

# NEWS

## FARMINGTON NOTES

### Physician assistant

**K**athleen Dobbs of Farmington was named Michigan Physician Assistant of the Year for 1992. She is the clinical coordinator of University of Detroit Mercy's Physician Assistant program based at the Outer Drive Campus.

Dobbs received the award recently in recognition of her outstanding professional accomplishments. She was nominated by a member of the Michigan Academy of Physician Assistants and confirmed by the board of directors for the honor.

In addition to her roles as clinical coordinator and teacher, Dobbs serves as liaison between Harper Hospital-Detroit Medical and the U-D Mercy PA program.

She also serves on the board of directors of the Michigan Academy of Physician Assistants and is a founding trustee of the Physician Assistant Education and Research Foundation of Michigan.

### Significant book

**T**he Women's National Book Association recently named "Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures" by Mary Baker Eddy as one of the 75 books by women whose words have changed the world.

Virginia S. Harris, a former Birmingham resident and now publisher for the writings of the founder of "The Christian Science Journal," praised the book for its wide appeal.

The book "addresses individuals of different ages, cultures, economic and intellectual backgrounds," Harris said. "It speaks unconditionally of the naturalness of God's goodness."

The book and the special issue of "The Christian Science Journal" are available at the Christian Science Reading Room at 33321 Grand River in Farmington.

### Money for college

**A** workshop on obtaining financial assistance for college will be held at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 5, in the auditorium of the Farmington Hills Branch Library, 32737 W. 12 Mile Road.

## Club helps make dream come true

**■** The Farmington Neighbors Club and the Rainbow Connection teamed up recently to help put a smile on the face of an area youngster who suffers from a nervous disorder.

By LARRY O'CONNOR  
STAFF WRITER



The Farmington Neighbors Club gathers for the usual monthly luncheon chat-and-chew. Once in awhile the group can make a dream come true.

Eric Pope, 13, can attest to that. The eighth-grader, who suffers from spino-cerebellar, a degeneration of the central nervous system, was treated to a week in Orlando, Fla., through the Rainbow Connection and the Farmington Neighbors Club.

His Florida odyssey in October included the smile-widening sights of Disney World, Seaworld and the Kennedy Space Center. He's left with more than a visual postcard, though.

"I think it made him realize there's a lot of people out there willing to offer their kind hearts," said Eric's mother, Patty Pope, who is a Farmington Hills native. "He was very appreciative."

Every April, the Farmington Neighbors have a fund-raiser. Money collected goes to charity.

For 36 years, the Farmington Neighbors Club has always extended a helping hand. The group meets the third Wednesday of the month at Glen Oaks.

They raise money for charities through the sale of entertainment books, card parties and 50-50 raffles. The group was also able to send Debbie Hirsch of North Farmington High to Girls State at Central Michigan University.

In its 200-some membership are women ranging 50-90 in age. Some are



Honored guest: Eric Pope met the Farmington Neighbors' Club members at a recent luncheon. Pictured are his grandmother and member Shirley Simmons (left), Betty Ann Varon and Suzanne Jones of the Rainbow Connection and Eric's mother, Patty Pope.

nurses and administrators and some homemakers.

"Some of these women are widows and live alone," said Carol Cotter, who is president of the Farmington Neighbors Club. "We're charitable to one another."

Eric Pope and his mother joined the Farmington Neighbors Club for a luncheon recently. Director Betty Ann Varon and Suzanne Jones were

present from The Rainbow Connection.

Members were able to meet the person whose wish to see Disney World become reality. They learned how he stayed at the Children Village, where other children with similar chronic or terminal illnesses stay with their families.

Members also got to know a little more about Eric, who despite his ail-

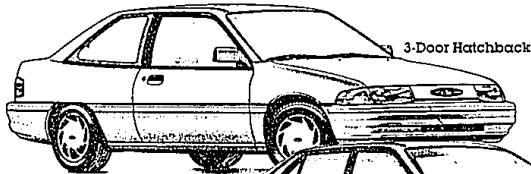
ment that causes his arms to shake, builds intricate models of sailing vessels. He also likes to read up on the history of World Wars I and II and Vietnam.

Said Eric's mother of the experience: "I think it's something in his heart that will always be with him—that somebody would do this for him."

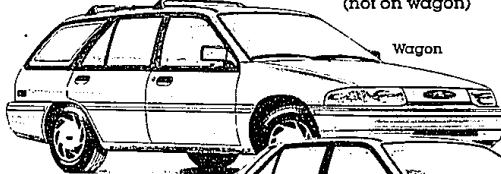
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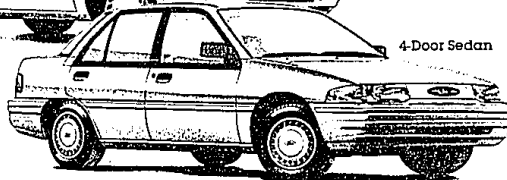
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