

High tech can put curl
in your hair, 1D



Predistrict
baseball, 1C

These vegetables offer
a taste of class, 1B

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SAYING thanks to Friends. The Farmington Friends of the Library honored its members for their support of the Farmington Community Library by hosting a wine-and-cheese reception May 20 in the Farmington Hills branch.

The evening included a presentation of "The Midas Touch" by the Traverse City theater troupe, Mysteries to Go. Did you know the Friends have committed \$25,000 this year in sponsoring programs, furnishings, equipment and signs, which, according to the Friends board, wouldn't be possible in the library's regular budget?

One of the most-used new services bought with Friends' money is the Magazine Collection and InfoTrac II (which provides magazines on microfilm).

WARNING extended. Tickets await limousine drivers and owners who operate in Farmington especially during prom and graduation season.

No limo company is licensed to operate in the city nor allowed to pick up clients here, said public safety director, Frank Lauboff, who likened them to taxicabs.

Officers "have been directed to keep a watchful eye" on the area for violators, he added.

BUSINESS folks to gather.

The Farmington/Farmington Hills Chamber of Commerce will host former Wayne County assistant prosecutor Tim Kenny at its general membership luncheon at noon Thursday, June 16, at the Botsford Inn, 28000 Grand River.

Kenny is now an attorney with the Farmington Hills law firm of Larson, Harms & Wright.

Luncheon cost is \$10 per person. For reservations, call the chamber, 474-3440.

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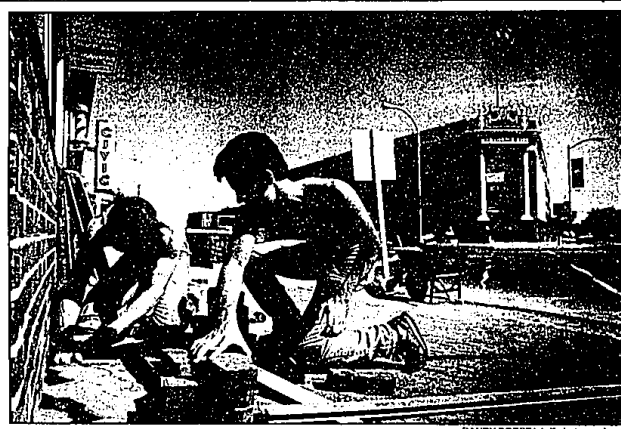
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RANDY BORST/staff photographer

Downtown spruceup

As part of the Downtown Development Authority's \$1.4-million, right-of-way improvement project, Tim O'Leary (left) and Mark

Moreno install paving stones at a pedestrian crosswalk at Grand River and Farmington Road. O'Leary owns P.T. Paving.

School hopefuls cover broad range of issues

By Casey Hans
staff writer

Two Farmington school board candidates presented their election platforms Wednesday and answered questions about technology, sexism, school finance reform and other issues affecting education.

Challenger Bruce Jacob, 37, and three-term incumbent trustee Helen Prutow, 47, faced about 20 members of the Farmington Democratic Club for a club-sponsored Candidates Night at the Botsford Inn in Farmington Hills.

A third candidate, first-term incumbent James Abernethy, 47, was invited but did not attend the program.

This was the first of two forums the candidates will square off at before the Monday, June 13, election.

The second Candidates Night is scheduled for Wednesday, June 1, at 7 p.m. at O.E. Duncal Mide School, 12 Mile, east of Farmington Road, sponsored by the Farmington

Branch-American Association of University Women. It will also include a debate between candidates for the Oakland Community College board of trustees.

There are two four-year terms opening on the Farmington school board this year.

Newcomer Jacob said he wants to make Farmington "the district everyone else tries to emulate" and said he would strive to move the Highmeadow Common Campus concept into all Farmington schools. Jacob was prompted to run, he said, when the issue of redistricting was raised last January.

Prutow also called the Highmeadow pilot, slated to begin this fall, a "prototype for the future." She also highlighted other changes made in the district during her three terms on the school board.

BOTH CANDIDATES agreed technology should be stressed in all Farmington schools.

"Every student should not only be

computer literate, but computer proficient," said Jacob. "We should have two, three, four (computers) in every classroom in every building."

Prutow emphasized technology education in her opening remarks. She advocates "technology as a tool, not just for drill and practice."

"If we don't help them . . . they

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Field trip ends with suspected food poisoning

By Casey Hans
staff writer

Farmington school officials are thankful a revised field-trip policy was in place when 19 special education students and staff members were treated for gastrointestinal problems while on an out-of-town trip last week.

Three students and two staff members from the Farmington Training Center, 33900 Thomas, stayed overnight at LaGrange Memorial Hospital in Chicago, Wednesday, after eating some apparently tainted food in box lunches delivered by a Chicago-area restaurant.

Fourteen others on the trip were treated and released for similar symptoms, including nausea and vomiting.

School officials were told the problem was diagnosed as "acute gastritis" with unidentified causes, which Chicago-area health officials are labeling as suspected food poisoning.

Janice Richards, Farmington Public Schools special education supervisor, said all parental permission slips were in. Detailed information on each of the 27 students was taken on the trip under the district's new field-trip policy approved in March. Seven staff members chaperoned the trip.

"It was a well-planned policy, and effective," Richards added.

THE DEVELOPMENTALLY disabled students, ranging in age from 16 to 26, were from the Farmington Training Center's vocational division. They had earned money for the trip through fund-raisers. They are from a variety of surrounding school districts, including Farmington,

'The paramedics said they had never seen such a good work-up on kids. It (the new field-trip-policy form) was really a valuable thing. It really put all the paperwork to the test.'

— Fred Parker, supervisor
Farmington Training Center

Clarencville, Novi, South Lyon, Southfield, Bloomfield Hills and Huron Valley.

The trip had been planned for about a year, said Fred Parker, FTC supervisor, who also chaperoned the trip.

Students did a variety of things last Tuesday, the first day of the trip, including visiting the Field Museum of Natural History and attending a Chicago White Sox baseball game.

Most of the group began feeling ill Wednesday at an amusement park, hours after eating lunches delivered by a local restaurant. The illness continued when they returned to the hotel and paramedics were called, Richards and Parker said.

The group was flown back to the Detroit area Thursday afternoon after everyone was released from the hospital.

PARKER SAID the new field-trip-policy forms were helpful because

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Most support Rouge cleanup

By Neal Haldane
staff writer

More than 99 percent of people surveyed in the Observer & Eccentric circulation area agree that the Rouge River must be cleaned up.

However, almost three-fourths of those people would not be willing to volunteer their time to clean up the heavily polluted river.

Those are some of the attitudes uncovered in a telephone survey of 363 people who live in the areas served by the 12 Observer & Eccentric Newspapers.

The survey was conducted to determine people's attitudes about the river before the third annual Rouge Rescue on Saturday, June 4.

More than 1.5 million people live along the 126-mile waterway that stretches from Rochester Hills to the Detroit River.

William Jakeway, executive director of Friends of the Rouge, said the survey results showed support for cleaning up the river.

"It sounds great," Jakeway said. "The results will encourage us to pursue the cleanup even more."

ACCORDING TO the survey, residents of this area have heard about cleanup efforts. Almost 72 percent said they were aware of volunteer and government plans to improve the river's quality.

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File photo

Jeff Bristow was among the more than 2,000 people who volunteered for last year's cleanup. Although O&E survey results indicated that more than 90 percent of people agree that the Rouge must be cleaned up, almost three-fourths of those people would not be willing to volunteer their time to a clean up.

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