

Gwen Tomkow: The Farmington Hills watercolorist spends four days a week painting. Bright colors and Im-pressionistic brush strokes are hallmarks of her work.

MILITARY NEWS

If you have military news with a Farmington-area connection, send it to: Military News, Farmington Observer, 34411 Grand

Jeffrey Roth of Fermington Hills has completed the Army ROTC

cadet troop leadership training Kaiserslalutern, Germany. He is the son of Diane and Jerrold Roth of Farmington Hills.

EL COMPLETES TRAINING

Watercolorist captures innermost feelings

This is another in a series of profiles of the Farmington Art Commission's Artist in Residence program winners.

Art was always important to Gwan Tomkow, noted watercolorist and Farmington Artist in Residence for 1688. It just took her awhile to pursue her dream. Becretarial school, then marriage and four children intervened before Tomkow picked up her paintbrush and pursued her lifelong passion. There's been no stopping her since. Tomkow's work appears in national set books, magazines et even hangs in a museum in Missouri. Her work can be found in corporate boardrooms and priin corporate boardrooms and private homes, her themes prominently feature Michigan's scenic north country.

Tonkow, who sometimes works from photographs but more erem from painting right on the scene, describes her experience in "Ideas & Inspirations: Splash" a 1994 book which features the works of 105 of America's best contemporary water-colorists. watercolorists.

"I consider this kind of water-color landscape one of the most enjoyable ways of capturing my innermost feelings. It's like lyrical poetry set to music. The romantic sand dunes become a concerto,

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1 — May 31 OR SHOP - CALL FOR INFO IDDLESELY 5 MILE

the rows of cherry trees, a grand march; and the large vistas, a soothing melody that connects me and the viewer to the wonderful gift of nature."

sooning nestory that connects and the viewer to the wonderful gift of nature."

Ironically, Tomkow began to pursue painting as a career when she was billed in one sye (the result of a brain tumor that was successfully removed in 1977). She began to build her career under the tutelage of Edes Joppich, another Farmington artist in residence winner.

"She is my mentor," said Tomkow. "She had such confidence in me."

The two remain good friends and Tomkow sells her work through Joppich's Northport art gallery every summer.

A Farmington Hilli resident for almost 30 years, Tomkow is currently having an addition built onto her sprawling two-story home, located in a wooded ravine. It will accommodate her needs of the work space, with thylights and plenty of storage space for heing artist in residence opened doors for me, "she said. "I've had a very active career." In addition to painting, which

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she tries to do four days a week, Tomkow occasionally runs work-shops for other artists and enters her work in several juried national shows. Her husband, Milke, helps by taking sildes of her work to submit with the sutries. "Sometimes it's bard to balance overything that's going on, she said. The marriage of one child and college graduation of

another are two more events keeping her busy through June.

"There are so many wonderful
artists," he said. Tomkow would
like to see budding artists follow:

"What I'd like to say is yound
don't know what will happen itoyou don't try. Keep on workings!
Be with other artists. Keep taking;
chances."

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Speaking at the workshops will be Robert K. Steinberg of Steinberg & McCann Financial Group, Ltd. Mr. Steinberg is an Attorney (Graduate of the University of Michigan Law School), Certified Public Accountant and Certified Financial Planner.

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9:00 AM - 11:30 AM Novi Hilton 21111 Haggerty Rd. FREE BREAKFAST

TUESDAY, MAY 14th 12:15 PM - 2:30 PM Longacre House 24705 Farmington Rd. FREE LUNCH

WEDNESDAY, MAY 22nd 7:00 PM - 9:30 PM Novi Hilton 21111 Haggerty Rd. FREE DINNER

of Farmington Hills. The BMLISTED Chad Brower of Farmington enlisted in the Air Force's Dolayed Enlistment Program Dec. 20. A graduate of Farmington High School, Brewer is scheduled for enlistment in the Regular Air Force's air. Wewok basic training course in San Antonio, Tozas, he is scheduled to receive technical training in the mechanical career field. He will care receits toward an associate degree in applied sciences through the Community College of the Air Force while attending basic and technical training

ing achoots.

E HE'S DECORATED

Army Spec. Brian R. Ross has been decorated with the Army Commendation Medal. The medal is awarded to those individuals who demonstrate outstanding achievement or meritorious service in the performance of their duties on behalf of the Army.

Ross is a cannon crewmember in Schweinfurt, Germany. He is the son of Locandr and Velerie Ross of Farmington Hills.

HIE'S PROMOTED
Kenneth T, Lynch has been promoted in the U.S. Air Force to the rank of staff sergeant. He is an aerospace propulsion journeyman t Tinker Air Force Base, in Oklahums.

Lynch is the control of the staff of the st

iuma.
Lynch is the son of Ray Lynch
of Farmington Hills and a 1982
graduate of North Farmington
High School.

Nigh School.

MERIT LISTS

Air Force Cadet Steven Fine has been placed on the Dean's and Commandant's Merit Lists at the U.S. Air Force Academy, Colorado Springs, Colo. The merit lists recognize cadets for achieving academic and military excellences.

Fine is the son Joanne Fine of Bloomfield Hills and Tim Fine of Farmington. He is a 1992 graduate of the University of Detroit Jeaut High School.

deault High school.

2 Silver Wines
Air Force 2nd Lt. Mark Mitchell received silver wings after graduating from the Air Force undergraduate pilot training program at Reess Air Force Base, Texas. He is the son of Daniel Mitchell of Parmington and a 1996 graduate of Farmington High School and a 1994 graduate of the U.S. Air Porce Academy, Colorado Springs. Colo.

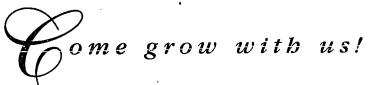
IN ENTERED BASIC TRAIN m EMERICO SASIO TRANSPO Army Pvt. Heather R. Wehl has entered besic military training at Fort Jackson, Columbia, S.C. St is the daughter of Stephen and Elizabeth Wahl of Farmington Wahl is a 1993 graduate of Harri-seil High School.



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