

Photos by Randy Borst



Stacy England of Farmington Hills is using the magazine index, one of three pieces of equipment in the InfoTrac system in the Farmington Community Library.



Jeff Sofferin of Farmington Hills is using the reader/printer machine of the InfoTrac magazine collection system.

## Magazine researchers find an easier way

By Joanne Malczewski  
staff writer

Remember the frustration of looking through the big green Readers Guide to Periodicals just to finish your research paper?

Remember filling out the small yellow slips of paper with numbers and decimals you only hoped the librarian could figure out to find that last piece of information for your work?

Times have changed. InfoTrac has arrived at the Farmington Community Library, thanks to the Friends of the Library.

The \$17,000 purchase, financed by the Friends over a two-year period, will make looking for magazine articles quicker and far less frustrating.

The process is similar to using the Readers Guide to Periodicals. But three pieces of equipment — an index, a cartridge carousel and a reader/printer — are

used.

A contents guide — similar to the readers guide — is the first step. The reader picks a topic, then searches the magazine index. The index provides a code referring to the magazine collection in the microfilm cartridges.

THE NEXT step is to find the cartridge identified by the code number. The cartridge is then placed into the self-loading reader/printer. The reader will scan the microfilmed material until you stop it at the code number displaying the desired magazine article. The final step is the press of a button to make a copy. Copies are 10 cents a page.

"I think it's a very neat idea having this available," said Roslynn Greenberg, president of the Friends of the Library. "This purchase seems to reach out to the community."

Through the library's automated circulation system,

the staff was able to analyze use of the magazine collection. Magazines account for about 8 percent of the two-branch library's total circulation.

"Roughly two-thirds of the requests are unfilled," library director Beverly Pappal said.

The library either doesn't own the magazine, the issue is in circulation or it's difficult to keep "an adequate back file on microfilm or microfiche," she added.

So far, the library has about 300 magazines, from 1983 to present, on file in the InfoTrac cartridges. Magazines range from "Aging" to "Backpacker" to "Yachting."

"We're in the process of analyzing what we have in microfilm and microfiche versus what's in the magazine collection," Pappal said.

Having InfoTrac won't mean the end of magazine subscriptions for the library. "There will always be people who want to sit in the comfy chairs and read a

magazine," Greenberg said.

BUT NEW magazines won't be microfilmed. The library will buy new cartridges for InfoTrac.

The InfoTrac magazine collection is headquartered at the Farmington Hills branch. However, patrons in the Farmington branch have the microfilmed magazine index available and have the same access to the microfilmed magazines. A telefastfilm machine is available to receive the necessary magazine articles from the Hills branch, Pappal said.

Having InfoTrac doesn't mean that the Readers Guide to Periodicals will be no longer available. "It's still being used. It's supplemental. Naturally, not everyone can use the carousel at the same time," Greenberg said.

But having InfoTrac will relieve the congestion at the Readers Guide to Periodicals, where there's generally a line-up of five-to-six people, Pappal said.

## Drowning spurs tougher rules for field trips

By Casey Hans  
staff writer

New guidelines are in effect in Farmington schools for field trips, following the accidental drowning of a handicapped student during a school-sponsored outing last summer.

Under the new rules, teachers planning such outings must submit detailed plans to their principal for approval, and signed permission from parents will be required.

A safety committee reconvened after the drowning to review the policy and spent nearly six months studying and preparing recommendations; it found inconsistencies in how school outings are handled at various buildings. New guidelines provide for a uniform policy throughout the district.

The changes were prompted by the death of 7-year-old Daniel Sanderson of Farmington, a severely handicapped student who attended Cloverdale Developmental Center in Farmington. He drowned while his class

was on a field trip at a Livingston County beach. Fifteen students and 8 staff members were on the swimming trip.

The new rules were presented to trustees during a March school board committee meeting. They also provide procedures for checking out a field trip site and written guidelines for teachers. Field trip manuals for each school were also proposed.

"We're quite confident that what's in there is consistent with what's in the board policy handbook," safety committee chairman Earl Baumunk told the board.

The changes, which were reviewed by school attorneys before going to the board, have already been implemented, Baumunk said.

They extend to both general education and special education student trips. The Cloverdale student who died was in the district's special education program.

"We generally concluded that what was good for one is good for both," Baumunk added.

THE NEW GUIDELINES require teachers planning field trips to:

- Request trips in writing, detailing number of students, adults and buses needed, plus the trip destination and purpose for trip. Trip plans will be approved by the principal.

- Complete a "field trip site data" sheet, which includes phone numbers and contacts at the site, information on emergency services and security and other safety factors. This may require research or phone calls by the teacher.

- Receive a signed permission form from parent or guardian, and, in return, leave information about the trip with that adult. No verbal permission will be accepted.

- Give chaperones a guideline/information sheet, advising them of their responsibilities. Only children from the class will be allowed on field trips.

IN ADDITION, a special form will be

used for trips out of the general area, or those out-of-state. Activities requiring trips throughout the school year, such as debate, band, chorus, forensics and others will be approved at the beginning of each school year on a "blanket" trip form.

Guidelines for teachers require that elementary and middle school students be transported by bus, unless the trip site is within walking distance, and that they not be allowed to bring unnecessary items. A 4-step review with all students will also be done, advising them of bus safety rules, conduct standards, the objective of the trip and a plan for the day.

According to safety committee member Frank Kasun, principal at Eagle Elementary, these items were "never (before) set down as a formal guideline for teachers."

Trustee Helen Prutow said she was happy to see restrictions on bringing additional children on trips, so proper time could be devoted to those taking the trip.

ALTHOUGH THE committee recommended keeping all forms on file for future reference in each school, trustee James Abernethy suggested they be centralized. If there are problems with a field trip destination, he said, the information can be shared throughout the district.

School psychologist and committee member Jim Milner offered the suggestion for a "field trip manual," which would alleviate "inconsistencies from building to building," he said.

"It made sense to put (forms) into some sort of binder that could be carried by that staff member on the trip," he said. "Everything is in one spot — everything is accessible."

The safety committee was originally formed in the 1970s, but had not met regularly until the August incident. They worked in conjunction with a safety committee of the board of education, comprised of chairman Jack Cotton and members Prutow and Abernethy.

### business briefs

If you recently opened a shop, captured an award, earned a promotion, are planning a new venture or project, or have information about other business-related happenings — we'd like to hear from you so we can share your news item with other Observer readers. Send items to: Business Briefs, Farmington Observer, 33203 Grand River, Farmington 48024.

#### PERFECT SCORE

U.S. William Broomfield, R-Birmingham, scored a 100 percent on the National Federation of Independent Business' mid-year report card on important small business votes.

Out of nine votes considered, key small business votes — Royce Carpenter of Farmington Hills was awarded a Half Century Diploma by Stetson University. He graduated from the school, in DeLand, Fla., in 1938.

The awarding of diplomas was part of the 50-year reunion of the Class of '38. He earned a bachelor of science degree in biology.

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#### NAMED PRESIDENT

Dr. Shay Rosenfeld of Farmington Hills with offices in Clarkston, was confirmed by his medical peers as president of the Michigan Podiatric Medical Association.

As president, Rosenfeld coordinates statewide activities for a professional organization of podiatric physicians and surgeons.

He is a member of the House of Delegates of the American Podiatric Medical Association and secretary-treasurer of the Department of Podiatric Medicine and Surgery at Wheelock Hospital in Goodrich.

Rosenfeld's general podiatric practice stresses senior citizens and in-home foot care.

#### SALES MANAGER

Farmington-based Family Express Video has hired Patricia Swartbout as sales manager.

She will call on distributors, introducing the growing list of new programs. She also will manage company sales.

Most recently, Swartbout was sales supervisor for the Commercial Products Division of CBS/Fox Video, where she had direct responsibility for national accounts.

Family Express Video, 37000 Grand River, provides original programming for family entertainment and educational needs. The telephone number is 471-7001.

#### REMOVES DEBT

Farmington Hills-based Michigan National Corp. has divested its \$28.8 million third-world loan portfolio.

The transaction will not affect 1988 earnings, nor result in further charges to loan reserves. In December 1987, the corporation charged off 50 percent of these loans and assigned the remaining balance to the non-performing loan category.

Robert Mylod, chairman and chief executive officer, said, "The corporation has concluded that it is strategically inappropriate to remain in international credits of this type. Given the current

market value of the third-world loan portfolio (composed entirely of loans to various entities of the Mexican government), this divestiture is in the best interest of Michigan National. This action further improves the quality of Michigan National's balance sheet."

Michigan National Corp. is a midwest regional bank holding company with \$8.5 billion in total assets. Michigan National Bank, the 40th largest bank in the nation, is the principal subsidiary of Michigan National Corp. and operates 212 branches.

#### FIGHTING DYSTROPHY

Local businesses are preparing for St. Patrick's Day and supporting the Muscular Dystrophy Association by joining "Shamrocks Against Dystrophy."

For a \$1 donation, patrons at participating bars and restaurants sign their name on the shamrocks, which are then hung up to decorate for the Irish holiday. Budweiser is official sponsor of this annual MDA fund-raiser.

All money aids MDA in its search for a cure. It helps provide local MD patients with equipment and services, including wheelchairs, clinic visits and summer camp.

Shamrocks may be purchased now through St. Patrick's Day, Thursday, March 17, at participating establishments in Farmington.

#### CHEF OF YEAR

Kevin Enright, hospitality faculty member at Oakland Community College, was named De Cuisine Chef of the Year for 1988 by members of the Michigan Chefs de Cuisine Association.

Enright, head chef at the Double Eagle restaurant in Troy, has been an instructor in the hospitality program at the Orchard Ridge Campus of OCC in Farmington Hills since 1984.

He began his association with the restaurant business when he started as a short-order cook for the Clock Restaurant in Detroit in 1969.