Harrison High student newspaper, the Catalyst, will show some bare legs, exposed midriffs and heaving chests.

The one-page photo spread is a take off on the annual Sports Illustrated swimsuit issue.

It's a parody, tastefully done, say those involved.

Last year, I didn't hear anything

about it," said Tom Schroeder, newspaper adviser at Harrison.

However, the feature could take on a different light after the Farmington High student newspaper, the Blue and White, had a series on teen sexuality recently censored by district administration.

A U.S. Supreme Court ruling upholds the right of school administration to censor student-operated newspapers.

A parent called the Observer and said she finds a swimsuit issue peculiar.

"It's ironic they can be featured in a swimsuit and they can't read about abortion," she said.

The Blue and White's series on teen sexuality was viewed as violating state public acts concerning sex education, according to assistant superintendent for curriculum Judy White.

Two articles — one on abortion and

the other on child molestation — were seen as particularly volatile.

Farmington High students are rewriting the material and the series will appear in May.

The letter from a student describing her experience of having an abortion was scrapped altogether.

When teens, boys and girls alike, are displayed in swimsuits and bikinis

See SWIMSUIT, 4A

## Businesses get goods on planning for disasters

BY BILL COULTANT  
STAFF WRITER

Businesses are now taking stock of a new-found competitor — natural and man-made disasters.

Florida's Hurricane Andrew, the Mississippi River floods in the Midwest, earthquakes, riots and fires in California, and a killer cold winter

have convinced a lot of businesses to prepare for disaster — or go out of business.

"It becomes a big deal if we're out of business for very long," said Jim Cope, director for business support services at Alexander Hamilton Insurance in Farmington Hills. "We're in a very competitive business. We

can lose customers if we are down for very long."

In fact, the Farmington Hills-based insurance company, which is owned by Household Corp., found that even a 24-hour power outage could hurt business. But the company has taken steps to make sure it not only recovers in the event of a disaster or fire

but that it can stay in business during a disaster and throughout any rebuilding period.

Cope made the remarks at a Business Watch seminar Thursday.

Because of planning for business recovery, Alexander Hamilton's par-

See DISASTERS, 2A

### Knowing hunger

About 30 members of the Faith Covenant Church youth group took part in an international effort to fight world hunger by going 30 hours without food last Friday and Saturday at the Farmington Hills church.

The young people joined thousands of others in World Vision's annual 30 Hour Famine project to raise money for hunger programs around the world.

The students, who gathered sponsors for their fast, spent 23 of the 30 hours together learning about poverty, malnutrition and world needs through video, simulation games and other materials.

To bring their efforts closer to home, members of the group spent Saturday, March 19, helping at Hannah House, a homeless shelter for women and children in Highland Park.

### FARMINGTON FOCUS

For more information about the program, call Heather Monkmeier at 471-7379.

#### Spaghetti dinner

The Harrison High School Band and Orchestra Boosters will hold a spaghetti dinner 5:30-7:30 p.m. Tuesday, March 23, in the cafeteria of the high school on 12 Mile west of Middlebelt.

Tickets at \$3 per person may be purchased in advance. Call Christine Cahill at 478-5691. Tickets at \$3.50 each will be available at the door. Proceeds will be used to supplement the school music program.

The menu includes spaghetti, garlic bread, salad, ice cream and beverage.

#### Memory Lane

From the March 25, 1954, edition of the Farmington Enterprise:  
 ■ State Superintendent of Public Instruction Dr. Clair Taylor addressed about 300 persons at the official dedication of the new Farmington High School on Shiawassee.

■ Voters in the Farmington Township School District were to decide a bond issue that would provide \$1.5 million for additions and renovations to the schools.

Items for Farmington Focus may be mailed to the Farmington Observer, 21896 Farmington Road, Farmington 48336, or dropped off at the newspaper office.