



## Fun in the sun

Kindergartner Marya Link finds it's easier to fly a kite when the string isn't tangled in your pony tail. She learned that lesson during Outdoor Days June 1-2 at Alameda Early Childhood Center in Farmington Hills. Students headed outside for special spring ac-

tivities, including fun with water, sand and kite flying. Alameda Outdoor Days was started by the Head Start program staff four years ago and has since spread to the whole school.

RANDY BORST/staff photographer

# Schools, support union reach 2-year agreement

Continued from Page 1

Structure of pay grades was changed from nine levels to five. Under the new system, employees will be given credit only for time worked in the Farmington district. "No one lost money," said Alley.

All secretaries and paraprofessionals will receive wage parity among their own group. This change will move 100 members up in class.

Enhanced dental and vision insurance, comparable with teachers' coverage, was approved. Tuition reimbursement for job-related schooling, and a bonus for skill-building programs or projects

that benefit the district were approved.

Paraprofessionals who handle medical situations will receive 25 cents per hour more.

Unused sick days will be reimbursed at retirement at \$14 per day during the contract's first year, and \$15 for the coming year.

## Ma Bell to streamline bills

Michigan Bell customers this week began receiving telephone bills redesigned for easier reading and handling.

"The average number of pages has been reduced from four to two, while page length has been doubled," said Elise Sutherland, Michigan Bell consumer affairs manager. "With these changes, we think customers will find phone charges easier to understand."

Sutherland said the latest changes continue improvements in graphics and wording begun shortly after the breakup of the Bell System in 1984. "We made minor changes immediately after the breakup, and the company began working on major improvements by seeking opinions and recommendations from customers, graphic designers and even a linguist," Sutherland said.

Major improvements in 1985 made the bill shorter and simpler, but existing billing equipment prevented a change of page size, she added.

A recent planned replacement of the company's computerized mailing system "gave us the opportunity to offer the additional changes customers had asked for," she explained. The new bill also features a tear-

off section at the top of the first page that customers will mail in with their payments.

"That's a payment method most customers are familiar with and should add to the convenience of paying phone bills by mail," Sutherland said.

Most of the company's 3 million customers pay their phone bill by mail, using the return envelope provided by Michigan Bell.

Michigan Bell also made long distance charges easier to find, moving the logos of long distance firms to the top and center of the appropriate

page. Michigan Bell provides billing services for some 16 long-distance companies.

In addition to using less paper, the new billing method allows bills of all weights to be franked and sorted for mailing at the same time. "We'll be tracking paper and mailing costs over the next several months for potential savings," said Sutherland.

## Surplus food available at church

Surplus commodity food will be given out from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Tuesday, June 21, in St. Alexander's Church, 27835 Shawwassee, Farmington Hills.

The food, distributed through the Oakland Livingston Human Service Agency, includes cheese, butter and flour. It will be available every other month.

Eligible Oakland County residents should bring the following information to register for the 1987-88 Surplus Commodity Food Program year: Social Security card, proof of income for the past 90 days and personal identification. The program year runs from October 1987 to September 1988.

PEOPLE WHO have received

commodities in the past should return their old USDA Surplus commodity Food registration Card at the time they reregister.

Seniors who regularly attend a senior center should contact that center for pickup dates and times. Homebound seniors should contact the senior center nearest their home to assure homebound delivery. If you do not know which senior center to call, you may call OLHSA's toll free number 1-800-485-9250.

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