

# Farmington Observer

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## IN THE PAPER TODAY

**Great support:** Highmeadow Common Campus secretary Dorothy Carpenter has been named as this year's Distinguished Support Award recipient. /8A  
**All hall volunteers:** More than 300 volunteers who give their time, energy and even money were honored at the Costick Center Monday morning. /3A  
**Survey says:** Despite criticism, all-day Kindergarten program heads toward renewal in the Walled Lake District. /3A

## OPINION

**Senate selection:** Willis Bulard's experience in the State House makes him the best qualified to serve in the Senate from the 15th District. /10A  
**Getting it done:** Oaklanders of all ages and backgrounds will join in Volunteer-A-Thon '96, the biggest annual fund-raiser for Volunteer Impact (VI). /10A

## ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

**Fine arts:** If you're curious about what cars will look like 10 years from now, visit the Center for Creative Studies student exhibition to view the visions of tomorrow's artists and designers. /1B

## SPORTS

**Win streaks:** The Farmington and Harrison high school baseball teams continue to post winning scores on the diamond. /1C  
**No decision:** An intra-city contest between the Farmington and North Farmington soccer teams ended in a tie. /1C

## AT HOME

**At Home:** See a variety of styles, inside and out, on the Birmingham Spring House Tour. /D

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# Hills home scene of 28th suicide

The assisted suicide debate came to Farmington Hills this week as Dr. Jack Kevorkian apparently helped a 63-year-old Canadian end his life in the Steele Street home of Janet Good.

By TOM BARR  
 STAFF WRITER

Press reports Wednesday said that Dr. Jack Kevorkian had attended his 28th assisted suicide "somewhere in Michigan." That somewhere turned out to be a brick ranch house on a pleasant street in northwest Farmington Hills.

It was the Steele Street residence of

Janet Good, an important player in the assisted suicide debate currently raging in the media and in Oakland County Circuit Court.

Good — a right-to-die activist who has counseled many terminally-ill friends and who is herself terminally-ill with cancer — apparently allowed an assisted suicide to take place in her house Monday night, police said.

The victim was a 63-year-old Windsor, Ont. resident, Austin Eastable, who suffered from multiple sclerosis.

Kevorkian, in the midst of his third trial for helping terminally-ill people die, was on hand for the suicide, according to police reports, as were four other physicians.

Hills Police Chief William Dwyer said his department was informed of the suicide by the Ontario Provincial Police Wednesday morning. An undertaker from LaSalle, Ont., had contacted Canadian authorities.

The suicide apparently took place

about 10:30 p.m. Monday, Dwyer said, and the undertaker arrived at about 1:15 a.m. Tuesday to transport the body back to Canada for embalming.

Dwyer said the body had been seized by LaSalle police and would probably be sent back to Michigan for an autopsy.

Wednesday morning, police evidence technicians were looking through the Good house, while officers questioned Good and her husband Ray.

See KEVORKIAN, 2A

## Spring snakes to life at Heritage Park



**Hills Nature Festival:** Spring was welcomed by about 300 residents Saturday at the Farmington Hills Nature Festival in Heritage Park. There was plenty to do and see in the local version of Earth Day. Bill Neill of Science Alive displays a boa constrictor to a group of kids. Nine-year-old Leanne Burns wriggles to the front to pet and hold him. For more Festival photos, see page 3A.

# Avid bicyclist killed; alcohol involved

By BILL COULTART  
 STAFF WRITER

A woman from Colorado and a man from California, both visiting parents in Oakland County, were involved in what police believe was an alcohol-related accident that left one dead and the other possibly facing a long prison term.

Elenya Rainbow, 45, was killed Monday at 10:15 p.m. when her white mountain bike was struck from behind by a car on Freedom Road west of Drake in Farmington Hills.

The victim had been visiting her parents at their Freedom Road home. She had come by train to Michigan from her Denver, Colo. home. The Michigan State University graduate did not own a car and had ridden her bike to Farmington Hills from the Ann Arbor Amtrak station.

**Police said the car's driver admitted to drinking before the incident. He could be charged with operating under the influence of alcohol resulting in death, a 15-year felony; negligent homicide, a 2-year misdemeanor or possibly manslaughter, also a 15-year felony. He was being held in the Farmington Hills City Jail Wednesday awaiting arraignment.**

She was cycling back to her motel, the Red Roof Inn on Sinclair, from her parents' house when a 1985 Mercury Marquis struck her from behind sending her 100 feet from the impact, police said. She was pronounced dead at the scene.

Police said the car, which had come from behind her heading west on Freedom west of Drake about 200

yards east of Hillview, swerved around and came to a stop facing east on the south side of the road after hitting the bike and rider.

The driver of the car was at the scene when officers arrived. Officers also found several empty beer cans in the car.

Police arrested a Del Mar, Calif. man, 41, who has been staying with

his parents in Commerce Township for the last two months. He was arrested on suspicion of drunken driving and taken to Botsford General Hospital for a blood test.

A blood alcohol level of .1 percent is considered too drunk to drive in Michigan. Police were still awaiting blood test results Wednesday.

Hills Traffic Supervisor Sgt. Dennis Green said the impact threw the woman out of her shoes. Police were searching Tuesday for the woman's bright yellow bike helmet, which they later found in her motel room.

The white mountain bike still had its front light and rear flashing light on when police arrived at the scene.

"As far as we can determine, she was riding on the outside white line

See ACCIDENT, 2A

## 'Beyond the Obvious'

Cultural Diversity: Beyond the Obvious" is the title of a talk to be given by Samir Haddad, director of bilingual education for the Farmington Public Schools, at 8 a.m. Tuesday, May 14, at the Farmington Training Center, 38000 Thomas Street, Farmington.

Haddad will share his impressions about the Farmington area's experience in dealing with and celebrating cultural, ethnic and racial diversity.

The event, part of an ongoing series sponsored by the Farmington/Farmington Hills Multicultural/Multiracial Community Council, is open to the public. The talk will be cablecast on Channel 12 throughout May.

## FARMINGTON FOCUS

### Quite an honor

Farmington resident Audris Chernauskas has been honored by U.S. Rep. Joe Knollenberg, R-Mich., for her community service during her reign as Miss Farmington.

Chernauskas, who was crowned Miss Farmington last July, has participated in programs to help keep teenagers from smoking and has been a strong advocate for volunteerism in the community.

She also worked closely with Monroe's former Miss America, Kaye Lani Raye Rakko Wilson, on a benefit for the Foundation for Youth, Children

and Families.

"Audrie is a great young leader," said Knollenberg, whose 11th Congressional District includes the Farmington area. "I am confident that she will continue to be an inspiration to our fellow citizens and people of all ages."

### 'Touch tank' at Spicer

Carol and Bob Plummer will set up a "touch tank" containing various marine animals found in tidal pools at a meeting of the Farmington Area Naturalists at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, May 14, in the Spicer House in Heritage Park on Farmington Road between 10 Mile and 11 Mile roads.

Attendees can pick up and examine animals like starfish and sea urchins. Children are encouraged to attend.

# Team Farmington, Optimists sponsor benefit play

The Farmington-Farmington Hills Optimist Club and the Team Farmington Special Olympics organization have teamed up to sponsor a night at the Farmington Players Theatre.

A benefit performance of the play — "Isn't It Romantic" — will begin at 7:45 p.m. on Wednesday, May 15. An afterglow will take place on the lower level of the theater with members of the cast in attendance after the performance.

Douglas and Lemson Co., a Farmington Hills based supplier of automotive seating systems and components, has underwritten the cost for use of the theater for the performance. Garden City upholstery, in Farmington, is funding the afterglow.

Advanced ticket purchase is required at a cost of \$15 per ticket.

For further information, call Dennis Fitzgerald of the Optimist Club at 471-1223 or Russ Reynolds of Team Farmington at 563-7618 for ticket information.