

Maestro takes note of audience reaction, 1C



District soccer, 1B

Activities lend support to anti-drug pursuit, 3A

Farmington Observer

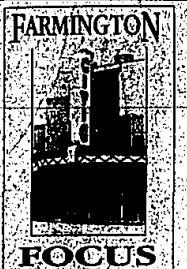
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Farmington, Michigan

76 Pages

Fifty Cents



WHAT HAPPENED at recent meet-

ing candidates forum had to be every candidate's nightmare. Farmington City Council candidates showed up and so did a few spectators for the Oct. 17 forum at Southwestern Oakland Cable Commission headquarters in Farmington Hills.

Questions were asked and answered at the forum, which was sponsored by the League of Women Voters of the Oakland Area.

And, of course, the cable TV camera rolled. "But when they played the tape back, horror of horrors, the tape was blank. There was sound but no picture. "I was very disappointed," said Kevin Southern, production specialist for the cable commission. "This was probably the most important shoot of the year. It's never happened before. It must have been a bad tape."

All five Farmington candidates have agreed to participate, Southern said.

SEE SPOT RUN right into the Books for Less store at Grand River and Farmington Road in downtown Farmington.

Spot, who represents the famous dog/author that children seem to love, will be "pawing" copies of his books at 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. on Friday, Oct. 23, at Books for Less.

At 3 p.m. same day and place, romance novelists Ruth Langan and Jill Gregory will autograph copies of their books.

An special activity is also planned for Friday at Books Abound, another downtown book store operated by the same people who own Books for Less. At 7 p.m. Lori Ekstein, well-known local author, will autograph his best-selling book "Whiskey River" as well as his other titles. Books Abound is located at 3336 Grand River.

Both bookstores will be part of the Moonlight Madness Sale Friday downtown. All merchandise will be 25 percent off from 9 p.m. to midnight.

IF YOU'RE interested in live election coverage of the local races, click the TV set to cable Channel 13 on Election night, Tuesday, Nov. 5, starting at 8:30 p.m.

The Southwestern Oakland Cable Commission and MetroVision of Oakland County will present live coverage for Farmington, Farmington Hills and Novi. Hosts for the show will be State Reps. Jan Dolan and Bill Bullard.

MEMORY LANE — From the Oct. 25, 1991 edition of the Farmington Enterprise:

Stallion suits were advertised at Dancer's Department Store in downtown Farmington for \$49.75. An additional pair of trousers were \$12.50 extra.

Farmington Township's newest police officer, Irving T. Yakes, officially took over his duties.

Farmington beat Clarenceville, 21-14, in high school football.

Items for Farmington Focus may be mailed to the Farmington Observer, 21878 Farmington Road, Farmington 48333, or dropped off at the newspaper office.

Ray's flower stand still blooms

By Joanne Maliszewski staff writer

Temporary Businessman of the Year. That's how Rexwood Street resident David Brown — who lives around the corner from Ray's Flowers and Plants at 14 Mile and Northwestern Highway — wants to honor owner Ray Hesano.

Council nixes ordinance

After more than two hours of comments — including from immediate past chamber president Bob Heinrich — the city council refused to change the ordinance. The council also received numerous letters of support on both sides of the issue.

The council's refusal came despite city attorney John Donohue pointing out that a part of the change included removing a contradiction on the time period the zoning board of appeals can allow temporary uses.

need to change the ordinance," councilman Larry Lichtman said. Heinrich denied the proposed ordinance — drafted by a committee of city staff members and chamber of commerce representatives — was designed to solely put Hesano out of business. But Hesano's stand is the only one currently operating and the only one referred to during the ordinance discussions.

"I WISH the issue was not so much flowers and pumpkins (which Hesano is now selling at the blue and white tent) as much as the economics that exist in our community," Heinrich said. He and other chamber officials have argued that the intention of the city ordinance — that allows temporary uses in zoning districts that would not normally allow such uses — was not



Linda Lynch, president of Uniglobe Arboretum Travel and the local chamber of commerce, works with her hero — Mickey Mouse.

Everytime she looks up from her desk he's there on her wall, with his girlfriend, Minnie.

Mickey Mouse fan maintains upbeat attitude

By Joanne Maliszewski staff writer

Mickey Mouse is Linda Lynch's hero. And you can't blame her for that. "He's always positive. I've never seen him any other way. He's friendly. He sets goals. And he expects results. To me, these kinds of things work in any business. He's my hero."

know your neighbor

doubt Lynch respects and admires Mickey Mouse. His more than life-size picture and that of his significant other — Minnie Mouse — graces one wall of Lynch's office filled with rich, wood furniture. "I'm a Mickey Mouse freak. I think Mickey Mouse is the greatest ambassador that's ever lived. I think we can all learn something from this little mouse," said Lynch, the mother of three married sons.

It's when you walk into the travel agency that you realize there's no

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Little demand? Cablecasting creates division

By Casey Hans staff writer

ELECTION '91
Farmington City Council

Should the city of Farmington cablecast its meetings, following the lead of its sister city Farmington Hills and the Farmington Public School District which recently decided to put meetings on local TV?

Most of the five candidates for three seats on the city council believe the city should cablecast, but some are concerned with the potential cost.

Incumbent councilman William Hartsock said he does not believe cablecasting is necessary, incumbent JoAnne McShane said she had heard little demand from residents for it, and incumbent Ralph Yoder said he

is not opposed to it, but is concerned about the cost. Challengers Arnold Campbell and John Kenney said they are strongly in favor of putting council meetings on television at another venue for residents to get involved in their local government.

HARTSOCK, AN 18-year council veteran, said he is concerned be-

cause he sees no accurate measure of viewership against cost in neighboring communities where cablecasting is already being done.

"Many of these people (who are watching cablecasts of government meetings) know what is going on in the first place," said Hartsock, 40, a partner with the regional investment firm of Roney & Co. "Quite frankly, I'd rather have people come to council meetings, rather than watch it passively on cable."

"It's desirable, but expensive," added the 45-year-old McShane, an insurance representative with Horace Mann. "I could see where it could have a lot of benefits for

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Criticism leveled at post office

By Joanne Maliszewski staff writer

Mark Bate says he was astounded by the comments by Farmington Hills city councilwoman Jean Fox a week ago about the Farmington Post Office. "I don't understand," Bate told the city council Monday when he appeared to talk about a resolution urging an investigation into the U.S.

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May she have this dance?

Debbie Robertson of Farmington Hills dances with her oldest son, Ian, 5, during the Mother and Son Dance held last Friday evening at the Mercy Center in Farmington Hills. Dance organizer and recreation programmer Jackie Wilson said, "The moms have a good time I think because their husbands won't take them dancing."

SHARON LEMIEUX/staff photographer