

IN THE PAPER

**TODAY**

**Talks of the Hills:** Negotiations between Farmington Hills and two of its employee bargaining units are entering a new phase. /3A

**Tale of terror:** A White Lake Township man told Farmington Hills police he was kidnapped and robbed in the city. /4A

**To a fault:** Eighteen people spoke Monday before a state House Judiciary subcommittee on no-fault divorce in Farmington Hills. /6A

**SPECIAL SECTIONS**

**Cobo show:** Look in today's Observer and read about the products and services for home and garden along with a list of special events at the 77th annual International Builders Home, Flower and Furniture Show presented by the Builders Association of Southeastern Michigan March 18-26 at the Cobo Conference-Exhibition Center.

**COMMUNITY LIFE**

**'Doubting disease':** A Hills study is helping some sufferers of obsessive compulsive disorder overcome this disabling condition. /11A

**War and remembrance:** Farmington resident Bob Jagers writes about his war tour of Europe. /11A

**OPINION**

**No mandate:** When it comes to student community service, the Observer says: Encourage it, applaud it, reward it... but don't mandate it. /16A

**LET'S GO!**

**Life imitates art:** As a suburban married couple play romantic leads opposite each other in "Prelude to a Kiss." /1B

**Let the music play:** Noteworthy concerts include variety of musical styles. /1B

**SPORTS**

**Second-best:** Farmington High's Matt Michalski will have to wait until next year to win a wrestling championship. /1C

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## The race is on for board seat



Let the petition drive begin. With no incumbent running, some are already expressing an interest in this year's Farmington School Board election on June 12.

BY LARRY O'CONNOR  
STAFF WRITER

One said yes, one said no, and another said maybe in the run for a spot

on the Farmington School Board. Farmington resident Linda Enberg has taken out nominating petitions. She needs to collect 20 signatures

from registered voters in the Farmington School District to have her placed name on the ballot. Nominating petitions are due at 4 p.m. Monday, April 10.

One seat is open in the June 12 school election. Longtime trustee Susan Lightner announced March 14 she will not seek a fourth four-year term.

With no incumbent, there could be

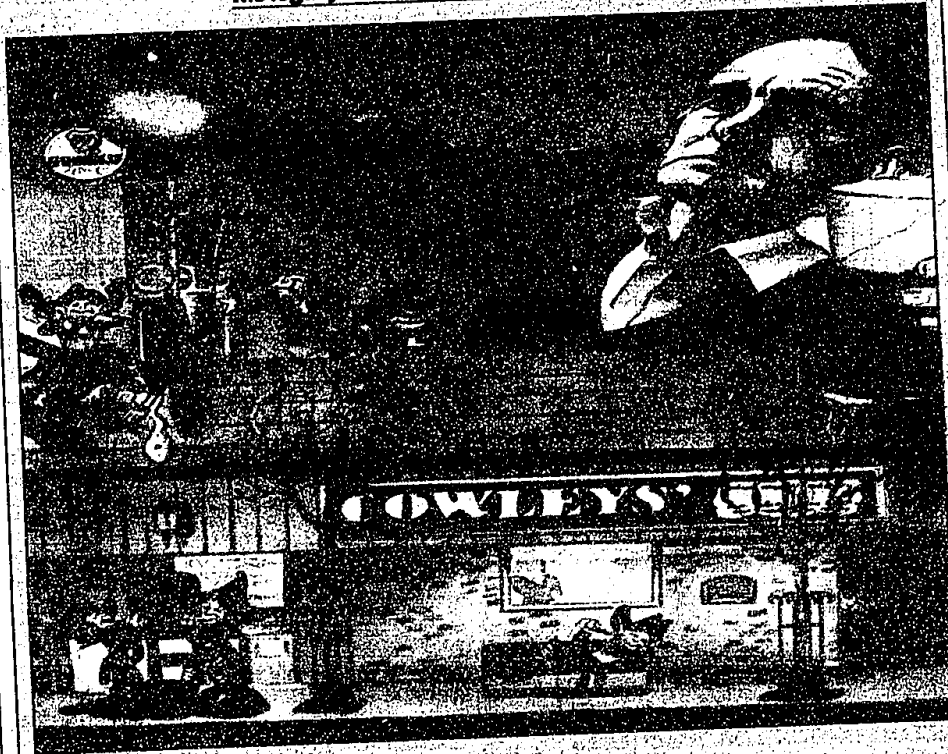
a crowded field of challengers.

Another potential candidate could be former board member Michael Shpiece, who, ironically, stepped down 12 years ago and whose seat was subsequently filled by Susan (Renala) Lightner.

"I'm always interested in serving the community," Shpiece said Sunday.

See RACE, 2A

### His legacy: An Irish pub in Farmington's hub



## Publican serves stout with clout

BY LARRY O'CONNOR  
STAFF WRITER

Jean Cowley is much like the charcoal-black and crumby-top mustache-adorned server: His opinion is not outmoded.

The topic is son, Pat "Paddy" Cowley, 31, who is taking over the

reign at Cowley's Village Inn on Grand River in downtown Farmington.

Is there any chance the place will veer from its Irish authenticity under his American-born son's ownership? Dad scoffs.

"He wants to make it more Irish,"

said John Cowley in a growling County Carlow tone, leaving one to wonder if that could be possible.

"He plays that Irish music all day. I can't stand that stuff on all the time."

Hundreds will pour through the inn's doors Friday, a St. Patrick's

Day at the site of Farmington's historic fire in 1872 is an annual rite.

WCSX-FM's "J.J. and The Morning Crew" will broadcast live 7-11 a.m. Those with even remotely Irish monikers who have been summoned

See COWLEYS, 2A

## The Fox who roared is leaving the Hills

BY BILL COUTANT  
STAFF WRITER

Admired, respected, liked and disliked... Jean Fox surely will not be forgotten.

Fox, who served as mayor and councilwoman, has been active in the Farmington Hills Historic Commission and has been one of the city's most formidable champions of histor-

ic and parkland preservation.

Fox, 77, is leaving the city after more than 30 years to live near her son, John, and his family in the Washington, D.C. area. Her son works for the U.S. Department of State.

"You can take Jean Fox out of Farmington Hills, but I don't think it works the other way around," said

Farmington/Farmington Hills Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Jody Soronen.

"Jean had an opinion and she stuck to her views," Soronen added. "I always admired that in her."

The city is planning to honor Fox before she leaves in early April.

"She knows how to get things done," said Ruth Moehman, a long-

time Historic Commission member and author of "Heritage Homes of Farmington."

Moehman said Fox will be long remembered for her innovative approach to historic preservation that resulted in Farmington Hills having a non-contiguous historic district.

See FOX, 2A

### That's really amazing

The Farmington Downtown Development Authority's Winter Fun Series for youngsters continues at 2 p.m. Saturday, March 18, with a performance of "The Amazing Jonathan" at the Civic Theatre on Grand River. Juggling and sleight-of-hand should keep the audience laughing. This fast-paced show has been a favorite at the Michigan Renaissance Festival for many years. Admission is \$2 per person.

### Group needs volunteers

A local Alzheimers support group, supported by the Botaford Continuing Health Center, is seeking volunteers on a one-to-one basis in the adopt-a-resident program. Volunteers will socialize in a variety of group

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activities or assist with office work at the health center.

The Alzheimers support group meets the first Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m. at Botaford Continuing Health Center, 21450 Archwood Circle, west of Folsom Road, Farmington Hills. For more information, call 477-7400.

### Be a 'Very Informed Person'

Botaford General Hospital in Farmington Hills will host "Diabetes VIP (Very Informed Person)" on Saturday, March 25. The day-long forum, which is being offered to

individuals diagnosed with diabetes and those with whom they share their lives, will feature sessions focusing on how to take control of managing diabetes.

A keynote address will be delivered by Catherine Forte, author of "The Physician Within." Forte, who has lived with diabetes for more than 30 years, will speak on the psychosocial and spiritual dimensions of discovering well-being while facing a chronic disease. She will discuss how to learn to cope, find support and maintain hope.

The event will be held from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Botaford Hospital, 29050 Grand River, Farmington. Registration fee is \$25 per person and will include lunch, refreshments, displays and a simulated "grocery" tour.

Pre-registration is required. Additional information may be obtained by calling 477-7400.