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THE WEEK AHEAD

SUNDAY

On stage: The Farmington Community Band honors handicapped and seniors with a concert at 3 p.m. today, May 3, at the Costick Center on 11 Mile.

MONDAY

Hearing loss: Dr. Warren Brandes, an ear, nose and throat specialist, will talk about hearing loss in an Eldermed sponsored luncheon 12:30 p.m. May 4 at Vladimir's Banquet Hall in Farmington Hills.

TUESDAY

Ballot buzz: The Commission to Increase Voter Participation meets at 5:30 p.m. May 5 in Room No. 3 at Farmington Hills City Hall.

WEDNESDAY

Home selling: Farmington Community Education hosts a home selling workshop May 6 (and 13). To register, call 489-3333.

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Boy, 12, tells court he cuffed self to sink

■ The man charged with staging his son's kidnapping will face a trial after his son testified that the whole scheme started as a joke. The boy testified that he handcuffed himself, sat down with pop and cupeakes and waited 17 hours before police found him.



What started as a "joke" between father and son, ended up with a 12-year-old handcuffing himself to a sink drain in a hotel bathroom and waiting alone for 17 hours.

With fast-moving cupeakes to eat and Popai to drink, the 12-year-old put a sheet down on the floor and watched as his father left. "He just said, 'Bye, I love you' and closed the door," said the 12-year-old during his father Marko Ivezic's preliminary examination Friday. "... I just sat there."

Marko Ivezic, 37, was bound over for trial on charges related to a kidnapping hoax involving his son April 17. He remains in Oakland County Jail on \$100,000 cash bond.

Farmington Hills police speculate the father wanted to extort money from his estranged wife's family to pay a substantial gambling debt.

Under police questioning, the man's story unraveled. On the following day, Hills police found the boy handcuffed to a sink in a room at the Knight's Inn Hotel.

As the 12-year-old recalled the incident, one man in the courtroom shook his head in disbelief.

The father came up with the idea as he, the boy and his sister drove around the night of April 17. He suggested, as a joke, the boy pretend to be kidnapped to "see if the family really cares," he said.

When asked, the boy said he was robbed and the boy was taken at gunpoint by two black men. The 10-year-old girl was unaware of the scheme, the boy said.

"We started driving around the streets," the boy testified. "My dad told my sister to get down on the floor because we weren't sure of what was going. He told my sister that someone was following us."

The father initially told police he was robbed and the boy was kidnapped at gunpoint by two men near Gill Elementary School. Instead, the father drove to a car wash where they got change and then went to the hotel, the boy said.

After leaving his son at the hotel, Ivezic drove to the Crown's Plaza Hotel in Romulus and called police to report the kidnapping. He told police his son's abductors instructed him to wait there for further instructions.

His brother, Vaseji Ivezic, said he and his father went to the hotel, where Marko told him about the kidnapping. "He said he was held up by two black men and they wanted more money," Vaseji said.

Judge Fred Harris denied a request from the father's

Please see COURT, A4



Chemistry talk: North Farmington sophomores Nick Johnson (left) and Jeff Swinger discuss their project on radioisotopes in the medical field with science teacher Susan Szegedi. At right, they show how radioisotopes are used in laser brain surgery - using a Cabbage Patch patient.



NFHS fair shows student know-how

Chemistry can be fun.

Just ask the many North Farmington High School students whose exhibits on everything from restoring the Statue of Liberty to how to recycle newspaper filled the gymnasium during Wednesday's eighth annual Chemistry Fair.

Or, ask them to explain their projects. That was one of the objectives of the endeavor, which included participation from 220 first-year chemistry students in the classes of North teachers Peggy Nejarian, Susan Szegedi and Bev Schmidt. Students picked topics out of a hat and formed groups of four to do after-school research, write research papers and put together all that what was on display.

"They had to produce a display that makes all of the technical stuff clear to the average person," said Schmidt. Twenty percent of the students' grades will be determined by how well they "verbally explain (projects) to anybody who comes by."

Parents and other community members were invited by students to come to the fair and see and hear how radioisotopes are used in medical treatment or why the ozone layer is now endangered.

"I think they've done a fantastic job at dis-

playing what they've learned and experienced and researched," said Dolores Gaeta of West Bloomfield, who viewed the project her granddaughter, Katie Brown, worked on. "Their explanations about what they've done (have been) excellent."

Also among the guests was Susan Zurvalce of Farmington Public Schools, who was impressed by both visual and verbal explanations.

"They're teaching me a lot and chemistry wasn't my strong suit," Zurvalce said. She visited a forensic science display where she was "finger-printed and analyzed."

Visual impact

Schmidt said students also produced some interesting and compelling visuals, detailing all the many ways chemistry impacts daily life.

"You can't build a fusion bomb, but they built a fabulous model showing how the different pieces implode," Schmidt said, looking at the model comprised of wood sticks and Styrofoam balls. She was referring to a project by students

Please see CHEMISTRY, A4

Greene's sizzles in our burger poll

Rivals face off to boost teen seat belt use

Students at North and Harrison high schools are being encouraged throughout the month of May to answer the "Great Farmington Hills Challenge" for seat belt safety.

The month-long awareness push started Wednesday morning, when volunteers from the two schools' Students Against Driving Drunk chapters checked the first 100 cars that pulled into the student lots.

According to Eileen Weisao, spokeswoman for Bloomfield Hills-based Traffic Improvement Association of Oakland County, 20 North students weren't buckled up while 23 students at Harrison weren't strapped in. "They (SADD students) can see if the shoulder restraints are on," said Weisao.

In a month or so, the SADD students will return and do another survey, to see if a barrage of public address announcements and schoolwide poster presence change those figures. It is the post-survey, Weisao said, that will be used to determine who wins the "Great Farmington Hills Challenge" - and the trophy, cash award and bragging rights that go with it. Weisao said

Please see SEAT BELTS, A4

They're enough to make a vegetarian want to chew on cowhide laces and a cop to forsake a doughnut. They're Greene's, of course.

To the hamburger connoisseur, that says it all.

Farmington Observer readers picked the house specialty at the white building on the southwest corner of Orchard Lake and 10 Mile as one of their favorites. It tied with Dunleavy's Pub in our less-than-scientific reader's poll. (A story on Dunleavy's Pub's entry in the burger battle will be in Thursday's Observer.) Page's Food & Spirits was runner up in our poll.

Greene's version of the beef patty on a bun are small - weighing in slightly less than 2 ounces - but pack a wallop. Those who savor their flavor swear by them.

To the college student, they're economical 'cents.

To the aromatic aficionado, their onion-y odor is sweeter than Chanel No. 5.

To the late night reveler, they're the stomach sponge to soak up the sustenance to see them through the second half of the workday.

"They are the only hamburgers to eat," said Chris Martin, who works in



Steaming fresh: Greene's owner Steve McAuley works the grill making the house specialty - small, but flavorful, onion-drenched hamburgers.

the Farmington Hills Police Department's records bureau. "I think it's the onions. And they put the buns on top and they let them steam."

Coworker and Greene's devotee Sheryl Bellono agrees about the buns, which she calls "smooshy." Bellono likes another ingredient.

"It's the hammons carryout orders from coworkers for her regular runs to Greene's. They start out in little balls before they're made. They're not processed and made

on an assembly line." Kelly Mitch of Farmington Hills cast her ballot for Greene's, too. The Harrison High student and her parents have been going there for several years.

Mitch enjoys the nostalgic atmosphere, which dates to the late 1950s. Another reader likens the setting to an Edward Hopper painting.

As for the burgers, nothing beats them, she said.

"I don't like a lot of stuff on them," Mitch said. "They're like wimpy burgers, but they're good. You can eat a lot of them because they're small."

Not lost on the budget-conscious high school student or a person who is retired is the price.

A hamburger is 85 cents; a cheeseburger 99 cents. Those opting for bulk can order a double hamburger for \$1.46 or a double cheeseburger for \$1.61. An order of fries is 99 cents.

Customers ask for Greene's burgers their own way.

Please see BURGER, A4

FARMINGTON FOCUS

both home.

There were "absolutely no" complications, said school spokeswoman Connie Carroll. Taylor's father is Kevin Gray; the family also has a 2-year-old son, Kyle.

The Farmington Observer published a front-page story April 26 about how Molly's dad, Lincoln Avery, will take over as guest teacher of her classroom for the rest of the year.

Multicultural talk

Karen Bolsen of the Farmington/Farmington Hills

Multicultural/Multiracial Community Council will speak to the Interagency Council of Farmington/Farmington Hills at 7:30 a.m. Thursday, May 7, at the Longacre House, 24705 Farmington Road.

Calling marchers, cars

Those interested in marching or driving their classic car in this year's Farmington Memorial Day Parade are invited to apply now.

Local Veterans of Foreign Wars Post No. 2269 and American Legion Posts No. 346 and 190 will again sponsor the event, according to Parade Chairman Wally Christensen, which is a slice of Midwest Americana. It will be held at 10 a.m. Monday, May 25. This year's parade will honor the U.S. Navy.



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