FARMINGTON NOTES

Vehicles donated

The Farmington Hills-based Nissan Research and Development Inc. recently donated two Nissan Pathfinder sport-utility vehicles to the Farmington Hills Police Department and the Tollgate 4-H Education Center.

Keys to the two Pathfinders were presented by Ryuhei Narita, Nissan research president, to Farmington Hills Police Chief William Dwyer and Tom Schneider, Tollgate director.

The vehicles, both 1987 models with low mileage, were used for component evaluation purposes and have been thoroughly inspected by a local Nissan dealer.

Nissan Research and Development and its employees have been axctive in community activities since the Nissan Technical Center opened in Farmington Hills in November 1991, a company spokesman said.

Author wins award

Author Veltiszar B. Bautista, a Farmington Hills resident, is the recipient of the prestigious 1993 Benjamin Franklin Award for his book "How to Teach Your Child: Things to Know From Kindergarten Through Grade 6."

The award, in the form of a certificate of achievement, was presented to Bautista, recipient of a number of publishing awards, by the Publishers Marketing Association, sponsor of the Benjamin Franklin Awards competition.

The winners and finalists were announced at the awards presentation recetly at the Biscayne Bay Marriot Hotel in Miami during the recent American Booksellers Association convention.

Selection of finalists and winners was based on the books' editorial content, as well as the interior and cover designs.

Items for Farmington Notes may be mailed to the Farmington Observer, 21898 Farmington Road, Farmington 48336, dropped off at the newspaper office or faxed to 477-9722.

Messy desks come out of the drawer

■ Is there actually a desk somewhere under that sea of paperwork? So your desk is cluttered. Don't be ashamed of the mess, say some Farmington-area white-collar wonders.

BY LARRY O'CONNOR
STAFF WRITER

Crusaders of countertop clutter, unite. Denizens of dirty desks, seize the day.

Beat back those guilt trips heaped on by an anal-retentive society. Ward off the Spic-and-Span spirits of cleanliness with an arsenal of scattered paper clips.

The heap of junk on top of your work station is nothing to be ashamed of. Think of it as a monument to your industrious nature.

"It's funny," said Chris Ward, coordinator of community relations for Botsford Hospital. "I was just told this morning I have a messy desk.

"It didn't bother me, to tell you the truth. I decided not to spend my time worrying about my desk. I'd rather spend it on work."

Rationalization obviously goes well with week-old food rations amid the rubble on desktops. What qualifies for citizenship in office Slobovia?

We have, er . . . Well, where is that checklist? It was here just a second ago.

■ At least three stacks of unfinished paper work accessible at arm's length or within a good kick of a file cabinet.

■ An equal amount of yellowed newspapers, enough to compete with the archives at the public library.

■ Enough empty Diet Pepsi cans to tie up and hook onto the back of a recently married couple's limo.

■ A crinkled straw wrapper.

■ One plastic lid stained with a cup of coffee consumed sometime during the Reagan presidency (bonus points for the actual Styrofoam cup with teeth marks).

■ A couple of worn business cards from since-deceased insurance salesmen (good for cleaning fingernails).

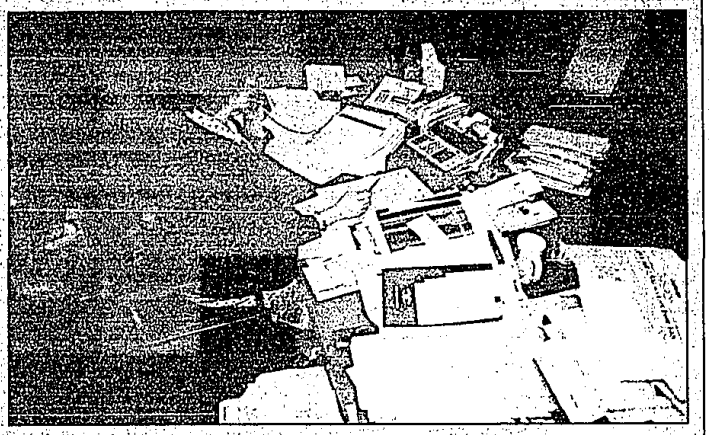
■ Food particles of indeterminate date representing all four major food groups.

Ward pleads guilty to the stacks of unfinished paperwork and old newspapers. "I'm trying to recycle them," said Ward about the newspapers.

In his cubicle at Botsford Hospital, there are two desks. There is piled-up health-care-related materials, interview notes for newsletters and press releases, as well as reference materials.

Newspapers are scattered about because Ward clips articles. He also has postcards, a certificate from a Marine run, comics and a saying

See DESKS, 16A



ANN HEALEY/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Quite the clutter: *Mary Bush, associate broker for the Thompson-Brown Realtors, is no neat freak when it comes to her desk top.*

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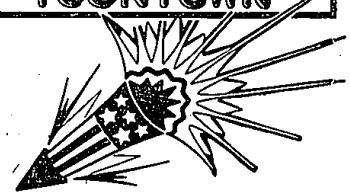

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