

# Farmington Observer

VOLUME 109 NUMBER 95

MONDAY, AUGUST 28, 1996 • FARMINGTON, MICHIGAN • 48 PAGES

SEVENTY-FIVE CENTS

Check out the coupons inserted in today's issue of your home-delivered Observer and save an average \$20 to \$30 a week on your grocery bill. For home-delivery, please call 810-862-4738.

## IN THE PAPER TODAY

**Pedal power:** If you thought you saw a police officer on a bicycle this summer, you probably did. Farmington Hills police are working a bike patrol into their regular routine. /A3

**Brush it on:** A handful of local Boy Scouts took on a house painting project in Farmington Hills. /A3

## TASTE

**Pears:** Now, as the bright, sunny days of summer begin to give way to autumn's cooler temperatures, is the perfect time to fall for pears. /1B

**Quick supper:** Cheese Steak Pizza combines the flavors of a Philadelphia-style cheese steak sandwich. /1B

## SPORTS

**Hoop previews:** The girls basketball teams at Farmington's public schools are ready to get a new season under way Tuesday. /1C

**Soccer outlook:** Farmington Harrison hopes an infusion of new talent will lead to more victories in boys soccer this year. /2C

## INDEX

Auto report	B12	Crossword	B7
Classifieds	B-D	Malls	A10-12
Autos	D6	Movies	B6
Employment	B5	O&E On Line	A11
Service guide	D5	Police & fire	A4
Pets	D6	Sports	C1-2
Real estate	B9	Taste	B1

## Teacher tapped for 'net know-how



A Farmington teacher was one of a select few invited to a Microsoft-sponsored conference to discuss how the Internet can be used in the classroom.

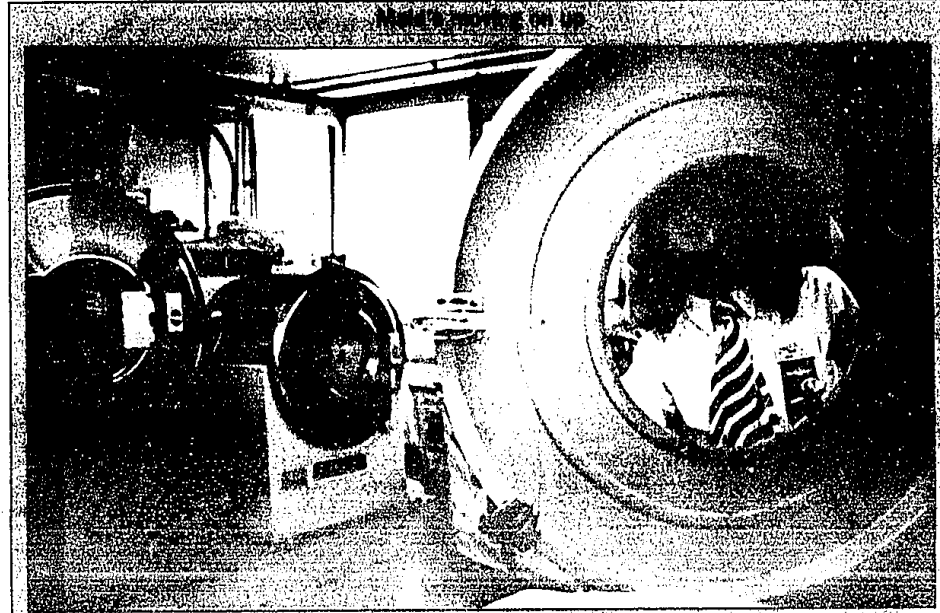
**By LARRY O'CONNOR STAFF WRITER**  
A Farmington schools art teacher has been selected to become something of a driver's education instructor on the information super highway.  
Hillside Elementary teacher Jean Warner was one of 40 educators from the United States and Canada — and the only one from Michigan

— invited to a conference sponsored by Microsoft Corp. in Rancho Cordova, Calif. Aug. 4-6.  
Their mission: Develop an Internet curriculum for students in kindergarten through grade 12.  
At the "Summer Internet Symposium," educators received intensive training and discussed issues related to the computer network as an

educational resource.  
The group plans to meet again in January. The Internet's potential as a learning tool has only started to be tapped, Warner said.  
"For the first time, it allows students to access original sources and access experts directly," Warner said. "In the past, you might be a grad student to have that opportunity."  
"Now students have these rich resources of virtually visiting their peers or sites like the Louvre."  
Warner's attendance at the symposium is timely for another reason: Farmington Public Schools is in the

second phase of a \$3.4-million project to provide Internet access to all of its buildings.  
The district debut its home page on the World Wide Web last week.  
"Not only is it critical students be able to access information, they'll need to analyze and develop their own material, Warner said.  
Internet allows students to communicate in writing, sound, artwork, voice, and even symbols.  
"All of us have a new media to be critical of," Warner said. "The best way to learn (the Internet) is to read

See TEACHER, A3



**Clanking the ladder:** Dorothy Clark, who has earned several performance awards, has moved from housekeeping to the front desk at the Holiday Inn in Farmington Hills.

## Work 'maid' to order for Hills woman

**By WILLIAM COOPER STAFF WRITER**  
Hopefully your hotel is a home a way from home, with a clean room and all the amenities.  
Dorothy Clark of Farmington Hills has made it her job to make sure so that you'll be happy to come back.  
Clark, 37, has worked as the

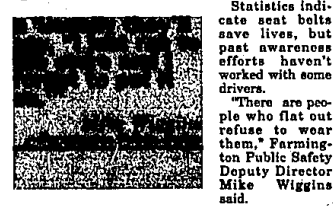
housekeeper for 10 years at the Holiday Inn where her consistent customer service and hard work have won her numerous awards.  
Earlier this year, Clark was one of 70 employees in the Detroit area to receive the Best Award, which recognizes those in the hospitality business. Clark, who lives with her husband, Calvin, was honored with the award by the Metropolitan

Detroit Convention and Visitors Bureau at a luncheon at the Henry Ford Museum earlier this year.  
"I was just looking for a job," said Clark, who comes from Kenya. "But I always want to be good at what I do."  
Clark, who was named the Hill's Holiday Inn's Most Valuable Performer three times in 1995, has impressed clients with her special

touches like having the lights on or leaving extra toiletries. And management has also noticed.  
"We have received many, many compliments about Dorothy," said Janet Ferguson, housekeeping supervisor at the hotel. "And Dorothy is an excellent trainer for new people."  
See NEWS, A1

## Cops: Stay safe, sober and belted

Farmington police will be checking if motorists are wearing seat belts during an intensive enforcement period through Sept. 8.  
The effort, which started Sunday, is in conjunction with the statewide "Safe and Sober" awareness campaign, which has targeted seat belt use and drunk driving this summer.



Statistics indicate seat belts save lives, but past awareness efforts haven't worked with some drivers.  
"There are people who flat out refuse to wear them," Farmington Public Safety Deputy Director Mike Wiggins said.  
Other violators plead forgetfulness.  
"Usually they'll say, 'I just ran to the store and I was coming back and I forgot to put it on,'" Wiggins said.  
Drivers and passengers age 16 and older in the front seat are required to wear safety belts, according to state law.  
Children ages 4-16 must wear a seat belt whether they are in the front or rear of the vehicle.  
Children ages 1-4 have to be in a child-restraint seat if in the front and in a child-restraint seat or be wearing a safety belt while in the back.  
Those under 12 months have to be in a child restraint seat whether sitting in the front or back.  
Drivers are ticketed when children are not buckled in properly.

## School question? Answer's a phone call away

**By LARRY O'CONNOR STAFF WRITER**  
When residents have a concern, complaint or a query about the Farmington Public Schools, they can give their dialing finger a workout.  
The district has established a customer service line — 489-5337 — that includes information and an action line. Callers can leave a message, which will be returned promptly.

ly, a School and Community Relations spokeswoman said.  
"The district is really focusing on serving our community and parents," said Diane Bauman of the School and Community Relations office. "We'll be able to respond as soon as we get a message."  
A customer service line is one technological designed to make getting in contact with the district easier.

Farmington schools recently went on-line with a web site — the Internet address is <http://www.farmington.k12.mi.us> — that helps answer frequently-asked questions and provide useful back-to-school information.  
People who use the customer service line can punch 1 to get recorded information such as school board meeting dates, vacations and school times.

If callers press 2, they can leave a message with their name and phone number.  
"We want to stress that the action is only to be used when all other avenues have been exhausted," Bauman said.  
The district has voice mail, but again callers are not aware where to address their question or concern, Bauman said.

### She's available!

**H**ere ye! Hear ye! Annette Hohl, the reigning Miss Farmington/Farmington Hills, is available for personal appearances at parades, grand openings, awards ceremonies, charity events and other community gatherings.  
She also is available to speak to organizations about the Miss Farmington/Farmington Hills Scholarship Pageant.  
Anyone interested should call Call Ginny Morris, event director, at 471-9042

### A STEP toward better parenting

**S**ystematic Training for Effective Parenting (STEP) of teens offers Thursday evening classes 7:30-9:30 p.m. Sept. 5 through Oct. 24 at the Farmington Training Center, 33000 Thomas Street, Farmington.

## FARMINGTON FOCUS

STEP classes will attempt to show parents of teens how to encourage independence with responsibility, mutual respect and cooperation, self-confidence and self-esteem and democratic relationships.  
The study group will be limited to 15 people. Cost will be \$20 per person or \$25 per couple.  
Reservations may be made by calling Farmington Youth Assistance at 489-3434.

### All about Botsford Hospital

**S**andy Bauman will speak on opportunities and services available at Botsford General Hospital at a breakfast meeting of the Inter-

agency Council of Farmington/Farmington Hills at 7:30 a.m. Thursday, Sept. 5, at The Longacre House, 24705 Farmington Road. The event is open to the public.

The Interagency Council is an umbrella group for Farmington-area organizations. Other meetings will be held Nov. 7, Jan. 2, March 6 and May 1. For more information about the group, call Mark Jensen, North Congregational Church, 848-1750.

Items for Farmington Focus may be mailed to the Farmington Observer, 33411 Grand River, Farmington 48335; faxed to 477-9722; or dropped off at the newspaper office. For the computer literate, the Internet E-mail address is [packy@eeonline.com](mailto:packy@eeonline.com).