

## THE WEEK AHEAD

### MONDAY

**Girl Scout cookie mania:** Valvoline Instant Oil Change has purchased 20,000 boxes of Girl Scout cookies from the Michigan Metro Girl Scout Council and the Girl Scouts of Huron Valley. The company will begin giving them away on Monday, March 11 to Detroit metro area customers who purchase full-service oil changes, while supplies last at 25 locations, including 32686 Grand River in Farmington.

### WEDNESDAY

**Warner Mansion:** The Governor Warner Mansion on Grand River in downtown Farmington is open to the public on Wednesday afternoons, from 1 p.m.-5 p.m. Admission is \$2 for adults, with children under age 12 admitted free when with their parents.

### FRIDAY

**Combined celebration:** On Friday March 15, 2002, come to the Finnish Cultural Center to celebrate St. Patrick's and St. Urho's Day. Wear your purple and green and bring the kids. Dinner starts at 5:30 p.m., followed by games, storytelling and singing. The center is located at 35200 W. Eight Mile Road, Farmington Hills. For more information call 248-478-6939.

### INDEX

- Apartments/D7
- Automotive/F2
- Classified/D,E,F
- Classified Index/D4
- Crossword/D5
- Jobs/E2
- New Homes/D1
- Obituaries/A6
- Police Calls/AB
- Real Estate/D1
- Service Guides/E6
- Sports/C1
- Taste/B1
- Travel/B8

**RECEPTIONIST**  
Dearborn based computer solutions firm is seeking...

"We had a great response! We received stacks of resumes!"  
B.K. Dearborn

**HOME TOWN CLASSIFIEDS WORK!**  
1-800-579-SELL



To place a classified ad: 1-800-579-SELL

Newsroom: 248-477-5450

Home Delivery: 734-591-0500



**Graduation day:** Above, The graduation dress worn by the woman in this vintage photograph is on display at the Mansion. At right, These mannequins are placed in a scene that reflects life during the 1870s at the Governor Warner Mansion. Also reflected, mansion director Linda Horvath.



STAFF PHOTO BY BILL BRESLER

## A grand opening

### Volunteers welcome (and needed) at the Mansion

BY JONI HUBRED  
STAFF WRITER

jhubred@oc.hometown.com

You don't have to spend much time around Linda Horvath before she makes a pitch to get you to help out at the Governor Warner Mansion on Grand River in downtown Farmington.

The cause is worthy: The new curator and a small staff of volunteers have scores of boxes to go through, countless items to sort and catalog.

They've already worked their fingers to the bone preparing for the Mansion's re-opening last Sunday.

"We've gone through almost a thousand feet of acid-free paper, and we have another thousand feet on back order," Horvath said. The paper is used to wrap clothing and other items, which are then placed in acid-free cardboard boxes, and to fill out the sleeves and support the material of vintage clothing now on display.

Volunteers have been the life's blood of the Mansion since it was deeded to the city in 1980. Once the

Farmington Historical Museum, the Mansion has been the repository for artifacts from a variety of historical eras, but now has a specific focus on the period from 1867-1911, which coincides with the political career of Governor Fred Warner.

A new group of dioramas in place on the first and second floors allow docents to talk about the customs and clothing of the times, while visitors examine the display.

"The diorama is the easiest for people to see," Horvath said.

Please see MANSION, A3

## Plan helps Orchard Lake Road residents get their mail

BY PAUL R. PACE  
STAFF WRITER

ppace@oc.hometown.com

Cynthia Gaffield and her neighbors along Orchard Lake Road are getting tired of having to hop in their cars and make a three-mile round trip to pick up their mail.

But a new plan in place might make the drive a little easier.

Residents on the east side of Orchard Lake between 10 and 11 Mile have been complaining about not getting mail delivered ever since their boxes were put back on the busy road after reconstruction wrapped up last December.

The problem was the sidewalk for the east side of Orchard Lake was not finished in time for the season. Carriers were going to use the sidewalk for mail delivery.

Tom Bisoll, the Hills director of

public works, said the post office agreed to deliver the mail if the boxes went back up on along the road as a temporary measure. During the road work, the boxes were put on side streets.

But when it came time to deliver on the new road, carriers complained to their supervisors that they didn't feel safe stopping their vehicles along the 45 m.p.h. road for fear of being rear-ended by another vehicle, said Debra Redmond, manager of customer service for the U.S. Postal Service, in an earlier interview.

Before, the carriers could pull off onto a road shoulder to put mail in the boxes. She said the carriers have the right not to deliver if they don't feel safe.

Bisoll said the post office and the city made an agreement and "they decided not to honor it."



STAFF PHOTO BY BILL BRESLER

Bisoll and postal officials met Thursday to resolve the residents' complaints.

The plan for now is to have the city

Please see MAIL, A2

**Return to sender:** Artist Cynthia Gaffield faced an empty mail box when postal carriers refused to deliver to her studio on Orchard Lake Road, citing safety concerns.

## Legwork leads to arrests

Police chief Bill Dwyer is crediting the work of a veteran officer who literally beat the bushes to come up with the suspects in a series of laptop thefts.

BY PAUL R. PACE  
STAFF WRITER

ppace@oc.hometown.com

It's a case of the laptop thefts de-javu.

Farmington Hills police have been noticing a pattern of smash and grab laptop thefts from local businesses in recent weeks, cases that have appeared strikingly similar.

In 2000, Hills police investigated a series of laptop thefts in which the person broke into the business during the night, stole laptops and then hid them away at another location to be picked up later.

Going on a hunch that the cases were similar, Police Chief William Dwyer said, Officer Wayne Beerbower took the initiative at the most recent business break-in - at Dymatek on Halsted around 2:30 a.m. Wednesday - to walk over a two-mile radius of the crime scene to see if the stolen laptops were hidden nearby.

After more than three hours, the officer discovered two laptops in some bushes about a half-mile from the break-in.

Dwyer said police set up surveillance of the bushes and that same morning two men drove up to the spot. One got out to retrieve the computers.

One of the men was arraigned Friday for receiving and concealing stolen property, a five-year felony, Dwyer said.

Four separate Hills businesses have experienced break-ins since Feb. 26; altogether, six laptops were stolen, the chief said.

He said Livonia Police also have experienced eight different business break-ins where laptops were stolen.

"Livonia police believe these were done by the same people," Dwyer said.

Both departments are still investigating the cases to possibly bring more charges against the two men.

The chief credited Beerbower's tenacity in finding the stolen laptops as the big break in the case.

"It was truly a sign of dedication on his part," Dwyer said.

## Borregard announces bid for U.S. Senate

BY PAUL R. PACE  
STAFF WRITER

ppace@oc.hometown.com

Eric Borregard has announced he's a Green Party candidate for the U.S. Senate. The Farmington Hills resident owns EB/Artech, a graphics and design company. Married and the father of one child, he is running for federal office as opposed to a local state race because more can be accomplished at that level in terms of the Green Party's ideals.

Part of his platform involves eliminating the NAFTA free trade agreement, he said.

He said toxic waste companies from Canada dump their waste in the Detroit sewage treatment system and vice versa.



Eric Borregard

"The local officials and state representatives can't do anything about it because of NAFTA," he said.

"We need to regain our country's sovereignty," he said. The difference between him and the two top-party candidates, Borregard said, is "their pockets are full of money and they said out. I will not take anything from companies. I am working from the grass roots perspective."

Regarding the war in Afghanistan, he encourages the country's foreign policy be moderated, more a dove than a hawk.

"The war is a result of 'poor foreign policy,' he said. "Everybody loses in a war. I want a policy of peace, justice and understanding."

"We should have justice," he said of the nation's response to the terrorist attacks. "I think limited raids are understandable, but the carpet bombing is wrong. You create a cycle of violence, and your backing comes from huge corporations."

He said the candidates from the Republican and the Democratic parties are the same in the end.

"Their speeches are interchangeable," he said. "I feel I should get the 34 percent I need to win," he said of votes in the general election. "I'm going through one area at a time."

He said the Green Party aims to put people back in control of the government.

To place a classified ad: 1-800-579-SELL

Newsroom: 248-477-5450

Home Delivery: 734-591-0500