

# Farmington Observer

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Fifty CENTS

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## IN THE PAPER TODAY

**Congressional Q&A:** The three Congressional Republican candidates speak out in a question-and-answer session. /13A

## COUNTY NEWS

**Battle of the sexes:** She's not one of the boys. He says women can't be administrators. The primary race for county executive heats up. /7A

**Endorsements:** The Observer's endorsements for the 11th U.S. House of Representatives District, which includes Farmington and Farmington Hills, and some other primary races are on the Editorial Page. /16A

## SPORTS

**State champs:** South Farmington's Pinto all-star baseball team won its second consecutive state championship last weekend. /1B

**Title quest:** South Farmington's Sandy Koufax baseball team played for an AABC district championship Tuesday night in Southfield. /1B

## ENTERTAINMENT



**Eating out:** "Happy Days" are here again at Rocket Eddy's in Keego Harbor. The 1950s-style dinner makes malts and milkshakes the old-fashioned way. /5B

**Classical music:** Pianist David Syme tackles difficult works at a benefit recital for the Steinway Society of Michigan. /5B

## SUBURBAN LIFE

**A sunny day:** Farmington Hills resident Sonny Eliot, the TV weatherman all metro Detroiters remember, and his wife Annette always looks at life in a positive light. /1C

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## Brother testifies in Hopkins trial



A tape of a 9-1-1 emergency call became evidence Tuesday, as the Edward Hopkins murder trial continued in Oakland County Circuit Court. Hopkins of Farmington Hills is accused in the shooting deaths of two Detroit men.

BY JOANNE MALISZEWSKI  
STAFF WRITER

In a May 31, 1991, tape-recorded 9-1-1 emergency call, Edward Hopkins told a Farmington Hills dispatcher that he had just shot somebody who had come to his house with baseball bats.

"I just shot somebody at my house. They came here to kill me. They came

with baseball bats," according to the tape recording, admitted into evidence Tuesday during Hopkins' murder trial.

But in testimony from his brother, Mikel, as well as others, two Detroit men, whom Hopkins is accused of shooting to death the evening of May 31, 1991, appeared to have been unarmed.

Hopkins of Farmington Hills faces two first-degree murder charges and two counts of felony firearms in the shooting deaths of LaTerrie Lee Carter, 18, and Ricardo Preston, 17, at his mother's house, 20763 Inkster Road.

Tom McGinnis, Hopkins' court-appointed attorney, is arguing that Hopkins shot the two men in self-defense because they returned to his house to collect a drug debt three days after they beat him in front of a Detroit crack house.

In the third and fourth days of testimony before Oakland County Circuit

Judge Robert Templin, witnesses, including three passersby, neighbors, and Mikel Hopkins, described what they saw the evening Carter and Preston came to Hopkins' Farmington Hills house.

Mikel Hopkins testified that Carter and Preston returned to the Farmington Hills house almost daily after the beating threatening harm if repayment wasn't made.

"They told me, 'You'd better pay the money or you're going to look worse

See TRIAL, 2A

## Kids camp cooks up regimen of fun



BY CASEY HANS  
STAFF WRITER

Not one summer day at the Salvation Army day camp has gone to waste.

Three-legged races, arts and crafts, music or just eating a hot dog lunch cooked on the grill — whatever the activity, it all adds up to the joys of summer day camp.

And camp director Mike Rowland — more often known as "Mr. Mike" — with assistant director Diane Botic and their camp counselors ensure the kids have plenty to do in camp, which runs from three to six weeks.

"We do a lot of things," said Farmington Hills 9-year-old Elizabeth Bruce. "She likes the lunches and I do too," she added, pointing to friend Melissa Guerrero, also 9, who attends school with her at William Grace Elementary in Farmington Hills. "I like the art room."

Melissa, whose mom works at the Salvation Army office on Shawwassee near Inkster in Farmington Hills, said she liked the camp's music program the most.

What's unique about the Salvation Army program is the cost: children can attend the six-week session for only \$1 per day and camp director Rowland said this year about 67 kids were registered. The remainder of camp costs are donated, said Rowland, a Livonia resident.

Also donated is Farmington Public Schools bus service, which takes kids on their weekly field trips, and the time of managers from Dearborn's Hyatt Agency, who come to the camp daily to cook the kids lunch and help counselors with various camp activities.

Wearing T-shirts sporting "The Hyatt FORCE (Family of Responsible and Caring Employees)" usually four members of the management team join in the day's events. This is the second year the Hyatt staff has donated time to help the Farmington Hills Salvation Army location.

Because managers at the Hyatt often work long hours, Hyatt allows the community service to be done on company time. "We think our employees have a responsibility to participate in commu-

See CAMP, 10A

Happy campers: Krishna Reid (left), 10, of Farmington Hills, and Bert Kelly, 8½, of Detroit, do the 3-legged race together at Salvation Army day camp.



Gerald Surowiec

## Candidate: Bigger isn't better

Editor's note: This is the seventh in a series of stories about seven attorneys vying for an open seat on the 47th District Court bench. The two top vote-getters in the Aug. 4 primary will square off for the job in the Nov. 3 general election.

BY JOANNE MALISZEWSKI  
STAFF WRITER

Gerald Surowiec doesn't believe the

Farmington area needs a bigger 47th District Court.



Election 92

"Personally, I was opposed to the expansion. As a taxpayer, I would rather have a judge in there working hard than have to pay for a new facility," said Surowiec, 55, who has been in private legal practice for

22 years.

In fact, he's not yet convinced a third judge is needed in the two-judge court, even though he admits the court "does a land-office business."

"With such a heavy caseload, 'your real problem in a situation like that is having a judge who is willing to put the time in to dispose of cases,'"

See COURT, 2A

### Any good garden views?

The Farmington Garden Club would like to reward Farmington-area folks who take pride in their "outside environment" — that is, their yards and gardens.

The club is sponsoring a Good Neighbor Garden Contest, and any yard in Farmington or Farmington Hills can be entered. Club officials will categorize each entry and judge similar gardens against each other on a scale of points.

Categories include residential homes, apartments and condominiums; businesses; industrial complexes; offices; organizations; places of worship; public/municipal buildings; schools; renovations; shopping centers; subdivision entrances.

Gardens must be in the Farmington area — Inkster

### FARMINGTON FOCUS

to Haggerty roads and Eight Mile to 14 Mile.

Entries should be mailed to Betti Pool, 36550 Pleasant Valley, Farmington Hills 48331, no later than Aug. 9. A resident may enter his/her own garden. For more information, call Pool at 442-2742.

Pool reminds residents to ask permission before they enter a stranger's garden or yard.

### Cultural diversity program

Richard H. Lobenthal, a radio commentator and civil rights activist, will be the keynote speaker at

"Understanding Cultural Diversity — Part II," a workshop to be held 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 20, in Room 306 of J Building of the Orchard Ridge Campus in Farmington Hills.

Discussions will center on stereotypical behavior and how preconceptions and ignorance lead to hostility. Methods of dispelling ethnic notions or conflicts and in communicating with people of different backgrounds will be examined.

The \$15 fee includes lunch. Deadline for registration is Wednesday, Aug. 12. Call 476-8010 for more information.

Items for Farmington Focus may be mailed to the Farmington Observer, 21838 Farmington Road, Farmington 48336, or dropped off at the newspaper office.