

Works of art that are slightly skin-deep, 1B



Entertainer gives kids Hanukkah lesson, 3A

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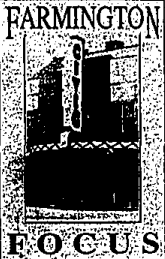
Monday, December 17, 1990

Farmington, Michigan

66 Pages

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## FOCUS

**S**MILE AND SAY "Read." That's the name of a contest for amateur photographers sponsored by the Farmington Community Library and the Friends of the Library.

Library officials say there seems to be little interest in the contest, even though it has been announced in the Farmington Observer and elsewhere.

"We haven't gotten any entries yet," said Maureen Baugh of the library's Farmington Hills branch. "We're hoping everyone is just procrastinating."

Officials hope the contest will remind residents of the joy and importance of reading as a life-long activity during 1991 — "The Year of the Lifetime Reader."

The contest is open to all amateur photographers. Winners will be chosen in two divisions — youth (ages 6-17) and adult, with categories for black-and-white and color prints.

Rules and entry forms are available at both library branches — 2875 W. 11 Mile Farmington Hills, and 43500 Liberty Farmington. Entries will be accepted through Jan. 10.

Photos entered should show the power and pleasure of reading in keeping with the lifetime reader theme.

First, second- and third-place prizes will be awarded in each category. Winners will be announced during National Book Week, Oct. 23.

Local judges will be Randy Bort, graphics editor of the Observer & Eccentric Newspaper; Junebug Clark, freelance advertiser; and Jerry Jakski, owner of Focal Point, a downtown Farmington photo studio.

The first-place winners' work will be judged in a national contest.

For more information, call Baugh or Cheryl Sowles at the Hills branch, 553-0300.

**W**HAT EVER happened to the safety patrol boys and girls who helped youngsters cross busy streets on their way to and from school? Are they pining in suburban districts where most students are bused?

The familiar yellow buses carry most students to Kenbrook Elementary School in Farmington Hills, but the school still has a safety patrol with about 30 members.

Last Thursday they took part in a 45-minute AAA training session to learn how to make student trips to and from school safer.

"The safety patrol is important here," said Carolyn Plsek, Kenbrook principal. "It's extra hands and eyes to help the children walk to and from school."

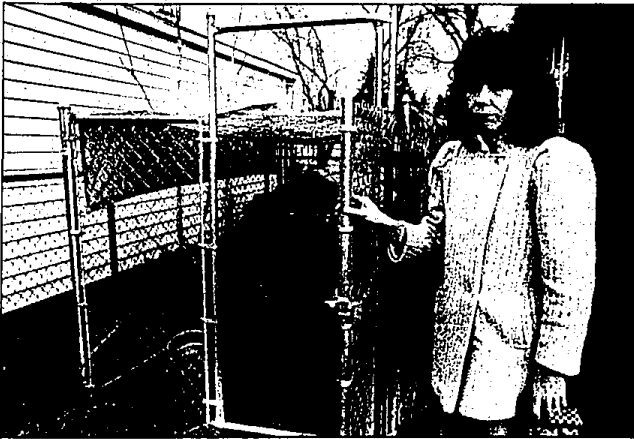
"The majority of our students don't walk. But the ones who live close to the school do, and there are no sidewalks."

An estimated 40,000 Michigan elementary and middle-school safety patrol members serve at 18,000 state school crossings during the school year, the AAA said.

**M**EMORY LANE — From the Dec. 31, 1989, Farmington Enterprise:

Gail Malmgren was named the Good Citizen of 1990 at Farmington High School by the Daughters of the American Revolution.

Items for Farmington Focus may be mailed to the Farmington Observer, 21888 Farmington Road, Farmington 48336, or dropped off at the newspaper office.



SHARON LAMIEUX/staff photographer

Lisa Stone stands in front of the empty cage in her back yard where her two dogs — both a mix of German Shepherd-Alaskan Malamute — lived. One of the dogs got loose last week

and was shot dead by a Farmington Hills police officer who said the dog lunged at him as he was trying to put the dog back in the yard.

## Dog owner is incensed over pet's shooting

By Casey Hans  
staff writer

A Farmington Hills woman said she plans to sue the city after her 4½-year-old dog was shot and killed by police last Wednesday.

"We're getting a lawyer — we're going to sue them," said Lisa Stone, a resident of Rockwell street near Middlebelt and Grand River. She and her family owned two dogs from the same litter which were part German shepherd and part Alaskan malamute.

"I just can't believe they can do something like this. My baby was laying 10 feet away from where he was shooting — in a bedroom sleeping. Other kids were around and saw it happen."

"All the neighbors are upset."

ACCORDING TO Farmington Hills Police Inspector Richard Niemisto, two officers were

**'We're getting a lawyer — we're going to sue them . . . I just can't believe they can do something like this'**

— Lisa Stone  
Rockwell resident

dispatched to the area after a man on nearby Whittington Street complained of a "vicious, loose dog." The resident was getting out of his car in the driveway when the dog, which was running loose, growled at him and bared his teeth.

The man was able to get into his house and call police when the dog was distracted.

Please turn to Page 6

## Planners urge city to act on IRO issue

By Joanne Malazawski  
staff writer

It's too bad the Farmington Hills City Council hasn't addressed a request from developer Melvin Kaftan to rezone acreage on Drake Road from office to industrial-research-office.

That was the response of some planning commissioners Thursday as they, for a second time, recommended denial of residents' request to eliminate all types of residential uses — including condominiums — from being next to IRO zones.

"The city council should act and I hope it will," said planning commission vice chairman Paul Bluman.

Commissioner Jeri VanHouten told residents from Independence Hills subdivision and Hill-

side Estates Condominiums that their interest in eliminating all types of residential — not just single-family — from next to IRO stems from their anger about Kaftan's request to rezone his nearby acreage on Drake Road to IRO.

"Because you are concerned with your particular property, I feel you have not understood," VanHouten said.

A city council-issued moratorium on IRO development, including Kaftan's request, continues. The city council introduced the rezoning July 1989 but never enacted the change under residents' protest. A moratorium was set September 1989 while a city-council appointed toxic-hazardous study committee drafted a report on concerns about IRO zones.

KAFTAN SUED the city June 1990 in an eight-count complaint in which he called the moratorium "arbitrary, capricious, unreasonable, recklessly indifferent and discriminatory."

The city council at 7:30 p.m. tonight will consider removing the moratorium. They will also consider enactment of Kaftan's rezoning request.

Planning commissioners voted 6-0 to deny residents' request because it would result in a "substantial change" in the master plan and the IRO ordinance. Commissioners John Trafelet, Jack Joynt and Debi DeLong were absent.

Commissioners also said that no alternative — such as light industrial or office — is better than IRO next to multiple housing.

But Hillside and Independence Hills residents didn't agree.

"I really don't want to be blown out of my home," said Hillside resident Pearl Burdick. "You want to put industry 50 feet from my home."

Hillside and Independence Hills residents have opposed Kaftan's request to rezone his 14.5 acres immediately south of the condominiums, north of Indoplex. The city council asked the planning commission to schedule the public hearing for the residents who believe condominiums should be treated the same as single-family houses, not apartments.

Please turn to Page 2

## Kidnap-extortion exam postponed

By Casey Hans  
staff writer

The preliminary examination for three people charged with kidnaping and extortion in Farmington Hills was adjourned Friday after the victim failed to appear in court.

In addition, only one of the defendants, O.C. Cruder, Jr., 21, of Detroit was represented by an attorney at the 47th District Court hearing.

District Judge Margaret Schaeffer ordered the proper paperwork be handled to get the other two court-appointed attorneys, and approved a material witness warrant against the 29-year-old victim to force her to appear.

Cruder, Russell Eric Glenn, 25, of Detroit, and Melissa Yvonne Eb-

inger, 22, of Farmington Hills face the felony charges after the victim reported being held against her will, threatened and sexually assaulted on Nov. 7.

It is believed the incident involved a \$200 drug debt.

A preliminary examination for all three defendants was rescheduled for Friday, Dec. 21 at 8:30 a.m. at 47th District Court. Testimony will be offered to decide whether there is enough evidence to order the three to stand trial in Oakland County Circuit Court.

Cruder's attorney, Ernest Needie, argued that his client's exam be held because he was prepared to begin, but Schaeffer ruled "it makes sense to do them (the three exams) at the same time."

Please turn to Page 6

## Mideast buildup concerns Sisters of Mercy council

By Tom Baer  
staff writer

Bishop Thomas Gumbleton isn't the only Detroit-area religious leader who's upset about the U.S. military buildup in the Persian Gulf.

Now the leadership council of the Farmington Hills-based Sisters of Mercy has also spoken out against what it calls "the expense of human and material resources on this primitive method of conflict resolution."

The Roman Catholic Sisters of Mercy — which operates health care systems in the United States — say they're concerned that the United States will go to war with Iraq, which last summer invaded tiny Kuwait.

The sisters made known their feelings in a recent letter to area newspapers.

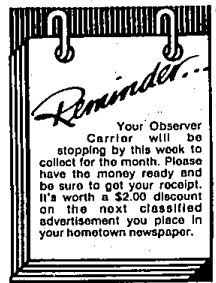
Iraq, under Saddam Hussein, now occupies Kuwait, and more than 200,000 U.S. troops are massed in neighboring Saudi Arabia — with more coming. Hostages held captive by Hussein have been released, but many still think the United States will go to war in the Persian Gulf.

"You can't read the newspapers without being aware of the pressure toward war that is building in this country," said Sister Gretchen Elliott, administrator of the Sisters of Mercy, Province of Detroit, in an interview.

Please turn to Page 2

## what's inside

Achievers . . . . .	4C
Around Farmington . . . . .	4C
Building scene . . . . .	1F
Classifieds . . . . .	Sec. C, E, F
Index . . . . .	2F
Auto . . . . .	Sec. C, E, F
Real estate . . . . .	Sec. E
Employment . . . . .	Secs. F
Creative living . . . . .	1E
Crossword puzzle . . . . .	3E
Entertainment . . . . .	5D
On the agenda . . . . .	9A
Police, fire calls, etc. . . . .	1A
Sports . . . . .	Sec. C
Street Scene . . . . .	Sec. D
Taste . . . . .	Sec. B



## Hanukkah party

Maureen Schiffman, a child's entertainer who lives in Novi, tries to coax her monkey puppet friend, Coco, to greet youngsters at the Farmington Community Center's annual Hanukkah party Wednesday evening.

Coco is wearing a kippah on his head and a tzitzit on his torso. The Hanukkah party was a great success, according to Nancy Brado, program director at the Community Center. For a story and more photos, see Page 3A.

SHARON LAMIEUX/staff photographer