

# Community Life

Farmington Observer

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on the web: <http://7observer.cccentric.com>

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## CHAT ROOM



Mitch Forester

### Washington trip teaches students about government

**R**ecently I attended the National Young Leaders Conference in Washington, D.C. Two other Farmington High School students, Becky Culver and Pat Falson, were there also. We were among 350 students from across the country. The purpose of this conference is to allow students to get a first hand experience of how our government works.

We did simulations which helped us understand the processes of all three branches of government, including a "model Congress" session. These activities were challenging and they required researching and teamwork. The group leaders were mainly college graduates majoring in political science. They were our instructors who helped guide us through the simulations.

The conference was open to students from all over the world. There were people from Great Britain, Austria and Sweden. Only seven students, including the three of us from Farmington, were from Michigan, so we met a variety of interesting people. One aspect of the conference was the social time. We were provided with enough time in breaks to make new friends and talk to all kinds of people. It was amazing how everyone became such good friends with one another in

Please see CHAT ROOM, B2

## Happy Holidays



STAFF PHOTO BY BRYAN MITCHELL

**Best wishes:** The Farmington staff, clockwise from bottom left, Larry O'Connor, reporter; Roy Meadows, real estate classified sales; Tim Smith, reporter; Mary Rodrique, Community Life editor; Dave Varga, Farmington editor; Anna Lipar, retail sales; Katie McManus, editorial receptionist; and Bryan Mitchell, staff photographer. Farmington sports editor Dan O'Meara is not pictured.

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