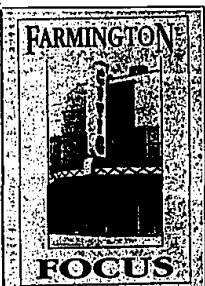


Yesterday's newspaper recycled for tomorrow

WMAA relays 1B

Grocery shopping by telephone 15A



**CALLEY CERRANO**, an East Middle School student, has become quite a celebrity since winning an essay contest with her "Why It's Important to Know the News." Watch for her on a TV screen near you. Calley will be a Fox 50 Kids Newsbreak reporter on WKBD (Channel 50) on Friday, Sept. 27. She will be on the air at 8:58 a.m. and 3:58 p.m.

"Calley is an expressive, happy person, and we miss her at Larkshire Elementary," said Karla Walkley, her teacher last year.

**B**RING OUT your cans and bottles. North Farmington High School students and band booster parents are collecting them.

The bottle and can drive will take place between 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 28, in the North Farmington area. Collection will be door-to-door.

People who wish to participate should place returnable cans and bottles in large plastic bags marked "NFHS Bottle Drive" and put the bags at the end of their driveways by 10 a.m.

Funds raised will be used to support the band and orchestra programs at North Farmington.

**T**AKE NOTE, all those who planned on attending the Farmington Youth Assistance annual meeting. The date and location are changed because of a scheduling conflict.

The meeting now will be held at 6:30 p.m. (dinner at 7 p.m.) Wednesday, Oct. 9, and the location is now the multi-purpose room of the Nardin park Methodist Church, 23887 W. 11 Mile west of Middlebelt.

Those who have RSVPed for the original date are asked to call Youth Assistance again at 469-3434.

**R**EMEMBER the big green-and-white tent in the parking lot at Grove and Grand River in Farmington last summer? And remember the kids and parents that flocked to the activities there?

Some 5,883 attended the 10 programs, which cost a total of \$7,265.28, according to figures provided by the Farmington Downtown Development Authority, which sponsored the events.

Most popular event by a wide margin was the Upland Hills petting farm, which drew upwards of 1,000 and cost \$988. Next came the Siring Puppet Theater, drawing 855 and costing \$965.

Other summer events along with attendance and cost: Quality Children's Music, 711, \$555; Safety City, 600, \$327; magician, 550, \$791.50; Fun With Plaster, 434, \$1,100; Dixieland Trio, 482, \$710.50; clowns and caricaturist, 406, \$1,055; shop and swap, 361, \$125; story hour, 404, \$443.59.

**M**EMORY LANE — From the Sept. 27, 1991, Farmington Enterprise:

• Item from the Around the Block column: "More precautions has been added at the intersection of Middlebelt and Nine Mile roads. This week large signs were erected on Middlebelt reminding motorists on the 'Stop Ahead'."

• Jay Harrison, named Farmington Township police officer two weeks ago, announced that he had decided to remain with the Farmington police.

## Amplification approved for center

By Joanne Maliszewski  
staff writer

For the first time in two years, the Farmington-Farmington Hills Community Center is free to host as many amplified events at the outdoor amphitheater as administrators choose.

"We would like to have the flexibility," said center board president Ben Marks. "We would like not to be curtailed."

The Farmington Hills Planning Commission's decision to allow amplified activities on weekdays and weekends is a turnaround from action taken during the past two years.

The commissioners' action lifted previous restrictions on amplification at the outdoor theater, which were placed in 1989 after Farmington Road neighbors complained about noise. Though neighbors continued to complain

in 1990, planning commissioners loosened the restrictions and allowed 10 amplified activities.

**THE DECISION** to loosen the reins even more was not unanimous. Commissioners Paul Blizman, Philip Arnold and Brenda Kandt wanted to keep some restrictions. Commissioner Jeri VanHouten didn't vote because she missed a majority of the public hearing.

"I think amplification poses a problem," said Blizman, who discounted any notion that commissioners in 1990 set a decibel limit for the 10 outdoor activities at 70-80.

Amplification should either be controlled or not permitted, said Blizman. He urged restrictions on the number of amplified outdoor events. Arnold agreed and suggested restricting events to 30. Other commissioners didn't want such restrictions at all, and Blizman

thought 30 was too many.

The commissioners finally agreed to require that all events end by 9 p.m. and that the grounds be cleared no later than 10 p.m. They also agreed to review the center's permit after a year and that city staff should continue recording decibel levels of all outdoor amplified events.

Commissioner Donald Millington, who proposed the terms, said he acted on hard data (the decibel readings) and not on the emotions offered by either side in the dispute.

Center officials also are required to comply with the city's existing noise ordinance. The ordinance requires noise at the center to be less than average street noise. The center also is required to abide by any new noise ordinance the city may enact in the next year.

The city has monitored noise at the center for the past year. But the readings, including those by Swanson Environmental, taken at four houses in the city led to different interpretations.

The Swanson readings showed average decibel readings of 45-47 at two corners on the center property and 56 across the street. The readings were taken when there was no activity or amplification at the center.

But readings taken by city staff throughout the season showed a range of decibels. For example, at a folklore and music concert, readings taken at 7:30 p.m. were at 60-70 at the top of the hill. The amplifiers were then turned down.

At a string dulcimer concert, the readings at the top of the hill ranged from 60-63.

NOISE READINGS dominated the discussion.

Please turn to Page 2



SHARON LEMIEUX/staff photographer

Children from Detroit's Focus: HOPE and Gill Elementary in Farmington Hills peek through a fence at Maybury State Park to see a pair of pigs at a farm there. This is one of several

times the kids will meet through the school year to share their experiences.

## Gill Elementary students build bridges of hope with urban-suburban exchange

By Casey Hans  
staff writer

Members of the Gill Elementary School community in Farmington Hills are busy building bridges of urban-suburban hope by continuing their fourth year of a student exchange program with a Detroit school run by Focus:HOPE.

Since 1988, students have visited each others' schools to share experiences and focus on friendship.

"What a positive introduction for

unity — what a necessary thing," said parent Cathy Ehlers, who is involved with the exchange program for the first time this year, and is excited about what it could mean for the future.

"We need to break down some walls of division," she added. "I think this thing could blossom into such a community focus. A real bridge could begin."

"This is a perfect way to connect the two."

Teacher Evelyn Kaplan got the

exchange going using a PTA teacher grant four years ago and she is pleased the program has continued.

"We think it's great. We think the world can truly be a rainbow," said Kaplan, who teaches second grade this year. "It offers camaraderie, understanding, more caring, more sharing, more love. I have never in four years heard children use the word 'color.'"

friends several times each year, both in Farmington Hills and in Detroit. Just recently, the two groups got together at Maybury State Park on Eight Mile Road to enjoy a working farm, a picnic and nature walks.

"It was just friendly kids meeting friendly kids," said Ehlers. "There is no stigma, there is no difference."

The Gill PTA put its teacher

STUDENTS FROM Gill meet with their preschool Focus:HOPE

Please turn to Page 6

## O&E's McClish: feisty to the end

By Casey Hans and  
Joanne Maliszewski  
staff writers

It was the good times and the good people Lorraine McClish loved the most — her family, friends and the many people she encountered in more than 40 years in community journalism.

Through years of writing for the Chicago Tribune and the Detroit Times and locally with the Southfield Sun, Southfield News and finally with the Observer & Eccentric, she always recognized the importance of community, which she personalized and considered her own.

A "natural-born liberal," according to her son, Judd, she often opened her heart and pocketbook to those who needed help.

"I just think she was such an asset to the staff, and I know we'll miss her," said Tom Baer, Farmington Observer editor who also worked with Lorraine when he was a reporter and sports editor. "She was feisty and spirited right up until the end."

Lorraine McClish died Sunday at Detroit Osteopathic Hospital, after a nearly two-year fight with breast cancer. She was 66.

*'Lorraine was always a worker. She never had a problem handling anything that came her way. She would always say, "I can do it."'*

— Marion Zamotin  
McClish's sister

The mother of six and grandmother of seven grew up in Chicago where she was the oldest in a family of five children. After her father died in 1940, she went right out and got three after-school jobs and has worked ever since, said her sister, Marion Zamotin.

LORRAINE WORKED for the Observer & Eccentric for nearly 21 years, first as a reporter and then as an editor for the Suburban Life feature section. Zamotin said Lorraine once told her, "I'm never going to quit work, as long as I can hold a pen."



Lorraine McClish  
1924-1991

## Tax hike defeated in high turnout

By Marie Chestney  
staff writer

One of the largest turnouts of voters in years defeated the Clarenceville School District's plans to spend \$19 million to fix up its four schools.

By more than a three-to-one margin, voters defeated the \$19 million bond issue in Monday's special election.

In doing so, they said no to a tax increase that would have cost the average Clarenceville homeowner an extra \$150 a year.

Clarenceville officials were stunned not only by the magnitude of the millage defeat but by the large turnout of voters, some of whom hadn't voted in years. The vote was 764-215 in a district which has 6,930 voters.

The district encompasses the northeast part of Livonia, southeast corner of Farmington Hills and northwest corner of Redford.

DISTRICT OFFICIALS also were surprised by a last-minute campaign against the millage in which "vote no" fliers were left in mailboxes over the weekend.

Before last weekend, there had been no organized campaign against the millage.

The fliers, coupled with recessionary times and a district which al-

Please turn to Page 2

## what's inside

Building scene	1G
Business	10B
Cable connection	4A
Classifieds	D-G
Index	6D
Auto	F-G
Real estate	D,E,F
Employment	1D
Creative living	7D
Crossword puzzle	1D
Entertainment	6-8C
Opinion	16A
Police/fire calls	2A
Sports	1B
Suburban life	1C

CLASSIFIEDS . 591-0900  
CIRCULATION . 591-0500

Home Furnishings

SPECIAL SECTION IN TODAY'S ISSUE

Please turn to Page 3