

IN THE PAPER TODAY



Art Wiggins

Quantum Leaps: An OCC science professor pokes gentle fun at pseudoscience in his new book: Quantum Leaps in the Wrong Direction. See HomeTown Life/C5

Reid Injured: Farmington Public Schools Board member Frank Reid didn't realize when he left the golf course after a recent outing that he'd end up in the hospital. / A2

City starts \$1.8M sewer talks



BY SUE BUCK
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Farmington city officials have started putting together the details of a public information plan, as they prepare to ask voters to borrow \$1.8 million for a sewer liner project.

The liner would be designed to improve the condition of the primary

sanitary sewer interceptor pipe that connects Farmington to Detroit's wastewater treatment system, officials said.

If the voters approve the ballot question Nov. 6, the cost will be assessed against property, said Farmington City Manager Frank Lauhoff.

If the voters reject the ballot question, the cost could be included in water rates.

The pipe has no major rehabilitation since it was built in 1957.

"The engineers have evaluated the condition of this pipe and significant defects in numerous areas have been found," "The current condition of the pipe required that action be taken as soon as possible to rehabilitate this sewer interceptor in order to assure that it continues to operate efficiently and repair costs are kept to a minimum."

The repair is estimated at \$2.5 million. A liner is expected to improve water flow and help eliminate storm back-ups. "City council has determined that the recommended repair done at

this time can be accomplished at a significantly reduced cost versus the actual digging up and replacing of this sewer," Lauhoff said.

The city plans to use a variety of media to get out its message. The plan includes cable programming describing the project, which will be aired on a daily basis until the election.

Through the assistance of Marketing Communications Counselor Inc., fact sheet information will be compiled and available at city buildings and the library.

"In addition, this information will be

Please see SEWER, A3

A swing at San Marino



STAFF PHOTO BY BILL BERGER

Putting green: Heat and humidity haven't slowed league play at San Marino, where expansion may begin next spring.

OPINION

We need you! The Farmington Observer is seeking at least a dozen local residents to serve on an advisory board. This is your chance to tell us what you REALLY think. / A8

Conservation tips: We've got expert advice about how to conserve water, including the most effective and responsible ways to water your lawn. / A8

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Playing through

San Marino expansion could start in spring

BY KEVIN BROWN
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Work to expand the nine-hole San Marino Golf Course to 18 holes could begin in spring, after Farmington Hills city officials approve funding and the scope of the project.

Plans for the city-owned 11 Pines property could also include residential and research/office development, City Manager Steve Brock said. During their regular meeting Monday at 7:30 p.m., the city council is scheduled to discuss an agreement with developer Selective Group of Farmington Hills.

"We are essentially giving the developer the go-ahead so they can go forward with a plan," Brock said. The city manager estimated it

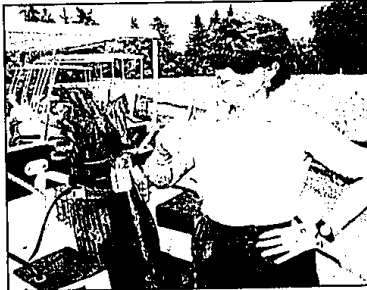
"would be several months" before a plan would be presented to the city planning commission. The plan must go to the city council for final approval.

Brock said officials have yet to determine what elements will be included on the 90-acre parcel on the southwest corner of 11 Mile and Halsted roads. The last few years have included several meetings with residents, to record their ideas and concerns.

"We are looking at a number of different plans; a golf course, driving range and a number of different amenities," Brock said. The project could also include a city parks and recreation maintenance building, to

Please see SAN MARINO, A2

Ready to play: Olga Savo is looking forward to seeing the city of Farmington Hills' San Marino golf course expanded from nine to 18 holes.



O&E golf tourney moves to new locations

BY C.J. RISAR
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However you look at it, this promises to be an Observer & Eccentric Golf Tournament like no other.

For a few, very good reasons. First, there's a new date — next weekend, Aug. 18-19.

Second, there's a new location — sort of. The two-day, 36-hole tournament will be played at two different courses, both in Livonia. Saturday's opening 18-hole round will be played at Fox Creek, located on Seven Mile east of Newburgh.

Sunday's second round will be at Whispering Willows, located on Newburgh south of Eight Mile.

Third, there will be an expanded field. The O&E Tournament is

Please see GOLF, A4

Neighbors fear development will steal natural beauty

BY KEVIN BROWN
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Residents of historic north Power Road suspect that a looming 27-home construction project will change the designated Natural Beauty Road forever.

"That will change Power Road drastically," said Irene Kernicky, a long time resident who has served on the neighborhood homeowner's association. "It's all woods and streams right now and that's going to be gone."

Some say that after fighting the development since 1994, neighbors are resigned to the project. Still others welcome the building project, as it will bring Detroit water lines closer to their existing homes, and they look forward

Please see POWER ROAD, A3



STAFF PHOTO BY BILL BERGER

That's progress: Irene Kernicky and her neighbors are concerned a new development will destroy Power Road's natural beauty.

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