

## City gets a bit less in grant monies

BY JONI HUBERD  
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When Farmington Hills city officials visited with congressional representatives in Washington, D.C., last week, they were told an important source of federal funding wouldn't be cut.

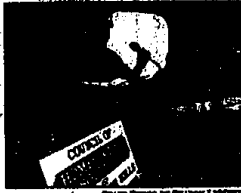
Judging by the fact that this year's Community Development Block Grant funds have been reduced by \$7,000, somebody may have been stretching the truth a little.

CDBG funds, distributed through the Department of Housing and Urban Development, are designed to help communities serve low- and moderate-income residents. In the Hills, funds go toward housing rehabilitation, health and safety improvements to streets and neighborhoods, as well as social service agencies that serve Hills residents.

### The whys

At Monday night's CDBG 2000-01

Please see GRANT, A6



Ready: Fran Valley opens the meeting at the library.

## Questions still remain

■ The Council of Homeowners Associations sponsored a DEQ representative to talk about the city's Eleven Pines development.

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Farmington Hills resident Maryanne Dunleavy had a simple question for

### ELEVEN PINES

Department of Environmental Quality specialist Steve Kitter Tuesday night, one he didn't hesitate to answer.

"Would you live at Halsted and 11 Mile?" Dunleavy asked.

"Yeah," Kitter replied, adding he has looked in neighborhoods near capped landfill sites in his own search for a

new home.

### Test results

As part of the Council of Homeowners Association's annual meeting, Kitter spoke for an hour and a half about Eleven Pines test results recently completed by the city of Farmington Hills.

Residents packed a conference room

Please see PINES, A7

## High notes

### SCHOOL BANDS AND ORCHESTRAS EXCEL

STORY BY TIM SMITH • PHOTOS BY BILL BREKLER

Farmington school district bands and orchestras collectively struck a high note, excelling at the recent state band and orchestra district festival.

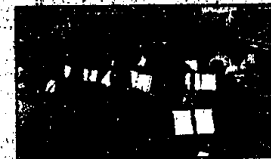
Right at the top of the achievement list was Warner Middle School's band and orchestra, under the direction of Jack Hawkins and Michelle Moffett, respectively.

Warner students scored a perfect rating for their performance, held over two weekends at North Farmington High School. Some students also performed at Bloomfield Hills Andover High School and Clarkston High School.

One of the judges, Gary Waldo, wrote that he was "impressed with the dynamic range, attention to detail and outstanding technical and musical performance," showed by Warner students.

It was the second consecutive year in which Warner students scored a top rating at the festival, which included many other Oakland County school districts. Bands and orchestras were judged on the quality of performance — both for pieces they rehearsed and others they performed impromptu, sight-unscored.

"It's a nice little tradition," said Hawkins, director of both the seventh and eighth grade bands. He added that students benefit from the fact that music and music education is well-supported by the district and community.



Taken players: The award-winning Warner Middle School band practices music from 'The Lion King.'



Director Jack Hawkins



They've got the beat: Above, Julie Kaplan and Tina Raymond play percussion instruments. Lower right, Stephen Joe plays baritone.

Paul Barber, music coordinator for the district, said participation by Farmington Public Schools in this year's Michigan School Band and Orchestra Association District Festival was the best ever.

"It's the most groups we ever had go to festival, 28," said Barber, counting 18 bands and 10 orchestras among the list. "The program is very healthy."

Of those 28 groups, 19 scored the top rating (I) with the other nine just missing with II ratings. Judges assigned ratings of I, II, III, IV or V, following their critiques in tone, intonation, rhythm, technique and interpretation.

Following is how the district's rankings

Please see MUSIC, A5

### Festival participants

- DuPont, Pleasant Shores
- Seventh-grade orchestra
- Eighth-grade orchestra
- Vicki Sharples, director
- Seventh-grade band
- Eighth-grade band
- Larry Carter, director

### East Lansing Schools

- Seventh-grade orchestra
- Eighth-grade orchestra
- Tracy Rigg, director
- Seventh-grade band
- Seventh-grade band
- Seventh-grade band
- Seventh-grade band
- David Drake, director

### Power Middle School

- Seventh-eighth grade combination variety orchestra
- Seventh-eighth grade combination concert orchestra
- Colton Armstrong, director
- Seventh-eighth grade combination variety band
- Seventh-eighth grade combination concert band
- Richard Cantrell, director

### Warner Middle School

- Seventh-eighth grade combination concert orchestra
- Michelle Moffett, director
- Seventh-eighth grade combination concert band
- Jack Hawkins, director

### Farmington High School

- Concert band
- Symphonic winds
- John Parkinson, director
- Symphony band
- Symphony orchestra
- Norm Logan, director

### Harrison High School

- Concert band
- Wind ensemble
- Jeanville Benson, director
- Symphony band
- Symphony orchestra
- Mark Phillips, director

### North Farmington High School

- Concert band
- Wind ensemble
- Symphonic winds
- Symphony orchestra
- Carl Gippert, director
- Symphony band
- Jason Lowe, director

## Mixed reviews greet videos

BY TIM SMITH  
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Mixed parent opinion at Hillside Elementary School about sexual harassment videos which are slated for a new health curriculum subject is prompting a closer look at the material.

Hillside parents, who this week previewed 15-minute videos titled "What to Do" and "When Should You Tell," are expected to — by the end of this week — supply school principal Jan Colliton with feedback about the presentation.

Judging by comments made following a Tuesday morning preview, that feedback probably will include a wide variety of opinions. No matter if Colliton decides to pull the videos or not, parents can elect for their children not to participate in the health classes if they don't want them to.

"I thought they were both great,"

Please see VIDEOS, A10

## Treasurer-clerk reaps accolades

BY TIM SMITH  
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Sometimes, Patay Cantrell is quiet as a mouse. But the veteran Farmington city clerk-treasurer is making some pretty big noise as an advocate for municipalities.

### FARMINGTON

Cantrell recently was selected recipient of the Michigan Municipal League's first ever Outstanding Individual Service Award. She will be presented with the award

Wednesday, March 29, during the league's 34th annual legislative conference in Lansing.

Her supervisor, Farmington City Manager Frank Lauff, is not surprised that Cantrell was cited for her exemplary contributions and dedication to the league.

"Patay has been a leading voice in promoting legislation that ... allowed for healthcare monies — held by cities — to be invested more competitively," Lauff said.

Bill Richards, Farmington's assistant city manager, echoed Lauff's sentiments.

"It's certainly well-deserved. She's one of the leaders of municipal clerks statewide," Richards said. "She has a special and unique blend of knowledge, skills and abilities because of her dual role."

Cantrell downplayed the award, as anyone who knows her might expect her to.

"It's always nice to have your work

Please see CLERK, A5

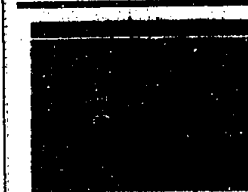
## IN THE PAPER TODAY

Soccer preview: North Farmington and Farmington Harrison are getting ready to start the 2000 girls soccer season Friday. /C1

All-Observer team: The area's top high school swimmers and divers are recognized for their achievements this year. /C7

## INDEX

- Apartments/H2
- At Home/D
- Automotive/I5
- Classified/O,H,J
- Classified
- Index/O6
- Community
- Life/E1
- Crossword/G7
- Entertainment/E1
- Jobs/H6
- Obituaries/A18
- Opinions/A14-15
- Real Estate/O6
- Service Guide/I2
- Sports/C1



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## TICKETS AVAILABLE

high school's performing arts department. They will sing in a lower range." The spring production will debut at 8 p.m. Friday, March 24 and Saturday, March 25, and at 2 p.m. Sunday, March 26 at the high school auditorium at 11 Mile and Middlebelt. Tickets are \$9 in advance for adults, and \$10 at the door. Tickets for students are \$7.

The musical is based on Damon Runyon's 1950 play about life in Times Square.

"He was fascinated by those characters who lived around Times Square," Sill said, referring to the gamblers, the girl friends and the missionaries.

Because of the male roles in the production, auditions were opened to high school students at the University of Detroit, Catholic Central, St. Mary's Orchard Lake and Detroit Country Day.

Still, some of the girls from Mercy will play male roles and as far as Sill is concerned, the audience will not only be delighted, but amazed with the per-

Please see MUSIC, A5



In tune: Katie Kowell on viola and Christine Hayes on cello accompany Sky Masterson (Sean Dudley) and Sara Brown (Maggie Wright) during a rehearsal of 'Guys and Dolls.'

Now or never: Adelaide (Kathleen Lentz) persuades Nathan Detroit (Ryan Hatch) that it's time to get married.

Please see MUSIC, A5

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