

IN THE PAPER

TODAY

Well-deserved: Three Farmington Observer staffers captured two awards in a Suburban Newspaper Association contest./9A

Firehouse friends: Thousands flocked to Farmington Hills fire headquarters Sunday for plenty of fun and good advice about fire prevention./4A

COUNTY NEWS

Clerk's race: Lynn Allen has been your Oakland County clerk since the beginning of time. (Well, really just for the last 24 years.) Will this year's Democratic opponent, Orchard Lake resident Martha Blom, fare any better than Allen's previous five challengers?/5A

Pollster speaks: George Gallup Jr. predicted both the "destruction of civilization" and a rosy future for this country in a speech at the seventh annual Oakland University Business Forum last week./ 10A

OPINION

Best of luck: Frank Lauhoff and Judy Downey have good acts to follow in Farmington./16A

SPORTS



Soccer victory: Farmington High achieved its biggest boys soccer win in school history Monday when it upset No. 2-ranked Plymouth Salem./1B

College football: Jason Wolf of Farmington Hills continues to catch passes for the Southern Methodist University football team./1B

SUBURBAN LIFE

Well Spouses: Support group, for married people whose spouses are ill, organizes new chapter in the Rochester area./1H

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Lasting lesson

Parent banks on year-round schooling

■ A Farmington-area parent hopes the new year-round school at Gill Elementary will keep her kids interested.

By CASEY HANS
STAFF WRITER



It was less than a year ago that Farmington school officials agreed to try a year-round school program at Gill Elementary.

The Tungi family of Farmington Hills is taking full advantage of it.

"It just seemed that summers were too long" in the traditional school program, said Pam Tungi, who has two children attending the "school-within-a-school" program at Gill. "By August, they were bored to tears."

Pam and John Tungi made the decision to enroll first grader Johnene and her 9-year-old brother Brian, a fourth grader, in the one-year pilot program which was launched when school started in August and shares space at Gill with the traditional school program.

So far, the differences between the programs seem few, but mom said the longer summer recess for traditional students will be the real test.

"It's coming in in the evening when their friends are playing that is going to be hard," she added. "Getting them in at night is going to be the tricky part — it's so light out."

Pam Tungi believes the new program will not only keep her children interested, but offer them more structured learning.

"I feel very comfortable, very positive," she said about the program's start. "I don't see how anything bad can come of it."

The Tungs also have a 15-year-old son, Tete, at Farmington High School who follows a traditional schedule. They don't expect the difference in schedules to cause a problem for the family.

All students at Gill — both year-round and traditional — go to school for the same 180 days but breaks occur at different times.

See PROGRAM, 3A



SHARON LEMIEUX/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Alert student: Johnene Tungi, a first grader in teacher Susan Barch's class at Gill Elementary School, is part of the year-round program.

Council gets a walk through the park

By JOANNE MALISZEWSKI
STAFF WRITER

Think of the Detroit Zoo. Now think of the Woodland Hills Park.

"We can explain the different wildlife (as is done at the zoo) in different parts of the park — in southeast Michigan," said Todd Holloway, an environmental consultant

WOODLAND HILLS

for the Woodland Hills Park and hoc committee.

Holloway took the Farmington Hills City Council through a brief verbal tour of the park Monday,

pointing out the seven ecological zones on the 78 acres, west of Farmington Road, south of I-696.

Passive is the best description of uses suggested for the property that includes a Rouge River corridor, prairie and woodland zones, and of course the once-controversial wetlands, replaced from those removed

along 12 Mile for the continuing boulevard project.

"It was just like spring. This site really unfolded," Holloway said, adding that he didn't expect much when he first saw the park in the winter. As spring dawned, "it began

See WOODLAND HILLS, 2A

Sports park plan touches all the bases

By JOANNE MALISZEWSKI
STAFF WRITER

Something for everyone is how the proposed Farmington Hills major sports park at the 55-acre sod farm on Eight Mile is touted.

"Each section of the property is zoned off to its own little use," said Paul Jacques, chairman of the sod farm committee that's been planning the sports park for the past year. The park is expected to serve sports

needs of every age group — from children to senior citizens. The park will offer six full-size soccer fields, two youth soccer fields, four softball/softball fields and three youth softball/

baseball fields, all with score booths and restrooms.

For other sports interests, a bocce ball court, two shuffleboard courts,

See SPORTS PARK, 9A

More hurricane relief

Some Brownies from Troop 1973 in Farmington Hills should have that caring sharing feeling right about now.

The girls, aged 5-7, collected items from families, friends and neighbors to help south Florida hurricane victims through the Farmington Hills Salvation Army. Troop members, led by Sharon Wedor, brought to the Salvation Army boxes containing disposable diapers, cooking utensils, bedding, infant and adult clothing, shoes and toys.

"Young people today are not given the credit due them for acts of good," said Capt. Homer F. Smith, Salvation Army corps officer, in a thank-you note. "Their efforts on behalf of those less fortunate should be acknowledged by the community."

FARMINGTON FOCUS

A senior citizen group — William Brashear of Livonia — also went through the Farmington Hills Salvation Army to help Hurricane Andrew victims. The group held an auction to raise \$325 for use in south Florida and then raised an additional \$250 through a bake sale for Louisiana. Irving Walder was the project leader.

Parenting workshop

Learning how to hold enjoyable and productive family meetings to resolve conflict is the idea be-

hind a parenting workshop — "Family Meetings Made Easy" — 7-9 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 22, at the Farmington Community School, 30415 Shilohwasee, Farmington.

Judith Cox, director of Wise Mothers Inc. will be the instructor. Registration fee is \$3. Call Farmington Community Education at 489-3375 for more information.

Memory Lane

From the Oct. 2, 1952, edition of the Farmington Enterprise:

■ Double feature attraction at the Civic Theatre was "The Bushwacker" and "Harem Girl."

■ Clarensville High, sparked by the play of Pat Killen, shut out Gratiot High, 18-0, on the Redford Union field.