

# Farmington Observer

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## THE WEEK AHEAD

### SUNDAY

**Donate:** The Saint Vincent de Paul Society of St. Gerald's Catholic Church, 21300 Farmington Road, will collect used clothing 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. today. Bundles may be dropped off at the St. Vincent truck in the church parking lot. For more information, call 477-7470.

### MONDAY

**Agenda:** The Farmington Hills City Council will meet at 7:30 p.m. at city hall, 31555 11 Mile. The meeting is open to the public and is cablecast live. See Page B6 for what's on tap.

### TUESDAY

**Celebrate:** A celebration of women will be 7-9 p.m. at St. Fabian's Catholic Church in Farmington Hills. Learn how to enhance your mind, body and spirit.

### INDEX

Obituaries	B4
Classified Index	E6
Real Estate	E1
Crossword	E8
Jobs	H1
Automotive	J1
Home & Service	J6
Taste	B1
Arts & Leisure	C1
Malls	C4
Sports & Recreation	D1

## Road rage accident still under investigation

BY LARRY O'CONNOR  
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The death of a motorist in a highly-publicized case of road rage last week has done little to deter aggressive driving based on another incident.

On Wednesday, the day after Terence Salisbury, 51, of West Bloomfield was killed after jousting with another motorist on southbound I-275, the reckless actions of another motorist left Farmington Hills police shaking their heads in disbelief. Near the very spot where Salisbury died, a motorist pulled out of traffic and drove at full speed on the right shoulder of northbound I-275 before cutting back into traffic. Farmington Hills police officers saw the incident and ticketed the motorist for reckless driving.

"That's typical of what's going on out there," said Lt. Dennis Green, Farmington Hills Police Traffic

Please see RAGE, A5



### In court



Getting ready: Farmington Hills Police Detective Craig Hurt prepares to unlock the handcuffs on Paula Marie Kuchciak before a preliminary exam on charges begins.

STAFF PHOTO BY BILL DANIELS

## Competency test ordered in murder for hire case

A preliminary exam for the woman accused of hiring a hitman has been postponed, pending a forensic exam.

BY LARRY O'CONNOR  
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An attorney for a Farmington Hills woman accused of trying to hire an assassin to murder her son's father for insurance money contends police entrapped her.

Paula Marie Kuchciak's attorney Neil Rockind read aloud from a telephone conversation transcript, indicating how his client repeatedly declined the phone number of a hitman named "Ice." Her reluctance had more to do with her fear the jailhouse phone call was being monitored, a prosecutor said.

Kuchciak's preliminary examination Friday in 44th District Court was postponed until she is able to undergo forensic examination to see if she is competent to stand trial. Kuchciak, 33, remains in Oakland County Jail on \$250,000 cash bond.

She is charged with solicitation to commit murder after police said she tried to hire a hitman to kill Michael D'Annibelle, 35, a Commerce Township businessman.

"They kept pushing her and pushing her," said Rockind, reading from part of the profanity strewn transcript. "... She said, 'No, I don't want anything to do with it.' She said that five times."

Police said they also have a taped conversation where the woman outlines how she wants the man murdered. The transcript the attorney read from is likely out of context, prosecuting attorney Brett

Please see HIRE, A7



Calm: Defense attorney Neil Rockind comforts his client, Paula Marie Kuchciak, just before the hearing begins Friday morning in Royal Oak.

## Goldberg is not a county cheerleader

BY LARRY O'CONNOR  
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Debbie Goldberg had her target lined up and was about to pull back the bull's eye. Then someone moved the bull's eye.

For two years, the Farmington resident and Democrat was relishing the chance to challenge longtime incumbent Donn Wolf for his 18th District Oakland County Commission seat.

One problem: Wolf decided not to run.

The real estate broker put the Republican in her sights after he refused to support a millage for the Suburban Mobility Authority for Regional Transportation's bus service.



Deborah Goldberg, Democrat

## Election '98

At the time, Goldberg had a broken hip and her son depended on public transportation in order to get to her home and help her. She spoke in favor of supporting SMART at a Farmington City Council meeting.

### See more candidate information, A5

"Donn Wolf was at the same meeting and said we really don't have any need for these buses," Goldberg said. "He says it with such authority. I was just livid."

"I said to my husband I should've

Please see GOLDBERG, A3

## Dibert's no-show cancels debate

BY TIM SMITH  
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One of the key local races in the Nov. 3 election is between Republican incumbent Andrew Raczkowski and Democratic challenger Steve Dibert for the 37th District State House seat. But the candidates did not participate in Wednesday night's candidate forum, hosted by the Council of Homeowners Associations of Farmington Hills and held at Farmington Hills City Hall.

See more about the candidate forum in Thursday's paper

State Rep. Raczkowski was there, seated in the audience while candidates for the Oakland County Commission and state Senate fielded questions. But Dibert wasn't, apparently at campaign fund-raiser's instead.

Dibert did inform COHA President Andrew Nickelhoff that he wasn't going to attend. Nickelhoff, after the forum, said Dibert told him he had a

Please see DIBERT, A7

## Cable rates in dispute

BY RICHARD PEARL  
STAFF WRITER

Cable television subscribers in Farmington, Farmington Hills and Novi aren't the only ones who may be feeling frustrated by next year's rate increases.

The consortium that governs local access rates for the three cities says it's still trying to figure out if this year's increase was appropriate.

If it's not, says the Southwestern Oakland Cable Commission (SWOCC), Time Warner Cable may owe a refund to subscribers.

However, Time Warner insists its figures are correct. In fact, said Tom Bjorklund, vice president and regional manager for Time Warner Cable of Oakland County Inc. the cable commission is trying to raise the ceiling on what Time Warner can charge, "which

Please see CABLE, A6

### Whad'll ya have?



STAFF PHOTO BY LIZ CANNIGIE

**Celebrating good cause:** Displaying a tray of desserts during Wednesday's *Celebrity Server Night* at the Farmington Road Big Boy is Farmington schools Superintendent Bob Maxfield. Thirty-seven community celebrities participated, with tips and a portion of meal proceeds to benefit Farmington Families in Action. Also taking part was Tim Smith, reporter for the Farmington Observer.