

Farmington Observer

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IN THE PAPER TODAY

Pet owners take note: While shopping with his expectant wife, Eric Reed gave birth to an idea — why not start a magazine for pet owners? /A3

Cayce trial begins: The trial of a man accused of taking part in one of the most heinous crimes in the history of Farmington Hills began Monday. /A16

SPORTS

Hoop preview: Coach Brian Swinehart has six returning players around which to build his North Farmington boys basketball team for the 1996-97 season. /C1

Swim standouts: The area's best swimmers and divers are recognized for their achievements as members of the 1996 All-Observer girls team. /C5

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

The Nutcracker: 'Tis the season for the ballet. Just ask one of the many local groups offering their version. Get the complete listing. /E2

INDEX

A&E	E1-5	Obituaries	A6
At Home	Section D	Police & fire	A4
Cable Connection	A18	Real Estate	Section G
Columns	A21	Recreation News	A16
Community Life	B1-3	Religion	B11, 13-14
Editorials	A20	Sports	C1-6
Letters	A20	YMCA Highlights	A6

Crossword puzzle not included in today's edition. We apologize for any inconvenience.

Reward increased in ATM killing in Farmington Hills



Farmington Hills police and the family of a slain ATM maintenance man hope an increased reward leads to information that solves the crime.

BY WILLIAM COUTANT
STAFF WRITER

The mother and sister of a man shot to death in a bungled robbery of a Farmington Hills ATM made a

plea for help in finding the killer Tuesday.

Martha Bosley and her 17-year-old daughter Brigitte joined Farmington Hills Police Chief Bill Dwyer in asking that anyone with informa-

tion about the shooting to come forward.

Dwyer, who called the Nov. 14 killing "a vicious ambush," said the reward leading to the arrest and conviction of the man responsible for the death of Dwayne Bosley, 25, has been increased to \$47,500. Comerica Bank is paying \$12,500, the FBI is paying \$5,000 and Guardian Alarm is increasing its share to \$30,000.

See BOSLEY, A2



Dwayne Bosley

Stringing along . . . to the White House



STAFF PHOTO BY SHARON LEMLEY

Play on, play on: Juliet Petrus, a Farmington resident and member of the Oakland Suzuki Chamber Orchestra, is headed for a performance in Washington, D.C.

Young musicians will be VIP in D.C.

BY LARRY O'CONNOR
STAFF WRITER

Farmington area will have the right strings in the nation's capital — not the political kind but rather the musical variety.

The Oakland Suzuki Chamber Orchestra, which includes nine Farmington-area teens, performs at the White House Friday.

The group is leaving Friday morning for Washington, D.C., and will showcase their musical talents during private VIP tours. Two 40-

■ "... it sends a message that these students are important."

Mary Margaret Stolberg
—co-director

minute performances are planned.

"I think it's going to be really cool, but I'm going to be nervous," said viola player Emily Curtin, 16, who is a Farmington High junior. "I hope I don't mess up."

Curtin's friend and chamber member thinks it's going to be a great experience for all involved.

"It's a lot of chaos right now, but once we get there everything is going to fall into place I'm sure,"

said violin player Tara Szczygielka, who is also a Farmington High junior.

Oakland Suzuki Chamber Orchestra is a tight-knit outfit. Students, who are in grades 7-12, have been performing on violin or other string instruments since they were 4 and 5 years old.

The 13-member chamber includes students from West Bloomfield, Bloomfield Hills and

See STRINGAS, A2

Downtown vacancy filled

BY LARRY O'CONNOR
STAFF WRITER

Downtown Farmington retail and business space is 98 percent occupied, says Downtown Development Authority Director Judy Downey.

"There's no reason to believe we won't be at 100 percent," said Judy Downey in a report to Farmington City Council Monday.

Authority officials are particularly buoyed by news of several new tenants in the Kimco Realty-owned Downtown Center, including a buyout housewares shop opening in the former Maple Drugs spot.

Dallas-based chain Tuesday Morning sells comforter sets, sheets, clothing, pots and pans, and other household items.

Tuesday Morning has a store on 13 Mile and Hagerly in Farmington Hills. It's Novi outlet on 10 Mile and Meadowbrook is moving to Farmington, a store manager said. It will open Feb. 13.

Maple Drugs closed when Arbor Drugs bought out some of the chain's outlets two years ago. A Maple Drugs still operates in the Drake-shire Plaza. Arbor held the lease, which slowed the process of finding a new tenant.

"They're going to be a most welcomed business in downtown," Downey said.

Tuesday Morning will be joined by Big Apple Bagel, which is planning to open later this month, and a U.S. Postal Service store in the Downtown Center. The postal convenience store is expected to open sometime in March, a Farmington postal official said.

Council members complained in the past about the number of vacancies in the Downtown Center. That number continues to dwindle.

A robust economy and how downtowns, in general, have reinvented themselves are reasons given for the turnaround.

Whereas department stores used to anchor in thriving downtowns, the trend has switched to specialty shops, Downey said.

In Farmington, antique stores continue to proliferate.

A fifth antique store opened in downtown. Deb's

See DOWNTOWN, A2

Board wants more discussion on bond issue

BY LARRY O'CONNOR
STAFF WRITER

Farmington Board of Education trustees liked the idea of going for a millage renewal and certainly approved of maintaining an established fund balance of 8-12 percent. But this \$110 million bond issue? Well, board members want to mull that over some more.

"That's one hundred and ten millions," trustee Jack Inch said. "I

don't think in the years I've worked I've gone past one million dollars in income."

"I get frightened by \$110 million." At Tuesday's study session, trustees went over the proposal made by a financial strategies committee that would ask voters to approve a \$110 million bond for building renovations and technological improvements. Trustees will discuss the pro-

posed bond issue further at its next meeting Dec. 17.

The financial strategies committee recommends the district seek a millage renewal of 13.9377 mills for homesteads and 18 mills for non-homestead property and the bond issue at the same time. No election date has been set.

An additional 2.2 mills would be needed to pay for the bond issue, costing the owner of a \$165,000

home an additional \$181.82 annually. A mill is \$1 of tax for every \$1,000 of state equalized property value, which is usually half the market value.

A period of 60 days has to pass between the time the board announces it's going for a bond issue and the election date, according to state law.

That means if the district wants a

See BOND, A2

Busy young musicians

Farmington High School's musicians have a busy next few days. The following events are planned:

■ On Thursday, Dec. 5, the school will present its annual Vocal and Orchestra Holiday Concert at 7:30 p.m. in the FHS auditorium on Shiloh, west of Orchard Lake. Admission is one canned good to go to needy Farmington-area families.

■ On Saturday, Dec. 7, the FHS marching band will be on hand at the Farmer Jack parking lot in the downtown center for Santa's

FARMINGTON FOCUS

arrival on a helicopter about 10 a.m.

■ On Sunday, Dec. 8, FHS musicians will present "Variable Winds Concert" at 3 p.m. in the high school auditorium. Admission is \$2 per person, \$5 for a family. Senior citizens are admitted free of charge.

'The Gift of Christmas'

The William Tyndale College Choir will per-

form the Christmas musical "The Gift of Christmas" at 7:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 6, and again at 2:30 and 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 7, at the college, 35700 W. 12 Mile Road at Drake Road, Farmington Hills.

Tickets at \$4 each may be purchased at the door or at the Founders' Bookstore on the campus. Call 563-2850 for more information.

Items for Farmington Focus may be mailed to the Farmington Observer, 33411 Grand River, Farmington 48335; faxed to 477-9722; or dropped off at the newspaper office. For the computer-literate, the Internet e-mail address is: packy@mail.oconline.com.