

# Farmington Observer

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## THE WEEK AHEAD

### SUNDAY

**Pellice-a-poloosa:** Farmington Hills Police Department hosts an open house with games and more, from noon to 4 p.m. today at the station on 11 Mile and Orchard Lake.

### MONDAY

**Council confab:** Farmington Hills City Council meets 7:30 p.m. May 18 at City Hall.

### TUESDAY

**Last dance:** Harrison High hosts its annual spring dance for senior adults 3:30-5:30 p.m. May 19.

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### HOW TO REACH US

Newsroom: 248-477-5450  
Newsroom Fax: 248-477-9722  
E-mail: [dvarga@oo.homecomm.net](mailto:dvarga@oo.homecomm.net)  
Nightline/Sports: 734-953-2104  
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## Busch's market wants a place in Muirwood

The Farmington Hills Planning Commission approved a site plan that will allow Applebee's Neighborhood Bar and Grill to set up in Muirwood Square.

But the real fruit in the overall square's redevelopment could emerge this week. Plans are expected to be submitted for a Busch's market in the center on Grand River and Drake, which is owned by Beznos-Beztak Co.

More than likely, the market would be built on the north side of the shopping center and would involve demolishing an existing building.

The family-owned markets are based in Ann Arbor but have sites in Northville and Livonia.

"We understand Busch's will be submitted an application this month, probably Monday," said Ed Gardner, Farmington Hills city planner.

A Busch's spokeswoman declined to talk about the specifics of the site.

"We'd love to be in Farmington Hills and we are working toward that goal right now," said Peggy Conlin, Busch's spokeswoman.

Busch's has 10 stores and specializes in meats, fruits and vegetables, and value pricing in non-perishable goods.

Stores feature a delicatessen where everything is homemade. Markets are tailored toward the communities where they operate, which in Busch's case includes both rural and suburban areas.

Busch's newest market is on Five Mile and Sheldon.

Muirwood Square is near several apartment complexes and senior housing.

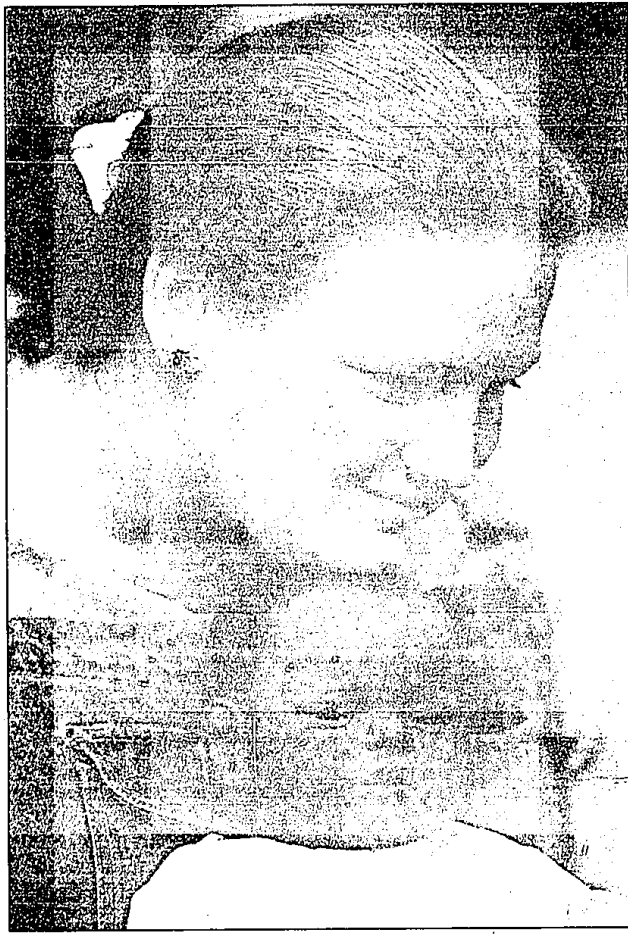
"If you have a lot of seniors or in Ann Arbor where you have a lot of students, you have look at portion sizes," Conlin said. "We have to do a little bit more market research, but off the top of my head, the store would be similar to the Five Mile and Sheldon store."

Busch's is a smaller entity in a competitive market, which means going up against major grocery chains such as Kroger and A&P.

Please see STORE, A3



## Girls and dolls



**Class acting:** Senior Heather Breitbach hugs her baby (of African descent) that she calls Rolanda Shaniqua Bauisha Renita Banana Breitbach as part of parenting skills class offered at Harrison High. She said the baby made her late for school Thursday morning and she missed most of first hour. The Michigan Education Association recognized the program and two others at the school for their innovative approach. For on the program, please see Page A5.

## Diamond winner gives priceless gift of self

Bill Burke set up house in Farmington because — at the time — it was the only place he could afford.

What he's given back to the community is priceless, any those who nominated him for the Commission on Aging's Diamond Award.

Burke, 79, modestly accepted the honor at the Farmington Hills Senior Adult Division volunteer recognition reception May 12.

Burke's daughter and son-in-law Patty and John Devine, who nominated him, attended the event, along with several hundred others who honored were for volunteer work at the William Costick Activities Center.

The Diamond Award annually goes to a person 75 or older who continues as a vol-

unteer.

Commission on Aging member Carl Christoph, who presented the Diamond honor, described the yeoman's task of trying to chronicle Burke's life.

"John (Washburn) asked me, 'Did you take good notes?' Taking notes from Bill Burke is like trying to take a drink from a fire hydrant," Christoph said.

Burke's daughter gushed, too. "I just thought it was really important that he's recognized for the work he has done," said Patty Devine, Burke's daughter. "He's never asked for anything."

People of Burke's era weren't reared on expectations but learned to be thankful for barest of necessities.

With a wife and a son back home, Burke

Please see DIAMOND, A4

## Using plastic sock hangers

Kathleen McGowan of Farmington Hills recently won the \$3,000 grand prize from the American Plastics Council for her 10 ideas for reusing and recycling those silly little plastic sock hangers.

While some of us think they're useless, McGowan came up with the following ideas: File separator, hair roller, necktie holder, recipe card holder for cooking, garden marker, hook for hanging a plant, attach it to a curtain rod for cafe curtains, napkin holder, necklace holder and hanger for a banner.

The Washington-based plastics council contest aims to bolster awareness of plastics reuse.

## He's in the water now

Paul Templer, who lost his left arm to an attacking hippo on the Zambesi River in Africa a couple years back, has launched his expedition to raise

## FARMINGTON FOCUS

money and awareness for land mine victims in Africa.

Templer, a former river guide, visited Farmington last December where he joined with local businessman Dave Williams to promote "Make a Difference," a non-profit group dedicated to helping amputees. Williams is the group's financial director.

In kayaks, Templer and his nine-man team are making the 1,600 mile journey down the Zambezi River through four countries. They expect the journey to three months. Besides Williams and the "Make a Difference" foundation, Templer, a native of Zimbabwe, has another Michigan connection.

## Football lights not ready for this fall

■ The Farmington School District will host a hearing on its \$117 million budget Tuesday. One issue — adding football field lights — is being decided by timing, not dollars.



There apparently is enough money in the Farmington school district's \$117 million preliminary 1998-99 budget to begin a \$300,000 project that would add football field lights at Farmington, Harrison and North high schools.

But the answer to whether there's enough time to begin Friday night football this fall is a definite no. Instead, night games won't start until September 1999, said several school officials. And, another unanswered question is which pocket will be picked for another \$450,000 for related safety improvements at the three sites.

"We will not put up lights without addressing the other issues," said school board Vice President Cathy Webb on Friday.

Please see BUDGET, A4

## Man arrested in murder

Police arrested a man believed to be connected to the murder of a Farmington Hills man, whose body was found Monday.

On Thursday, Farmington Hills police — through cellular calls made on the victim's cellular phone — tracked James Summerville to Minneapolis, Minn.

Mikhail P. Ellis, 32, was found dead in his Independence Green apartment with more than 40 stab wounds to the chest, face and back. Police believe the Ellis had been dead at least a week.

Summerville, whose name was found on greeting cards and a bloody shirt at the murder scene, surrendered to authorities without incident. Summerville was staying with friends there, police Chief Bill Dwyer said.

"It was a good piece of work by our detectives, primarily Bob Tiderington, Matt Koehn and Sgt. Tim Swanson," Dwyer said. "They were able to track him through one of the cellular phones that was taken from the victim."

"They were able to track some calls made by the suspect before the batteries died. Through some techniques, they were able to pinpoint his location."

Please see MURDER, A4



**Soaring back:** Bill Burke of Farmington, this year's winner of the Diamond Award, stands atop the old airport lookout tower on Orchard Lake Road (current home of LaSalle Body Service). His late wife, Rita Burke, also served the community — by watching for enemy aircraft from this tower.

Rochester Hills-based Wright and Filippis, a prosthetics company, fitted and designed an artificial arm for him and became a major sponsor of "Make a Difference."

Internet browsers can follow the expedition at this Web site: <http://www.zznm.org>

## Potter roast recipe

Dan Potter, who retired last month as Farmington Hills' Special Services director, will be roasted at a dinner to honor his 35 years of municipal service on Thursday, May 21, at the William Costick Center.

Prices is \$15, which includes a contribution to the American Cancer Society in his honor. Social hour (with cash bar) is 6-7 p.m., followed by dinner from 7-8 p.m. and the roast at 8 p.m. Make reservations for dinner by Tuesday, May 19, by calling Kay Gates at 473-9572, Ext. 255.