

# Farmington Observer

Sunday  
July 27, 1997

VOLUME 110 NUMBER 87

FARMINGTON, MICHIGAN • 68 PAGES • <http://www.obonline.com>

SEVENTY-FIVE CENTS

## IN THE PAPER TODAY

**Body found:** The body of a 32-year man was found dead in a van parked in a Farmington Hills lot. /A2

**Board business:** Trustee Linda Enberg is the new Farmington Board of Education president. /A5

## TASTE

**Summer suppers:** Roll-up sandwiches and main dish salads are the hottest way to keep cool this summer. /B1

## MALLS AND MAINSTREETS

**Bigger is better:** AMC Theaters president Chuck Stillely tells retail developers that multiplex cinemas with themed entertainment is the way of the future. /B4

## ARTS & LEISURE

**Fine art:** Birmingham, photo-journalist Linda Solomon photographs the most famous artist in America, Andrew Wyeth, in commemoration of his 80th birthday. /C1

**Hot cars:** Meadow Brook Hall is the site for an art auction exhibition and classic car show this weekend. /C1

## SPORTS

**Water skiing champ:** During the week, Donna Shannon is a teacher and mother; on weekends, she lives in the fast lane as a champion jet-ski racer. /D1

**Making a comeback:** At age 23, Jennifer O'Donnell is trying to regain her former status as a champion archer. /D1

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## Heroes found in tragedy



**A Farmington girl remains in critical condition with closed head injury after a freakish accident. A quick response by lifeguards in providing CPR is cited as a crucial step in maintaining her vital signs.**

By TIM SMITH  
STAFF WRITER

One moment, Melissa Garr was grabbing some towels and Cheerios to bring to the three children she was baby-sitting at Farmington Glen Aquatic Center, where they were swimming in the kiddie pool. The next moment, the 16-year-old Farmington High School student

was laying unconscious on the cement dock, bleeding from the top of her head. A seemingly-healthy 18-foot-long limb from a nearby cotton wood tree toppled and landed on the teen, slamming her to the pavement, around 12:40 p.m. Wednesday. "I heard a crackling sound, turned around and saw this limb coming down with her underneath it," said

Farmington resident Cindy Boychuk, a longtime member of the semi-private swim club on Freedom Road. "I threw everything down and ran over..."

So did lifeguards Laura Hryczyk and Melissa McKay. They immediately began cardiopulmonary resuscitation on Garr, a student entering her junior year at Farmington High School, where she is active in concert choir and color guard. Melissa also is the daughter of Farmington Hills Fire Lt. Michael Garr.

The efforts of Hryczyk, 25, and

Please see QARR, Page A7



PHOTO: FARMINGTON HIGH 1995-96 YEARBOOK  
Melissa Garr

## Solid foundation



Paddling ahead: The Commission on Children, Youth and Families strives to provide activities for children in order to steer them on the right path.

## Group's goal: Put kids first

See related stories page A3,5

By TIM SMITH  
STAFF WRITER

It's as simple as paddle hitting ping-pong ball in one of the teen recreational centers operated by the Farmington/Farmington Hills Commission on Children, Youth and Families.

Kids, of all ages, need as many after-school and summer-time activities to keep them from turning down the wrong path. Helping that happen are three teen activities centers (a fourth is in the works) being operated by the commission.

But with grant money running out at the end of 1998, it will take a lot of donations and corporate contributions to keep the

Please see CHILDREN, A5

## Planning board warms to double ice rink proposal

By LARRY O'CONNOR  
STAFF WRITER

A man who wants to put two ice rinks into a Farmington Hills industrial complex received the quinquennial of a between periods, pop talk from the Planning Commission. The commission approved the land

use for a training facility for hockey players and figure skaters at a hearing Thursday night. However, the site plan was denied because it didn't meet the city's parking ordinances.

The proponent Suburban Hockey will ask for a variance before the Zoning Board of Appeals 7:30 p.m.

Tuesday. "They (planning commission members) were very supportive," said Tom Anastos, owner of Suburban Hockey in Farmington Hills. "I see this like a hockey game. My architectural guys were really excited after (Thursday's) meeting. I said, 'Hey guys. We had a good first peri-

od. There's a long way to go.'

"The zoning board meeting is going to be sudden death overtime."

Farmington Hills ordinance requires one parking space for every three seats or six feet of benches, or one space for each 45-square feet of

Please see RINKS, A2

## Football first, foremost to teen drowning victim

By DAN O'MEARA  
LARRY O'CONNOR  
STAFF WRITERS

Shawn Mayberry's sights were on the upcoming Harrison High football season, which makes his drowning death all the more tragic and puzzling to family and friends.

Mayberry, 17, died Wednesday after he had gone underwater while swimming with three friends at Spring Mill Pond in Brighton. Rescue efforts failed to revive him after Livingston County Sheriff Dive Team recovered his body in the Island Lake Recreational Area. He was pronounced dead at McPherson Hospital. Green Oak Township police were investigating the cause of the accident.

"Football was everything to him," said his mother Renita. "We have all his plaques on the wall. He was so caring."

"He'd won first place in weightlifting for three years straight. He told

me, 'Well mom I'm going to win it four years straight.' He was getting into condition; he was lifting weights."

On Thursday, teammates and friends went to the site. Some left flowers.

His mother found notes and letters of support on her door when she returned to her Farmington Hills home Friday.

Senior players Jared Hopkins and Brian Lewis organized a team meeting Thursday morning after hearing about their teammate's death. Football players met again Thursday afternoon on the football field with about 30 of Shawn's other friends. A total of 70 were in attendance.

A school psychologist was brought in to help.

"They just wanted to be together," Harrison High football coach John

Please see MAYBERRY, Page A2



Grid future: Shawn Mayberry, 17, was looking forward to the upcoming football season as senior player on the Harrison High team. Mayberry drowned Wednesday while swimming with friends.

## Fleeing driver hits police car

Farmington Hills police arrested two teenage boys, 17 and 16, for assault with a dangerous weapon after the vehicle they were in crashed into a patrol car while trying to flee.

At 4:16 a.m. July 23, a Hills police surveillance unit spotted two teens exit a 1989 Ford Thunderbird and then proceed break into cars parked in Indian Creek and Woodlows apartment complexes.

When police stopped the vehicle on Farmington Road, south of Seven Mile, the driver was ordered to get out of the vehicle.

Instead, the driver of the Ford Thunderbird hit the accelerator and drove towards the officer, who was outside the police vehicle. The officer moved out of the way and the Thunderbird struck the police car and a nearby mailbox.

The mailbox post became stuck underneath the vehicle, which led the teens to abandon it on Farmington Road. The teens attempted to run on foot but were captured by police.

Inside the vehicle police found cellular phones, stereo, cassette tapes and CDs. A pair of brass knuckles and freeze spray were also discovered.

During the arrest, the pair broke into nine vehicles in both apartment complexes. An attempt to burglarize one vehicle was foiled when a car alarm went off, prompting the assailants to drive off.

One of the teens arrested has extensive juvenile history, including arrests for burglary, trespassing and drunken driving, police reports said.

## Swing out

The Willy George Band will perform those Big Band sounds of the 1940s as final installment of the evening concert under the gazebo takes place 7:30 p.m. Friday, Aug. 1.

The show is being sponsored by Three Oaks Furniture and takes place in the gazebo next to the Village Commons on Grand River Avenue, between Farmington and Orchard Lake roads. Admission is free and patrons are advised to bring their own blankets or lawn chairs.

For information, call the Downtown Development Authority hot line at 248-473-7283.

## FARMINGTON FOCUS

### Bargains by the byte

Farmington Friends of the Library is sponsoring a technology sale Thursday through Saturday, Aug. 7-9, at the Farmington Community Library, 32737 W. 12 Mile Road, west of Orchard Lake. Hours of the sale are 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Thursday; 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday and Saturday.

Ed Steele, co-owner of Computer Renaissance in Farmington Hills and Troy, will also give buying tips on used computer equipment dur-

ing a presentation at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 7, at the library.

Friends of the Library are looking for donations of computers, printers, CD players and typewriters in good working order. Call 248-653-0300 for information.

### Better than par

The inaugural Lynn G. Nutter Golf Outing raised closed to \$6,000, which will go towards scholarships to be given to three senior high school students. The tournament is named in honor of the longtime Farmington Public Schools administrator who died last year.