

# Farmington Observer

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IN THE PAPER

**TODAY**

**Right on budget:** For about the price of a haircut, Farmington residents will not have their city services trimmed. /3A

**From out of the past:** Household items of the past century and current historical publications are now on display until June 30 at the Farmington Hills City Hall. /4A

**C'ville school race:** Meet the three candidates who want to serve on the Clarenceville Board of Education. /5A

**TASTE**

**Kids' cooking:** Learn how to turn your kitchen into a learning lab for your children. /1B

**Taste the past:** Get a taste of history at a new restaurant featuring recipes from three local chefs. /1B

**SPORTS**

**Softball champs:** The amazing Harrison Hawks won their first Western Lakes Activities Association title last week. /1C

**Soccer final:** Farmington was in contention for a district championship Saturday at Livonia Churchill. /1C

**MALLS & MAINSTREETS**

**Window dressing:** A group of high school students learn retail lessons by working with a resale shop in Westland. /1D

**Celebrity stuff:** Livonia Mall is preparing for its annual auction for Muscular Dystrophy, but help is needed from shoppers. /1D

**STREET SCENE**

**Go!n' solo:** Alison Moyet finds it quite strange to be in the limelight, but that's where the English singer is with her solo career and with the pop-synth duet, Yaz. /3D

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## Candidates take jabs at issues



BY LARRY O'CONNOR  
STAFF WRITER

The first salvo was fired on the opening question. Challenger Kenneth Stein didn't want to miss by an inch.

His target Wednesday was two incumbents, primarily R. Jack Inch, who is seeking a fifth four-year term

on the Farmington Board of Education. Cathleen Webb is running for a second term in the June 13 election.

All three candidates discussed issues — and placed a few jabs — in the candidates' forum sponsored by the League of Women Voters Oakland Area. The discussion was taped at Southwestern Oakland County Cable

Commission studios in Farmington Hills and will be aired at a later date.

Inch was discussing multiculturalism, and began to explain the influx of people from the Pacific Rim when he ran out of time. Stein took the cue.

"After Mr. Inch has taken us to the Pacific Rim, I'd like to bring us back to Farmington Hills," Stein said.

Stein also didn't miss a chance to zing incumbents about their longevity. Webb has been on the board four years; Inch, 16 years.

"We need a realignment," Stein said. "That's not going to happen . . ."

**SCHOOL ELECTION**

with the same people serving year after year.

"And in Mr. Inch's case, year after year after year . . ."

Said Inch afterward: "If I wasn't on the board, I'd attack longevity, too."

For Stein, it might be his only chance to go on the offensive in a head-to-head debate.

See CANDIDATES, 2A

### Happy days at Harrison High



SHARON LAMBLER/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

**Bald-faced truth:** Harrison softball coach Mike Teachman makes good on a promise to let his players shave his head following the Hawks' 7-0 victory over Walled Lake Central Thursday for the Western Lakes Activities Association softball championship. The players, including Amy Geary (left), Amanda Ault and Lori Hubble, left the word "DAWGS" on Teachman's head. For a story and more photos, please see the Sports Section, 1C.

**Tipsy and friend:** Mari-jo Wickens and her dog Tippy face another day at work.



SHARON LAMBLER/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

## Family says ciao, to bag feed store

BY LARRY O'CONNOR  
STAFF WRITER

Saying goodbye is never easy, especially when it's every other minute.

After 40 years, Joe's Feed Store is supposed to close June 1. That's a lot of so-longs to a legion of customers who file through on a given morning.

"I stopped crying all the time," said Mari-jo Wickens, daughter of the late Joe Wickens, who started the feed store. "It's difficult. I know all of them."

"When I see them pull up, I know what to pull out." Joe's Feed Store is the venerable enclave on Nine Mile and Shilwassee in Farmington Hills. People step inside and are transported back to something out of Hooterville, USA.

There's the aroma, which emanates from a robust mixture of fresh feed, straw, rawhide chew bones, and reject peanuts. The whiff is pleasant or putrid, depending on one's nasal preferences.

There's Mari-jo, who is as quick with a quip as she is with a scoop to fill a feed bag. She's worked in the family business off and on her whole life.

There's Ron Brown, who is one of the guys who works in the back room and often has a 40-pound bag of dog food on his shoulder. Or, he's harassing Mari-jo's pug behind the counter, Tippy.

There's history, which connects the Farmington area's rural past with its upscale present. Joe's Feed used to

See JOE'S, 3A

## E-mail stalking charge pulls plug on romance

BY SUZ BUCK  
STAFF WRITER

It may have been love at first sight, or just infatuation. But the computer dating relationship involving computer E-mail transmissions between a Farmington Hills woman and Andrew Archambeau of Dearborn Heights quickly soured when she pressed stalking charges against him.

"I don't believe I was stalking her (a woman he would not identify as Laura)," Archambeau, 31, said Thursday. "I have her unlisted phone number."

He says that he lives a block away from her workplace and could have gone there anytime if he was stalking, but he didn't, although one time he apolo-

gized for watching her leave her workplace. "I didn't go over there and put roses on her windshield, but I wanted to," Archambeau said. "The charge does bug me. I really did love her."

Archambeau was charged under an anti-stalking law that took effect in 1993. The law states that it is a misdemeanor to maliciously and relentlessly harass and pursue someone.

If convicted, the charge is punishable by up to a year in jail and/or \$1,000. It can become a felony if threats are made or if there's a court order to stay away.

Howard Simon, executive director of the local chapter of the American Civil Liberties Union, said Thursday that he was awaiting faxed documents

from Archambeau. These include any police reports, tickets, and a statement to appear for arraignment, so that he could review the case and determine whether he would provide a lawyer's services.

"This calls into question the judgment of the Oakland County prosecutor," Simon says. "It's not at all clear that it comes under the definition of stalking because it deals with non-threatening, annoying correspondence."

"Stalking is a very serious offense. What the Legislature intended was behavior that a reasonable person would consider a threat."

See E-MAIL, 2A