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Our Towns

On Jeopardy!

Farmington's Joel Knight, 14, a freshman at Catholic Central High School, will appear on television's *Jeopardy!* game show Feb. 5 during the program's teen tournament.

Joel's parents are Marilou and William Knight. Joel's mom said her son is the only freshman on the school's varsity Quiz Bowl team. The show featuring Joel was taped in Hollywood right before the holidays, Marilou said.

She said Joel had a good time with the 15 other students from around the country who were smart enough to be selected to participate.

Need a Buddy?

Buddy's Pizza charity promotional campaign, "Sometimes You Just Need Some Buddy's" will kick off at all nine Buddy's Pizza locations Monday, Jan. 20. Two of Detroit's newest radio talk show guys, 97.1 FM's Scott & Casey, will be featured with a few of their new best friends, some rescued, elegant greyhound dogs.



Posters, banners, fliers and menu cards will be introduced, highlighting Margherita and Greek pizzas. Scott & Casey each have picked their favorite charity: The American Red Cross/National Marrow Donor Division and the Grey Heart Greyhound Rescue & Adoption of Michigan.

Buddy's will donate a portion of the proceeds from the sale of featured pizzas to the charities chosen and Buddy's guarantees at least \$3,000.

"Bone marrow donation touched my family. I know there is a desperate need for bone marrow testing for both children and adults," Buddy's owner Robert Jacobs said. Regarding the greyhound rescue charity, Jacobs said, "These beautiful animals deserve a chance to be loved and cared for, too."

Buddy's Pizza, based in Farmington Hills, has nine locations throughout the tri-county area and was established in Detroit in 1946.

Since then Buddy's has won numerous awards and accolades for its original square deep dish pizza.

Dwyer blasts driver in auto wreck

BY PAUL R. PACE
STAFF WRITER

The Farmington Hills Police Department is investigating a single-vehicle fatal accident that occurred around 4:45 a.m. Tuesday on Inkster Road, north of Eight Miles.

In an incident Police Chief William Dwyer called "inhumane," the driver of a 2001 Chevrolet Camaro smashed into a pine tree on northbound Inkster, then

proceeded to drive the damaged vehicle a few more blocks before abandoning it.

He left behind three injured victims inside, one dead and the other two screaming for help.

The victims are brothers. The driver, a 32-year-old Redford man, was captured on foot by a Livonia police officer in Livonia a short time later, Dwyer said. Blood samples reveal the driver had a

.22 blood-alcohol level, twice the legal limit, and traces of cocaine, Dwyer said. The front passenger, Mark Johncox, 39, of Wayne was dead at the scene, nearly decapitated.

His twin brother James and younger brother Daniel, 29, the rear passengers, suffered serious injuries, police said.

The driver, who has not yet been charged pending further investigation, remains under guard while being treated for injuries at Botsford Hospital,

Dwyer said. The two surviving brothers are also being treated at Botsford.

Dwyer said for the driver to walk away from the vehicle and ignore his friends' screams for help "is incredibly inhumane."

The chief said the driver could face drunken driving and manslaughter charges.

ppace@pc.homecomm.net | (248) 477-5450



On the march

Marchers brave frigid temperatures and a bitter wind to make their way by candlelight from the Costlick Activities Center in Farmington Hills to Hardin Park Presbyterian Church Sunday night in honor of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. For more please see page A3.

New Home Depot opens with style

BY PAUL R. PACE
STAFF WRITER

The Home Depot folks don't use a wimpy ribbon and a pair of scissors to mark the grand opening of one of their stores.

They use a 2-by-4 and a handsaw, of course.

And Farmington Hills Mayor Nancy Bates had the honor of sawing the wood in half Wednesday morning to launch the grand opening of the new Farmington Hills store in the North Orchard Plaza between Orchard Lake and Northwestern Highway.

Employees, city officials and general contractors were invited to partake in the festivities of the popular home improvement megastore. The facility officially opens to the public at 6 a.m.

PLEASE SEE HOME DEPOT, A2

Officer of the year a 'true professional'

BY PAUL R. PACE
STAFF WRITER

When John Markey was a senior in high school, he lost by one vote his bid to serve on the Romeo Village Council. Romeo's loss was Farmington Hills' gain, however, as Markey later decided the best way to serve the community was not as a politician, but as a police officer.

"It was the best thing that probably happened to me," said the 18-year police department veteran.

Sgt. Markey was honored this week as the Farmington Hills 2002 Police Officer of the Year.

A selection board made up of his peers and administrators made the choice among 35 candidates by secret ballot, said Police Chief William Dwyer.

"He's the most highly decorated police officer in the department," the chief said.

"He's a true professional and has the respect of everyone in the community," Dwyer added. "He's done extremely outstanding police work."

Markey said he ran for office as a teen to emulate his father's beliefs about the importance of giving back to the community. His dad, Myles Markey, served on the village council.

PLEASE SEE OFFICER, A2

St. Paul's student wins national event

BY SUE BUCK
STAFF WRITER

Sara Haller, a 13-year-old eighth grader at St. Paul's Lutheran School in Farmington Hills is the State Champion in the Reader's Digest Word Power Challenge held Tuesday at Lawrence Technological University in Southfield. She wore her red and white cheerleader uniform to the competition because she was going to a game afterward.

Now fellow students can cheer for her.

"I didn't really study," Haller said. "It just happened."

State level competitions were held simultaneously in each state Tuesday. The local event was hosted by WINGS (Women in Need of Guidance and Skills) a metropolitan Detroit group focused on improving women's literacy and job skills.

Sara will go on to compete in the National Word Power Challenge in Williamsburg, Va. March 24-26. Haller, the daughter of Sherri and Jeffrey

Haller of Novi. She was one of 100 students in grades four through eight who qualified for the state competition. One practice round and eight regular rounds that tested knowledge on various vocabulary words in the preliminary competition were followed by final elimination rounds. Students were required to respond within 15 seconds.

Sara said this was much harder than any other spelling or geography bee.

PLEASE SEE WINN, A4

Library grand opening to offer many surprises

BY JONI HUBBRO
STAFF WRITER

Don't expect to see the same old stuff at Sunday's Farmington Community Library Hills branch open house.

The change starts at the top, with second-floor conference rooms equipped with video cameras and sophisticated sound systems.

"We will be renting these out to the public," library Executive Director Bev Papal said. "We have already had a number of

requests." A large meeting room with stadium seating will accommodate up to 300 guests. Speakers can control lighting and sound from the podium.

Smaller rooms will also be available to the long list of community groups that have for years rented space from the library. Many went to places like the William Costick Center in Farmington Hills during construction, Papal said.

PLEASE SEE LIBRARY, A5



What big teeth you have! Bev Papal examines one of the dinosaurs hanging around the children's area.

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LOOKING AHEAD

Prize-winning cook
G8 In Sunday's taste section: Sally Silbhorst has entered hundreds of recipe contests and won at least 50.



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