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Farmington FOCUS

If you have an idea for a news item, a feature story or an action picture with a Farmington-area connection, send a note to our downtown office at 33293 Grand River, Farmington 48024.

TEACHER of the Year. Farmington Hills resident and veteran elementary teacher Bridget Livorine was honored as Teacher of the Year by the Pinckney School District.

The Hamburg Elementary teacher has taught kindergarten through third grades since she began in the district in 1977. She was chosen from nine nominees, who were chosen by parents, school administrators and other teachers. This is the first year the Pinckney district has chosen a Teacher of the Year.

KEYBOARD forum. Farmington Hills resident Evelyn Villaruel took part in the annual piano teachers conference July 24-25 at Michigan State University. More than 100 Michigan piano teachers discussed topics ranging from jazz piano to teaching young children. Sponsors were MSU's School of Music and Lifelong Education programs.

BOTTLENECK continues.

An Oakland County road project along Farmington Road near Freedom Road is expected to continue for several weeks, according to Farmington city officials.

Work on northbound Farmington — which has been merged into one lane for the past three weeks — is nearly complete, but then the county will do similar work in southbound lanes.

Left turns onto Freedom Road from northbound Farmington Road should be allowed once the northbound work is complete, officials added.

SHE'S the volunteer chairman.

Farmington Hills resident Anne Borg, Women's Survival Center executive director, is serving as social agencies unit chairman for the 1986 United Way of Pontiac-North Oakland fund-raising campaign.

Borg is a member of the volunteer campaign team of community leaders planning this year's campaign. Women's Survival Center is one of the 58 agencies providing services funded by the United Way of Pontiac-North Oakland.

The reporting phase of the 1986 United Way of Pontiac-North Oakland fund-raising campaign will run from Sept. 18 through Nov. 6.

The United Way of Pontiac-North Oakland raises operating funds to provide services at 58 health and human care agencies. Last year's United Way campaign raised \$4.3 million.

CONSTRUCTION work continues on the new Farmington Hills Police Facility next to the City Hall at 11 Mile and Orchard Lake roads.

The facility is scheduled to open in late fall.

FOOTNOTES: One year ago this week — When Angie Glummo arrived by helicopter at Oak Hill Nursing Home in Farmington 15 months ago, she was unable to hold up her head or move her arms; a respirator breathed for her. But the future is looking brighter for 2½-year-old Angie, a quadriplegic who spent the first year of her life in a Toledo hospital.

ACLU challenges sign law

By Casey Hens
staff writer

If Farmington Hills does not revise its interpretation of the city's sign ordinance soon, the American Civil Liberties Union plans to sue the city and possibly several Hills officials.

With the Tuesday, Nov. 4 general election a few weeks away, the city's sign ordinance — which has been interpreted as not allowing political signs on residents' front lawns — is being challenged.

"I'm appalled they have sought to restrict political speech in the name

of neighborhood beautification," Michael Lockman of the Oakland County ACLU said. "I'm not aware of any other ordinance which has been enforced this way."

The ordinance, which states "no unnecessary signs shall be permitted only in . . . light industrial districts" with the exception of "signs used for

advertising vacant land or existing buildings for rent, lease or sale," is being interpreted to disallow political signs on lawns.

The ACLU seeks a written statement from the city saying it will stop their current interpretation of the sign ordinance prohibiting politi-

cal signs on residential lawns, Lockman said.

ACCORDING TO Lockman, the city's current ordinance "denies people their most basic freedom of speech." He also said it denies resi-

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Trustees eye tuition change in the schools

With what one Farmington school trustee called "atrocious" timing, the school board agreed to study a possible fringe benefit allowing out-of-district employees' children to attend Farmington Public Schools without tuition payment.

The policy current affects no more than four-six children, according to Assistant Superintendent Lynn Nutter.

Also to be studied is the board's policy on tuition payment of out-of-country students staying with local families.

Trustee R. Jack Inch considered the employee policy change proposal a problem because Superintendent Graham Lewis' daughter attends Harrison High School as a tuition student. The Lewis' live out of the district, and Inch said he felt a change may be construed negatively by the community.

"It has always bothered me that district employees have to pay tuition (for their children)," Trustee

Janice Rolnick, who proposed the study, said. "In many districts it's a fringe benefit for employees."

"It's a very nice statement, but the timing is atrocious," Inch added.

The policy committee, headed by board Vice President Helen Ditzazy, will study the employee tuition policy and that of the out-of-country students. Those student cases are now reviewed on a per-case basis, Lewis said.

The district accepts tuition students who are children of district employees, those who are moving into the district, those who have families building a house in the district, or a senior student who completed the junior year in the district and whose parents/guardians have moved away, according to information from officials.

Tuition rates — raised effective the 1986-87 school year — are \$700 per year for elementary students and \$1,150 for secondary students.

Liquor license ruling pending

By Casey Hens
staff writer

The Michigan Liquor Control Commission is expected to decide within the next two weeks on the status of a Class C liquor license for the closed Bootleggers bar in Farmington.

A hearing was held Thursday, Aug. 7, in Lincoln Park at the request of representatives from the bar's parent company, Pal Joey's Inc., Liquor Control Commission officials said. The bar is at 33295 Grand River.

Representatives asked Liquor Control Commission officials to reactivate the liquor license to possi-

bly sell the business. "They were trying to bring life into a dead license," one Liquor Control Commission attorney said.

"We argued against it, and the commission agreed to take it under advisement," he said. An attorney representing the city of Farmington at the hearing opposed the request.

THE LICENSE remains in escrow in Pal Joey's name but is not active, officials in Lansing said. It is one of five Class C liquor licenses allowed in Farmington. No one has applied to use the license. City Manager Robert Deadman said.

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RANDY BORST/staff photographer

News gatherers

Tamra Vicchy (left), executive producer of "Tri Outlook," a new cable news program on Channel 12, and videographer John Enright prepared to cover the Farmington Founders Festival in downtown Farmington. Vicchy and

Enright were summer interns with the Southwestern Oakland Cable Commission and MetroVision of Oakland County. For the story about their news gathering efforts and more pictures, see Page 3A.

'Born to be an artist,' sculptress says



RANDY BORST/staff photographer

Hungarian-born Colla Reiner is a professional sculptress who has exhibited in California and extensively in Michigan.

people

By Susan Steinmueller
staff writer

As a small child in Budapest, Hungary, Cecilia Reiner had ambitions to become a sculptress or an actress. But, from the time she started carving people out of bars of soap at age six, sculpting played an increasingly important role in her life, and eventually won out over her acting ambition.

Today, Reiner is a professional sculptress who has exhibited in California and extensively in Michigan, and she has over 200 pieces in private collections. She does her work from a light, peaceful studio overlooking the garden of her Farmington Hills home.

"I was born to be an artist," said the friendly and outgoing Reiner.

REINER'S WORKS of marble, alabaster, and stone dot her home. Some she will sell at exhibitions. Examples: a lady, curled up and

and sleeping, resembling a mere pear shape at first glance; a long, lithe dancer, perfectly balanced on one leg; the bust of a woman with a tranquil look on her face; a man and a woman close together, sharing a

moment. Some of the forms, mostly people, are detailed and realistic, others are abstract.

Like most artists, Reiner says that

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