

THE WEEK
AHEAD

TUESDAY

After hours: The Farmington / Farmington Hills Chamber and Max & Erma's Restaurant will host an "After Hours" gathering from 5-7 p.m. Feb. 19. The restaurant is at 31205 Orchard Lake Road in Farmington Hills. Admission is \$10 in advance, \$15 at the door. Call 248-474-3440.

WEDNESDAY

Internet travel: Instructor Bob Cowen, a seasoned traveler who teaches classes on travel at local school districts, will discuss how to save on airlines, hotels, cruises and cars at 7 p.m. Feb. 20 at the Farmington Branch Library. Call (248) 474-7770 to register.

Mental health forum: The Interim Executive Director of the Oakland County Community Mental Health Authority, William J. Allen, will be the featured speaker at a town hall meeting 7-9 p.m. Feb. 20 at the Costick Activity Center, 28600 11 Mile Road in Farmington Hills.

THURSDAY

On display: The photography of Monte Nagler is on exhibit through Feb. 21 in the city gallery at the Costick Center in Farmington Hills. The gallery is located in the lobby of the center and is open during regular office hours; 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday.

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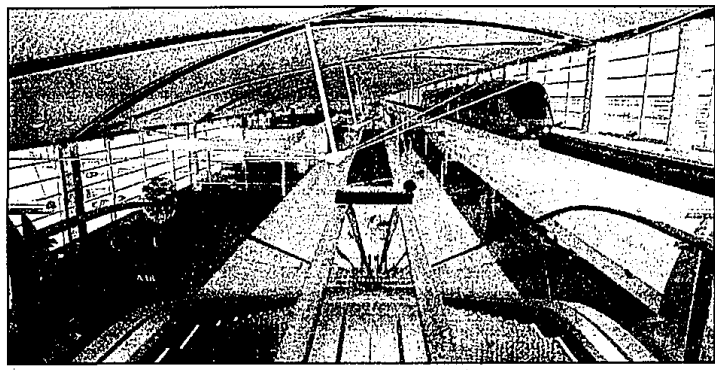
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Taking flight



New vistas: These escalators are at the south end of the terminal to reach the train seen on the right. The train runs the entire one mile length of the terminal to help get passengers to their gates instead of walking.

McNamara Terminal will open with all the bells and whistles

BY CRAIG SULLIVAN
SPECIAL WRITER
What's so special about the new Edward H. McNamara Midfield Terminal at the Wayne County Detroit Metropolitan Airport? Well, in a nutshell, says County Executive Ed McNamara it comes down to four new features that the \$1.2 billion project has brought about at the airport: That is - a new southern access road (the John Dingle Drive) that links up with Eureka Road off I-275; a 10-story garage with 11,600 spaces; an additional runway, bringing the total to four; and,

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of course, the new 97-gate terminal. "Any one of those features by itself is a gangbuster, but put them all together in one airport and it's just incredible," said McNamara, for whom the new terminal is named. Wayne County officials first began making plans in 1988 to update the metro airport. Since then, the existing facility has seen passenger volumes more than double -



Getting ready: Michael Barry of Detroit washes some of the many windows in the new terminal. The new control tower and the north end of the new A concourse can be seen out the window.

Please see TERMINAL, A3

Local car nuts rev up for 50th Autorama

BY PAUL R. PACE
STAFF WRITER
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Dennis Koss of Farmington Hills wanted a 1962 Pontiac Catalina at the time it was being made, but just missed the chance to buy one at the end of its production cycle. The 57-year-old ended up with a 1963 Pontiac Grand Prix instead, but always hoped he could get his hands on the Catalina. About a year ago, he managed to find one that was restored. He spent the money to have it redone in the original balmar red factory color to match the interior.

"It's all stock," Koss said of the rare machine. He and several other Farmington area car enthusiasts will be displaying their classic cars and hot rods at the Murray's Discount Auto Stores Detroit Autorama. It will be the 50th anniversary of the show, held Feb. 22-24 at the Cobo Center in Detroit. The event also marks the 50th anniversary of the Michigan Hot Rod Association. More than 1,000 hot rod and custom vehicles and their owners will be at the event. Koss and his wife Mary put the GTO



Please see AUTORAMA, A2

Show time: Art Socher dusts off his 1940 Plymouth, which he'll display at this year's Autorama.

STAFF PHOTO BY BILL BREKLER

Donations sought for Turn Around program

BY JONI HUBRED
STAFF WRITER
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One student has conquered a drug addiction and found success in the classroom. Another simply decided to approach school with a different attitude. A program that recognizes those kinds of "non-traditional" achievements will honor 26 students at a March 5 luncheon, held at Farmington Hills Manor. Sponsors are asking local service organizations and businesses for assistance, either through financial contributions or donating items for "goodie bags" that will be given to each student. Farmington Public Schools Superintendent Bob Maxfield points out that

while some children regularly receive positive recognition, others may not. "There's nothing more special in the life of a kid than being identified as

special in some way," said Superintendent Bob Maxfield. "This unique program provides us with an opportunity to say to kids that we're watching and we care." Turn Around Achievement Award winners were nominated by teachers from Farmington, Harrison and North Farmington High Schools, the Alternative Academy, Farmington Community School and Duncle, East, Power and Warner Middle Schools. All students have made significant life improvements, such as positive changes in grades, attitude, attendance and behavior. Three students from each high school and middle school and one student each from the alternative programs will receive a Lucite "Turn Around"

star and recognition certificate. Donations for the "goodie bags" may include passes to movies, miniature golf, skating rinks or other recreational activities, gift certificates for music or books, pizza or other "fast food" coupons. "Contributing to this program gives you a chance to make a difference on behalf of the entire community," Maxfield said. Farmington Public Schools, Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, the Farmington Public Safety Department and Farmington Hills Police Department are co-sponsoring the Turn Around Awards. For information, call Maxfield at the school district offices, 248-489-3339 or the Farmington Observer, 248-477-6460.



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