

Farmington Observer

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FIFTY CENTS

IN THE PAPER

TODAY

With the program: *Students and teachers at Hillside Elementary in Farmington Hills seem happy with their new computers.* /3A

Personnel note: *Two Farmington Public Schools administrators are no longer in the running for superintendent's jobs in other districts.* /3A

Quite a 'feet': *The recent WalkAmerica at OCC-Orchard Ridge had to be cut short because of dangerous weather, but the event drew 1,500 to help the March of Dimes.* /7A

MALLS & MAINSTREETS

Look ma, no seams! *Jacobson's intimate apparel buyer tells all about dressing from the inside out.* /8A

Half-century secretary: *Meet Wanda Jazowski. She's been typing, filing and handling messages at Hudson's for 52 years.* /8A

TASTE



Mother's Day: *Meet four men who pamper their wives on Mother's Day by cooking and cleaning up with help from their children.* /1B

Wine column: *Toast spring with Cru Beaujolais, a fruity wine that can satisfy red wine drinkers on warm days.* /1B

SPORTS

Track champs: *Farmington Public Schools crowned champions Saturday in the annual boys and girls city meets.* /1C

Diamond duels: *North Farmington and Farmington were on opposing sides Friday in baseball and softball games.* /1C

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Ponke trial lag expected



The trial of Raymond Ponke, accused in the hammer slaying of his wife in Farmington on Jan. 8, was to start May 17. His lawyers are expected to ask for a new trial date.

BY LARRY O'CONNOR
STAFF WRITER

Attorneys for Raymond Ponke are expected to ask for a new trial date while their client completes psychological evaluations.

Ponke's trial is scheduled to start May 17 in the brutal slaying of his

wife Jackie Ponke at a Farmington dental office.

Ponke is charged with first-degree murder in her death Jan. 8.

A hearing will take place Wednesday, May 4, before Oakland County Circuit Court Judge Jessica Cooper to get the trial date moved.

Tests to determine if Ponke is able to stand trial have been completed at the Forensic Center in Northville, according to his attorney. Results have not come back.

Further testing has to be done, the attorneys said.

"The part of it related to Huntington's Disease has been not completed," said Ponke's attorney Ron Chapman, "and that takes a little longer."

Ponke's family has a history of Huntington's chorea, according to preliminary examination testimony.

See PONKE, 4A



Jackie Ponke

Doctor's prescription: Heal everyone



Checking on baby: Dr. Susan Rice examines 4-week-old Jerrold Rayborn at Botsford General Hospital as his mother, Shantea Stewart, watches.

BY BILL COLTANT
STAFF WRITER

Dr. Susan Rice is having a busy day.

Her morning schedule of office calls had to be shuffled around the birth of a baby that she delivered at Botsford General Hospital in Farmington Hills. But she doesn't mind.

"She was a sweetheart of a mom," she said, as she gets ready to see a patient in the Detroit office she shares with fellow family doctor Frank Lenzilote.

In fact, what she does mind is not seeing patients when they need care and not being able to get them the lab tests, drugs and treatments they should have but can't afford or get through insurance.

"Insurance always seems to be a roadblock," she said.

Rice, an Owosso native and graduate of Michigan State University's School of Osteopathic Medicine, has been practicing in Detroit and Farmington Hills for the past 12 years. She's had her share of frustrations in that time.

"I treat AIDS patients," she said. "Some of my other patients are bothered by that and some have no problem with it."

For Rice, the problem is not treating AIDS patients, but getting them the medicine they need.

The medicines needed to treat AIDS, such as AZT, are expensive, Rice said. Many of her AIDS patients can't afford those drugs. But even basic procedures such as mammograms or lab tests on pap smears are not covered by many insurance companies.

"You can donate time, and even stretch some costs, but not enough," she said. "Over the years, access has declined. With (Gov. John) Engler throwing people off general assistance who are allegedly able bodied, you have even more people who don't have health care."

See DOCTOR, 4A

Plan targets kids, breathes life into CPR

BY BILL COLTANT
STAFF WRITER

Related story, 2A

Cardiopulmonary resuscitation can work miracles, but few take the time to learn this life-saving technique. Emergency medical professionals often scratch their heads and wonder why.

"We have wanted to expand the CPR (training) program, but we really haven't been able to do that," said Farmington Hills EMS coordinator Kevin Bersche.

In some communities, like Jacksonville, Fla., and Seattle, Wash., as many as four out of 10 citizens know CPR, but those cities are the exception.

"Having someone on the scene who knows CPR increases tremendously your chances of survival," Bersche said. "In Farmington Hills, the

chances are about 10 percent that a bystander can perform CPR."

That frustration led Bersche to consider another idea: Train people at a young age in a controlled situation. And school seemed the right place.

Sandy Aitschul, an EMT who owns Metro Save-A-Life, first proposed the idea that middle school students could learn some CPR techniques.

The idea was to teach infant/child CPR to sixth-graders and then eventually follow that training up with additional CPR training for high school students, Bersche said.

The project is ambitious. The program will begin as a pilot program at Power Middle School. If successful, it

could be used in other middle schools as well as the high schools for the adult CPR classes.

Classes will be taught using four instructors per class to ensure "hands-on" training. The Farmington Hills Fire Department, Farmington Public Safety, Metro Save-A-Life, Community Emergency Medical Services and Botsford General Hospital will provide the instructors.

In some high schools, CPR classes are a graduation requirement, Bersche said.

"Training students and then reinforcing the training looks like the best way to really reach more people."

Anyone interested in learning CPR should call Bersche at 563-0740. "If we don't have classes coming up here, we can direct them to some place that does," he said.



Kevin Bersche

March to the ball game

About 500 players and coaches will march into the South Farmington baseball season during a parade through downtown Farmington on Saturday, May 7.

The parade will start at 10 a.m. at the Farmington City Hall on Grand River west of Farmington Road. The route will be Farmington Road to Shilweassee and then to City Park, where the games will be played.

Some 1,000 boys and girls play on South Farmington teams. "We're excited about this season," said Ed Cleland, a league official. "It's our 25th anniversary."

The organization will hold a benefit golf tourna-

FARMINGTON FOCUS

ment Sunday, May 22, at Cattails Golf Club in South Lyon. Cleland said he hopes \$20,000 can be raised.

Price is \$100 per golfer (\$35 for the food only), with many prizes planned. A golf hole may be sponsored for \$150. Individuals or companies also may provide gift certificates and other prizes.

Some of the other prizes are baseballs autographed by Detroit Tigers and broken or cracked Tiger bats.

For more information about the league or the

golf outing, call Cleland or Nick Salowich at 427-2288.

Anything to share?

An "Expanded Discussion & Sharing Session" is on the agenda for the Thursday, May 12, open meeting of the Interagency Council of Farmington/Farmington Hills.

The meeting begins at 7:30 a.m. at the Farmington Community Center, 24705 Farmington Road, Farmington Hills.

The Interagency Council is an umbrella group for Farmington-area organizations. For more information, call Elaine McDermott at 474-7204.