

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Thank you, Rick

We would like to express our thanks to a special citizen of Farmington Hills, Rick O'Neil, and to the Farmington Hills Park and Recreation Department for their assistance in locating a special gift of our daughter's.

Our daughter was at Heritage Park playing volleyball with several of her friends when she lost a watch she had received as a birthday gift. Our search at the park for the lost watch proved to no avail.

Some time later we called the Parks and Recreation Department and inquired if any watch had been found at Heritage Park.

We were informed that Rick O'Neil had found a watch and had turned it into their department hoping the owner could be found.

Thank you, Rick, not only for the return of the special watch, but also for the integrity, honesty and thoughtfulness you exemplified in turning in the watch. The parks and recreation department went out of their way looking for the owner of the watch and even put ads in the Observer trying to locate the owner of the watch.

Our sincere thanks to Rick O'Neil and the parks and recreation department for the return of a memorable gift.

Our family has always appreciated the many fine people who are a part of Farmington Hills, and our appreciation continues to grow.

Mark and Bev Bahr,
Farmington Hills

The Grants are staying

It seems the bonds to our community were stronger than either Debbie or I realized, and we will not be relocating our family to Woodbridge Lake in Commerce Township after all.

This decision has been based on a number of factors. Certainly not the least of our reasoning for this change is due to our uneasiness about leaving Farmington Hills.

As we began to spend more time in

what was to be our new community and attempting to distance ourselves from Farmington Hills, we clearly found that we were not ready to make this transition.

Farmington Hills, and the our Farmington community in general is a very special place. So many of the friends we have made through our work in the community have been so supportive of our decision to move, yet have expressed how much they hated to see us leave.

It has been very gratifying to us to realize the impact and the difference we have indeed been able to make here. We feel very fortunate to be a part of such a fine community and to have so many valued friendships.

Based on these feelings we have decided to re-evaluate our move. It is possible that we may still move, however, it is most likely that when we do it will be to another home in Farmington Hills.

Thanks to all of the special people in these two cities that through their tireless efforts, either as a volunteer or staff level, have managed to make the largest area in Oakland county remain a real "home town community."

We look forward to continuing to be a part of that effort.

Jon and Debbie Grant,
Farmington Hills

Hobbs' trip discussed

Thank you for the excellent front page news story (Observer, Aug. 22) regarding City Manager Dan Hobbs and his upcoming trip to Japan where he will be representing the United States in general and Farmington Hills specifically.

This is the third time Mr. Hobbs has been selected to participate in a goodwill and information exchange program in a foreign country.

In fact, one of the many glowing letters of reference for Mr. Hobbs came from a co-participant of the trip to Poland, who maintains Mr. Hobbs quickly became recognized as the unofficial head of the American delegation due to this superb leadership abilities.

During Mr. Hobbs employment

interview with council, which was open to the public and attended by your staff reporter, this upcoming trip to Japan was discussed.

As your news article correctly indicates, Farmington Hills is very definitely the American home base for many (23) Japanese companies.

The taxes paid on their collective SEV in our community helps to keep the local millage one of the very lowest in Oakland County.

Discussion was held during the open interview meeting regarding Mr. Hobbs' proposed trip. Council felt it was an excellent opportunity for our local government to connect with other Japanese companies.

This information was again relayed to Mr. Hobbs during contract negotiations by our city attorney.

While it may not seem so to someone not aware of the above information, this issue was given careful and open consideration by council during a meeting available for all to attend and comment.

I hope you will find time to make an appointment with Mr. Hobbs and discuss with him any issue you feel you could make more understandable and accurate to your readers if you had benefit of more thorough background information.

I am confident you will discover him to be open, direct and very impressive.

Councilwoman Nancy Bates,
Farmington Hills

Column is revealing

Tim Richard in his column of Sept. 5 announces that the Democratic Party, including Bill and Hillary Clinton, are moving to the middle. No kidding? That is and was Dick Morris' strategy for Clinton to win the election.

Richard didn't watch the same Democratic convention that I did. The liberal wing was very unhappy with Clinton and Dick Morris about the president signing the welfare bill.

The unions are still smarting over NAFTA. Pro life Democrats were frustrated at being kept off the speaking platform.

And gays and lesbians are still seething about Clinton reversing himself and opposing gay marriages.

Jesse Jackson wasn't fooled. He called Clinton a "bank shot artist" (that's a euphemism for con man) and accused him of "Machiavellian strategies."

Dick Morris convinced President Clinton and Hillary that they had to move to the right to get re-elected. Mr. Richard, how short is your memory?

That is what candidate Bill Clinton did in 1992. Once he was elected he broke his promise on a middle class tax cut. With the willing cooperation of a Democratic Congress he enacted the largest tax increase in history.

Middle class senior citizens like me are still smarting from the \$1,200 increase in taxes on our social security income. Then Hillary proposed and did everything she could to sell socialized medicine and have the federal government take over the entire medical industry.

They did that in 1993 and 1994 even with the knowledge that Clinton had to stand for re-election in 1996. If he is re-elected in 1996 he will no longer have to worry about re-election and the true tax and spend liberal can be himself.

Tim Richard has been conned by Jesse Jackson's "bank shot artist" into believing that he means it. If he does it will be the first time in his presidency.

Fool me once, shame me on you. Fool me again and shame on me.

Nevertheless, I am glad that Tim Richard wrote that column. It tells more about him and his political beliefs and bias than it does about the Democratic Party. It also explains some of his other opinions.

James E. Collins,
Farmington Hills

What about goats?

A marriage is the mutual relationship of husband and wife, the institution whereby men and women join in a special kind of social and legal dependence plan on founding and maintaining a family.

So says Webster. He says nothing of

a union between two men or two women as constituting a marriage.

There's no accounting for Sweden, Norway, and Denmark, but 200 countries on this planet do not recognize or give legal sanction to a same-sex union. Our country's traditions, customs, and mores preclude legal same-sex marriages.

Any man and any woman unite in marriage. Homosexuals are included. May not a homosexual man love and marry a homosexual woman?

If by some weird chance we were to sanction same-sex marriages, would the legality of the *menage a trois* union be recognized in a wedding ceremony? Should a man be able to walk down the aisle with a woman on one arm and a man on the other?

Strange people claim the bisexual is especially blessed, having priviledges for going both ways.

Next would come consideration for the man-boy relationship.

Or would the 12-year old have to wait a few years to marry? And bestiality is a fact of life. Some would insist such a union is another life choice.

Will a man be able to walk down the aisle with his favorite goat or sheep?

Neil Goodbred,
Livonia

Help came quickly

I wish to express deep and sincere thanks to the Farmington Hills Police Department and to the Farmington Hills EMS team.

On Aug. 27, I fell on the pavement in front of a store at the Farmington/12 Mile Road shopping center. It was a severe fall and I could not get up from the ground or move my left arm.

A policeman happened to be in the area. He came immediately to my assistance and then called EMS. They came quickly and I soon was on my way to the emergency room of the hospital.

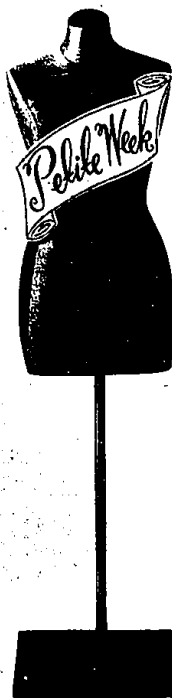
Thank you for your fast, professional and caring assistance in my horrible emergency situation.

Elaine Maxamy Simpson,
Farmington Hills

nm presents petite week

Say hello to fashion that fits during our Fall 1996 petite collection preview today through September 21. From office attire to casual sportswear, we've assembled options from Burberry, Anne Klein II, Dana Buchman, and Linda Allard for Ellen Tracy.

Neiman Marcus



THE SOMERSET COLLECTION 2705 W. BIG BEAVER ROAD 810 643-3300
FOR STORE EVENTS CALL TOLL-FREE 1-888-NM-EVENTS.



LIVING TRUST SEMINAR

How to avoid probate, how to reduce taxes to your heirs, the advantages of a Living Trust - Question and Answer Session to follow.
Presented by Financial Expert

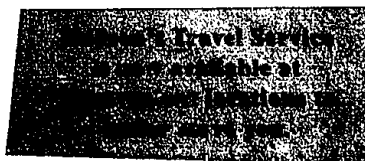
Paul Leduc

Reg. Representative Sigma Financial Corp.

TROY Monday, September 23rd 1 p.m.-3 p.m. Troy Senior Center 520 W. Big Beaver Rd. (810) 540-8710	PLYMOUTH/NORTHVILLE Tuesday, September 24th 1 p.m.-3 p.m. Plymouth Cultural Center 525 Farmer Rd. (810) 540-8710	LIVONIA Wednesday, September 25th 1 p.m.-3 p.m. Livonia Civic Center Library 3277 Five Mile Rd. (810) 540-8710
FARMINGTON HILLS Tuesday, October 1st 1 p.m.-3 p.m. Longacre House (Bew. 10 & 11 Mile Rd.) 24705 Farmington Rd. (810) 540-8710	WESTLAND Wednesday, October 2nd 7 p.m.-9 p.m. Friendship Center 11119 N. Newburgh Rd. (off Ford Rd.) (313) 540-8710	WATERFORD Thursday, October 3rd 1:30 p.m.-3:30 p.m. Waterford Senior Center 6455 Harper (810) 540-8710

NO RESERVATIONS REQUIRED - ALL SEMINARS FREE OF CHARGE

destination
HUDSON'S



HUDSON'S
TRAVEL SERVICE

Northland 810-443-4588 Westland 313-458-5600
Oakland 810-597-2122 Eastland 313-245-2333
Summit Place 810-683-5960 Southland 313-374-5220
Twelve Oaks 810-344-7080 Briarwood 313-998-5100
SomerSet Collection 810-816-4070

CHINA
Beijing
Special Offer
from \$990
per person

Including airport transfers
6 nights hotel
Full American breakfast daily
Fast day by tour
Round trip airfare
Travel agent's fee
China visa
Travel insurance
Taxes and gratuity
Toll-free 1-800-828-8888