

Competing is winning
at Special Olympics, 8A



Don't forget
Breeze, 3D

Lapping up
frozen dessert, 1B

Farmington Observer

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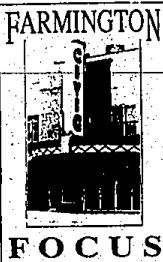
Monday, June 3, 1991

Farmington, Michigan

46 Pages

Fifty Cents

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ARE YOU FEELING lucky, reader? Well, are you? Maybe now is the time to purchase that \$100 ticket for the 1991 Founders Festival Fantasy Car Raffle. Grand prize will be a new Chevrolet Corvette or \$50,000.

The drawing will be held at 5:30 p.m. Thursday, June 6, at The Farmington Community Center. Judge Margaret Schaeffer of the 47th District Court in Farmington will draw the winning ticket. Shopping spree prizes worth \$2,500 also will be awarded. Ticket holders need not be present at the drawing to win.

Raffle proceeds will go toward covering expenses of the Founders Festival to be held July 6-13.

"The raffle is one of the most important funding sources for the event," said Jody Soronen, executive director of the Farmington/Farmington Hills Chamber of Commerce.

Tickets may be purchased at the chamber office, 35411 Grand River, Farmington, or from chamber board members. For more information, call the chamber, 474-3440.

THE QUAKERTOWN Questers were dedicated... and soon the balustrade for the Farmington Historical will be, too.

The Questers, a group concerned with historic preservation and restoration, will hold the dedication ceremony for the balustrade 1 p.m. June 3, at the museum on Grand River.

The \$5,500 for the project was raised by the local group and further funded by grants from the International and State Questers.

Mayor Shirley Richardson will be present at the dedication, as well as architect Carl Gaiser, museum director Richard Carvel, Downtown Development Authority administrator Wendy Strup-Sittsamer and several Quester officers.

The public is invited to attend.

CALLING ALL bowlers... The Farmington Community Center would like to strike up an acquaintance if you have the time to spare.

The Inaugural Bowl-A-Thon to benefit the center will be held 7:30 p.m. Friday, June 7, at Drake-Lane Lanes, 35000 Grand River.

Teams of five or individual bowlers should call or stop by The Community Center to pick up their pledge sheets. Proceeds will benefit cultural and educational summer activities at The Community Center.

Bowlers will pledges totaling \$250 or more will be eligible for the grand prize drawing for a weekend getaway package. Other prizes, including free subs, will be awarded.

For more information, call The Community Center at 477-8044.

MEMORY LANE — From the June 7, 1951 Farmington Enterprise:

A grand opening ceremony for the Grand Tulane Motel on Grand River in Farmington Township was held June 9, according to owners Mr. and Mrs. Sierens.

Items for Farmington Focus may be mailed to the Farmington Observer, 21898 Farmington Road, Farmington 48336, or dropped off at the newspaper office.



SHARON LAMIEUX/staff photographer

The 'world' of Hillside

"Around the World in Five Days," a recent ethnic festival at Hillside Elementary School in Farmington Hills, featured food with an international flavor, ethnic dances, geography and language study and a display of international flags. Parents and students participated in the event. In the photo above, parents (from left) Roxanne Chatman, Gloria Liggins and Regina Storr pass out food representing African culture.

Boyfriend arrested in suffocation death

By Joanne Maliszewski
staff writer

A quarrel is believed to have led to the death of a 30-year-old Livonia woman whose partially clothed body was found in a Farmington Hills field Feb. 7.

Farmington Hills police, who arrested the woman's boyfriend Tuesday, would not elaborate on the motive in the suffocation death of Kristine Albert.

"She was last seen leaving with her boyfriend. That's one reason why the investigation focused on him," said Sgt. Charles Nebus of the Farmington Hills detective bureau.

A 36-year-old former Detroit resident was arrested on an open murder charge as he arrived home to his apartment in Delta Township near Lansing Tuesday. He was arrested by Farmington Hills detectives David Lee and Patrick Sidge with the help of the Eaton County Sheriff's Department.

Wednesday morning the man was transferred to the Detroit Police Department. As of late Friday, the man was not yet arraigned on the felony charge in 36th District Court, Detroit.

Open murder means a judge or jury will decide.

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Candidate cries foul over letter

Critics attack with '83 ticket report

By Casey Hans
staff writer

Just a week before the June 10 school board election, things are getting down and dirty on the campaign trail.

Candidate Richard DeVries is crying foul, claiming a letter to the editor from PTA leaders that ran in the Farmington Observer was libelous.

Meanwhile, anti-DeVries forces obtained and circulated information from the local courts about a 1983 incident in which DeVries was ticketed for "annoying conduct" for using foul language and gestures in a neighborhood dispute.

DeVries has denied the charge, which was dismissed by a local judge one year after the ticket was issued.

But copies of the ticket were circulated last week to local Republican leaders, who on Thursday called a special meeting and endorsed DeVries on a 19-1 vote for the non-partisan seat.

One local Republican leader called the anonymous circulation of the old ticket "strident, personal and unreasonable."

DEVRIES, 41, a Ford Motor Co. engineer, is running against incumbent Susan Hennels, 47, a banking executive with First Federal of Michigan, and 39-year-old parent and PTA ac-

tivist Laura Myers for a four-year term on the Farmington school board.

The trio has appeared at three candidate forums, all of which are being cablecast locally in the days prior to the election. While voters watch and try to sort out the issues, things are heating up behind the scenes.

After a letter authored by PTA officials Sue Shapiro and Peggy Price was published in the Observer May 16, DeVries' attorney, Paul Joseph Schwab, drafted a letter advising the two that "the letter is inaccurate" and "the letter as authored is libelous."

In his letter, he asks for a retraction and offers suggested copy for it. The PTA letter claimed DeVries was not an active PTA member, which he subsequently denied in a follow-up letter in the newspaper.

DeVries would not comment about whether he will seek further legal action, but implied he might not bother to take the time: "I have a campaign to run," he added.

Shapiro, president of the Farmington Area PTA Council, said she has consulted an attorney and would respond, but was angered at DeVries' action. "He (DeVries) says he will show respect for the citizens and the community, if elected," Shapiro said. "I want to know if this is an example of that."

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2 men killed in Hills; Detroit man charged

By Joanne Maliszewski
staff writer

Two men were shot and killed in front of neighbors and passersby Friday in what is believed to be a drug-related incident at a house on Inkster Road, the same house where a drive-by shooting occurred 1½ years ago.

"Information from the people involved and other sources indicate that a possible motive is drugs, money owed and an assault that occurred one, two weeks ago in Detroit," said Farmington Hills police detective Sgt. Charles Nebus.

Edward P. Hopkins, 25, of Detroit stood mute to two counts of first-degree murder and two counts of felony firearms at his jail-cell arraignment Saturday. If convicted of first-degree murder, he faces life in prison without

chance of parole.

Magistrate Dennis Phenev of the 47th District Court did not set bond. Hopkins will remain in the Oakland County Jail at least until a preliminary examination on the charges at 8:30 a.m. Friday.

Hopkins, who lived temporarily at the house, 20735 Inkster Road, surrendered to Livonia police immediately after the shootings on the Farmington Hills-Livonia border, Nebus said.

ACCORDING TO information from witnesses, the two shooting victims had severely beaten Hopkins about two weeks before in Detroit. A second man taken into custody Friday night was released without being charged Saturday morning, Nebus said.

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Old alma mater '67 grad named assistant at NFHS

By Casey Hans
staff writer

Rick Jones is pleased to have been chosen for a leadership role at his alma mater, North Farmington High School.

An English teacher and football and tennis coach at the school since 1987, Jones was selected recently to fill a vacancy as an assistant principal, where he will join the current administrative team including principal Debbie Clarke and assistant principal Chuck Austry.

His position takes effect officially this July. He replaces current assistant principal Ken Dean who will move to Farmington High School in that same capacity.

"I'm excited and I'm apprehensive," said the 42-year-old Jones, who taught in Florida for 14 years before coming back to the Farmington area in 1987. His wife, Kathy Jones, is the district's director for information management.

"I just love teaching and coaching and it was really hard to give that up. But I think I'm going to love this as well."

THE APPOINTMENT is especially meaningful to Jones, who graduated from North in 1967.

"I was in the school's fourth grading class — and was president of his junior and senior classes. There was a tremendous staff then, as there is now, to have an opportunity to come back... it's a thrill," he said.

"It certainly is a highlight in my life."



SHARON LAMIEUX/staff photographer

As a new assistant principal, Rick Jones rules the North Farmington halls he once walked as a student. "I'm excited and I'm apprehensive," says Jones.

Students at North are apparently happy to have Jones as a teacher there. He was selected as the North Farmington Teacher of the Year in 1989-90 in an election sponsored by

the Student Council. The Jones family moved into the North Farmington area, and currently one daughter attends the school.

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