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FARMINGTON



FOCUS

HEAR YE! Hear ye! Rhea Alperis, a ninth-grader at North Farmington High School, has been appointed to the 1991-92 Student Advisory Board of the "Class of '95" project.

"Class of '95" is an educational project produced jointly by television stations WJBK (Channel 2) and WTVS (Channel 58). Among the Student Advisory Board's duties this year was to give input for the kick-off documentary, "My Dad Is A Hero," airing at 8 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 20, on channels 2 and 58.

The program will be followed by a town hall-type meeting focusing on the role of parents in education. Brent Trist will host the forum, and members of the student board will be in the audience.

Now in its second year, "Class of '95" is a five-year project examining the quality of education for students from eighth grade until their graduation from high school in 1995.

Through specially produced programs, news reports and community outreach, the TV stations are tracking a representative group of metropolitan Detroit young people by monitoring their aspirations as well as the expectations held by their parents, teachers and the community in general.

CHRISTMAS is a-comin' and so is Santa Claus.

Jolly old St. Nick will be at the Farmington Community Center, 24705 Farmington Road, for the annual Santa Luncheon for youngsters and their parents on Thursday, Dec. 5, and Saturday-Sunday, Dec. 7-8.

The Thursday event starts at 6:30 p.m., while the weekend sessions are set for 11 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. Reservations are necessary and must be made at the Community Center. Price is \$5 a person, which includes a picture with Santa.

The menu: hot dogs and buns, potato chips, finger jello, carrot sticks, cookies and beverages.

THIS YEAR marks the 200th anniversary of the Bill of Rights of the U.S. Constitution — and the event won't go unheralded in the Farmington area.

The city of Farmington and the Farmington Exchange Club will co-host a communitywide "Salute To The Bicentennial Of The Bill of Rights" luncheon at noon Wednesday, Dec. 11, at the Farmington Elks Club.

Exchange Club and city officials hope that a large number of community leaders will share in celebrating the first 10 amendments to the Constitution.

For more information or reservations, call Barbara Price at 489-3352.

MEMORY LANE — From the Nov. 22, 1991, Farmington Enterprise:

Only one minor auto accident was reported by Farmington police in spite of icy streets which tied up traffic for hours. Two cars collided at Grand River and Fowler, but there were no injuries.

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

See related story, Page 5A

By Susan Buck
staff writer

An employee in the Farmington Hills Post Office could lose the sight in his right eye because he was caught in the gunfire Thursday at the Royal Oak Post Office, where a disgruntled former employee shot and killed five people and injured several others.

Allen Adams, 47, who lives near Howell, was on temporary assignment in Royal Oak from his regular position as a window supervisor in the Farmington Hills branch on 12

Mile when he was shot by Tom McIlvane, a distraught former postal employee.

McILVANE SHOT himself to death after the rampage.

At age 7, McIlvane was a resident of the St. Vincent and Sarah Fisher Center in Farmington Hills. He was there from July 27, 1987, to June 19, 1990, said administrator Sister Mary Patricia.

Adams was listed in stable condition Friday in Madison Heights' Oakland General Hospital, said Karen Hansen, hospital spokeswoman.

"He was shot in the face," said Lt. Donald Novak, Royal Oak police. "He was up in a labor relations per-

Was helping at RO; could lose vision in right eye

sonnel area."

ADAMS WAS on a detail to the safety office in the Royal Oak post office, said Mark Bate, officer-in-charge of the Farmington Post office. Bate is filling in for Farmington Postmaster Kenneth Harris, who has been on a medical stress leave since January.

"It was something he (Adams) wanted to do," Bate said. "He was

working on various safety programs. Adams has been window supervisor in Farmington Hills for almost four years.

His postal career began in Farmington in 1973, said Mike Mahnke of postal public relations. Adams was promoted to postal center technician and in 1985 became a supervisor in East Lansing. He returned to Farmington in 1987.

"He's one of our own," said Carol

Lewis, a postal employee in the Farmington branch on Slocum Street. "He underwent surgery and might lose an eye."

GRIEF COUNSELING is available for all postal employees.

Postal employees at the Farmington-area facilities were understandably upset after the Royal Oak shootings, Bate said.

"We all lost postal people," he said. "Whether we knew them or not, they were postal people."

In the meantime, mail delivery remains the same for Farmington-area residents, Bate said.

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photos by SHARON LEMIEUX/staff photographer

Eyewitness Cedric Edwards shows a courtroom of people how he saw a man believed to be Farmington Hills resident Edward Hopkins aim a shotgun and shoot 17-year-old Ricardo Preston

of Detroit as he ran from a house on Inkster Road to Eight Mile on May 31.

Witness in double-slaying trial says man was 'shooting to kill'

By Joanne Maliszewski
staff writer

Family members' tear-filled eyes kept a watch on witnesses as the story of how their two sons were shot and killed in Farmington Hills May 31 continued to unfold Wednesday in 47th District Court.

"He was shooting to kill. He was aiming," testified Cedric Edwards about one of two Farmington Hills men he saw chasing a third man toward Eight Mile from Inkster Road May 31.

The man who Edwards saw being chased was Ricardo Preston, 17, and Laterrice Lee Carter, 19, both of Detroit, were killed that evening in an incident that began in a nearby house on Inkster Road, a few minutes earlier.

Seven prosecution witnesses and one defense witness testified Wednesday at the preliminary ex-

As family members arrived at the courtroom, uniformed Farmington Hills officers checked everyone with a metal detector to ensure that weapons were not being taken into the courtroom.

amination for the man accused of the shooting deaths, Edward P. Hopkins, 25, of Farmington Hills, is charged with two counts of first-degree murder.

Wednesday was the first day that

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Constancia Hannah, the girlfriend of Mikel Hopkins, testifies that two Detroit men who were shot and killed in Farmington Hills May 31 showed up at her Detroit house demanding to know where to find Hopkins and his brother, Edward.

Parents object to promo tape shown in video store

By Casey Hans
staff writer

A visit to a local video store recently gave Nancy Claridge, her husband and their 2½-year-old child a nasty earful.

It also raised the issue of just what video stores should show on monitors — commonly used to preview and promote movies for rental or sale.

Visiting the Entertainment Time video store in downtown Farmington a few weeks ago, the Farmington Hills resident was shocked to hear actor Don Johnson's voice booming profanely from speakers.

She quickly began talking to her daughter to cover the nasty words, and asked an employee to turn down the tape. She said he refused.

"I'm not a prude," she said, discussing the incident with Observer last week. "I just don't understand why a child has to be 17 to go into a theater to see an R-rated movie, but a child can walk in and watch a movie in a store."

"I think that every parent should be aware that this can happen to them. It's a matter of what's appropriate for a public place."

THE ENTERTAINMENT Time store in Farmington has since closed and moved to Allen Park. Other local video store operators say they are sensitive to such concerns, and either don't show R-rated tapes or turn off the volume to avoid foul language problems.

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