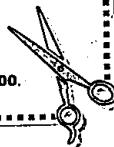


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- Cut your weekly grocery bill an average \$20 to \$30 a week clipping coupons that are inserted in today's issue of your home-delivered Observer newspaper.
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Reading and writing: An intensive reading-improvement program has a high success rate in the Farmington Schools. /11A

OPINION

A race already: The annual battle for the board of education has possibilities in the Farmington District. /14A

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On the rise: A sculpture someday will rise in downtown Farmington to help celebrate the community. You can help it to go up, says guest columnist Nanette Reid of Farmington. /14A

SPORTS

Wrestling: Farmington High's Mike Prough and Matt Michalski are going to the Class A state finals in two weeks. /1B

WLAA hoops: Farmington High played Northville in the semifinals of the Western Lakes basketball tournament Tuesday. /1B

ENTERTAINMENT

Movies: Winners of the "My Girl 2" contest share memories of their first kiss. /7B

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Pioneer takes new trail



BY BILL COUTANT
STAFF WRITER

A pioneer in bringing community access cable television to Farmington area viewers has taken her expertise

to Lansing.

Lark L. Samouelian, executive director of the Southwestern Oakland County Cable Commission for the past 11 years, resigned Feb. 25 to be-

come project manager of the Michigan Government Television Network.

Samouelian, 43, said she's excited about her new job, although there is a lot of work ahead for her to determine what programming will be broadcast. The network is intended to broadcast activities of state government, including departments and the House and Senate.

"I'm pretty excited," she said dur-

See CABLE, 2A



Lark L. Samouelian



Jaws of Life lesson: Farmington Hills Fire Department Inspector Lee Panoushek listens for instructions from Hurst Equipment representative Frank LaLone before operating the new Jaws of Life equipment.

New Jaws dandy for rescues

BY SUE BUCK
STAFF WRITER

Farmington Hills firefighters are eagerly demonstrating their new Hurst Jaws of Life rescue tools.

They are training their personnel to use the new equipment so they are ready when the time is crucial. The new device, costing \$18,000, replaces a 17-year-old unit which will be used as needed.

When lives hang in the balance, the Jaws of Life serve as hydraulic spreading tools that rip apart cars so that accident victims can be removed from their damaged vehicles safely.

"We're not talking about pounds of pressure here, we're talking tons," said Lt. Mike Garr.

The tools have also been used in train and aircraft accidents, building and mine collapses, earthquakes and other disasters.

These versatile tools also cut, lift and pull. Hurst officials cite more than 30,000 Jaws of Life units

"We're not talking about pounds of pressure here, we're talking tons."

Lt. Mike Garr

worldwide. The Farmington Hills Fire Department have three different lengths for different job purposes.

The Hurst company delivered the equipment a month ago. The company has also serviced Troy, Rochester Hills, Plymouth and Canton Township.

The first to respond to the accident scene work as a team. As they assess the situation, one person puts down cribbing blocks, while the other begins working on the car. Windshields are removed carefully, and caution is taken not to shatter glass inward toward the injured person.

The air bag is also disabled so that it doesn't frighten the person by inflating suddenly.

Isham resigns as O&E GM



Dick Brady

Dick Isham announced Monday his resignation as general manager of the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers to pursue other interests.

Dick Brady was appointed interim general manager of the suburban newspaper group, effective immediately, by Richard Aginian, president of the parent company, Suburban Communications Corp. Brady will also continue to serve as vice president for sales and marketing of SCC.

"Dick Brady was appointed interim general manager of the suburban newspaper group."

Aginian and SCC Chairman Philip H. Power praised Isham for "contributing much to the growth and devel-

opment of the O&E. We thank him for his good work and wish him well in the future."

Aginian said that SCC would conduct a national search for a new general manager.

"Running the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers is one of the greatest jobs in our industry, and we expect many qualified candidates will come forward over the next few months," he said.

Hills wants gypsy moths to bug off, OKs spraying

BY BILL COUTANT
STAFF WRITER

Farmington Hills, which prides itself on its pastoral ambience, plans to join forces with Oakland County and send a defoliating insect packing.

The city council voted unanimously Monday to reimburse the county up to \$22,000 for a gypsy moth spraying program.

"BT spray is highly selective," said Dan Rooney, city superintendent of public works. "It doesn't affect birds and other insects."

Representatives from the Michigan Department of Natural Resources, the Department of Agriculture, the county and city staff members showed a film and talked about the spraying program, sched-

uled for mid-May, weather permitting.

The program, which has been used in other Michigan counties over the past few years, kills the caterpillars before they become moths and defoliate trees.

The moths have migrated into the area over the past few years from the central part of the state. Several counties in that area, where tourism is an important economic concern, have used the spraying program to avoid defoliation of oak, aspen and other deciduous trees and the mass the insects create when concentrated in an area.

Joe Derek, a naturalist and Hills resident, said although he had concerns about the program, it would be preferable to likely alternatives.

"I know a lot of people who would see a caterpillar and just start blasting (with strong chemicals)," said Derek, who attended Monday's meeting. "I've used this (Bacillus Thuringiensis — BT) stuff in powder form for my cabbages. It's not like other strong chemicals."

Derek said he has talked to experts who think spraying isn't necessary to protect trees, which will regenerate leaves and develop a poison to fend off the moths.

But he added that since the program is monitored and controlled, the pesticide is relatively mild, the process only takes two or three days and

See MOTHS, 2A