

# Farmington Observer

Your hometown newspaper serving Farmington and Farmington Hills for 113 years

Sunday, June 11, 2000

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### Voucher plan's call for teacher training debated

Editor's note: This continues a series about the November voucher proposal.

BY TRACEY BIREENHAUER STAFF WRITER

If voters approve a state constitutional amendment on Nov. 7, teachers won't only give tests – they'll also take them.

won't only give tests - they'll also take them.

The voucher amendment that's so hotly debated also provides for a change in guaranteed school funding and teacher testing for public and non-public school teachers that redeem tuition vouchers.

With vouchers, students living in school districts that fail to graduate two-thirds of their students could got vouchers to fund educations at non-public schools. The program would start with the 2001-02 school year.

Since an affirmative vote would lift in the schoils of their students, including Farmington, could adopt vouchers through a vote of the people or the local school board.

In other words, vouchers could

Plonso see TEACHERS, Ad



#### MONDAY

Repeat: They'll try again to kick off the "Cruise the Grand" season in downtown Farmington weather permitting, of

#### TUESDAY

On the agenda: The Farmington Board of Educa-tion meets at 7:30 p.m. at the Lewis Schulman Administrative Center on Shiawassee between Farmington and Orchard

#### INDÉX

Apartments/E7 Arts/C1 Automotive/HB Classified/E,G,H index/E9 Crossword/E5 Jobs/Q1

Malis/C6 New Homes/E1 Real Estate/E1 Service Guide/H2 Sports/B1 Taste/D1



"O&E ads really work. I sold my Grand Prix right away."

-Leo L. West Bloomfield

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# Write-in candidate joins school race

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Monday's Farmington Board of Education election won't be the perfunctory
re-election of two incumbents after all.
Both Priscilla Brouillette and Gary
Sharp still are favored to win another
term on the board. But Molody Jaskés
last-minute addition to the candidate
field definitely should make life a lot
more nerve-wracking for the incum-

■ Melody Jaske filed the necessary paper-work Friday to become a write-in candidate in Monday's Farmington Board of Education

bents on election day.
With 2-3 percent of the district's 59,730 registered voters expected to go out to the polls between 7 a.m. and 8 p.m. Monday, the chances improve for a successful write-in campaign.

Officially launching a write-in campaign Friday afternoon was Jaske, a parent who twice ran in Farmington school board elections. She was unsuc-

cessful each time, in 1998 and 1999.

Jaske said the board's handling of recent issues led her to become a write-in candidate.

in candidate.
"I had planned to sit this one out,"
Jaske said Friday. "I was disappointed
when the only contender who had file
(Mark Mergener), decided to withdraw,
but I was still not drawn into the race.
"It was a series of events that have.

Please see WRITE-IN, AZ

## Campaign funding gap apparent in House race

It doesn't take much effort to find the differences among candidates for the 36th District House of Representatives seat.

sent. District House of Representatives seat.

Five months before the general election in November, Republican State Rep. Andrew Raczkowski faces challenges from Democrat Aldo Vagnoziand Reform Party candidate Eric Boregard. While they're philosophically distant on a number of issues, the campaign funding gap among them resembles the Grand Canyon.

Vagnozzi, who has been dropping off written statements to local media, libraries and city halls since January, had just about 34,000 on hand April, had in the season of the season of

raiser.

After months of receiving only individual contributions, he recently accepted his first political action committee donation from a pipefitters'

mittee donation from a pipefitters' union.

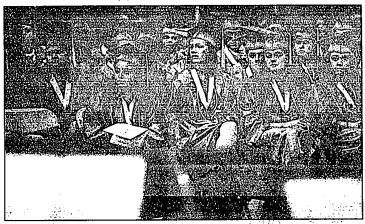
Borregard has filed a waiver with the Secretary of State's office indicating his committee does not expect to raise or spend more than \$1,000 during his campaign. The waiver excuses him from having to file public reports about his finances, until his committee receives or spends over \$1,000.

Vagnezzi and Borregard together have so far raised only about one-third the amount in Raczkowski's war chest. In the last financial statements filed with the Secretary of State, Raczkowski's re-election committee had picked up nearly \$30,000 from Dec. 31, 1999, through Jan. 31, 2000, added to \$15,000 remaining from his fund-raising efforts in 1999.

PACs

All but a handful of the most recent

### Music for their moment



Soronade: Harrison High School graduating seniors and guests were treated to several songs by the combined choirs. For more pictures and the story about the June 4 commencements, please turn to page A8.

# City loses 'dedicated' parks advocate

BY JONI HUBRED STATE WRITER ihubred@oc.homeo

Farmington Hills lost a hard-working advocate for local parks and beautification this week with the death of Barbara McCann.
McCann. 66, died of cancer Thursday

McCann, 66, died of cancer Thursday in West Bloomfield, after an extended

"Borb was a very dedicated person," said former city special services direc-tor Dan Potter. "She took on a lot of tasks."

tor Dan rotter.

McCann founded and served as chairperson of the Friends of Heritage Park, a volunteer organization whose members have dedicated countless hours to park beautification. A member

of the Harriaville, North Farmington and Hill & Dale Garden Clubs, she was particularly interested in plantings of flowers, at the park and around Spicer House.

A former chairperson on the Parks and Recreation Commission, McCann also served on the Beautification and Year 2000 committees. She had been involved in developing the city's Cultural Arts Master Plan, served on the Arts Council and was a member of the Oscoda Yacht Club.

"She was a fine person and had a great love of parks in our community," said City Manager Steve Brock. "She

# **Circle of Friends**

# Children finally meet to cap year-long program

The Circle of Friends pen pal collaboration is really a straight line. It connects the hearts of children at Cloverdale Developmental Training Center in Farmington and Eisenhower Elementary School in Fraser.

That warm connection was in plain view Wednesday, during a field day at Cloverdale to conclude this year's Circle of Friends program. After nine months of interaction (through videos and eraft projects more than pen pal eleters), children from Cloverdale and Eisenhower finally met each other.

Getting together for the day were eixth graders from the class of Eisenhower finally met each other.

Getting together for the day were eixth graders from the class of Eisenhower than the control of the control of the class of Eisenhower than the control of the control of



Toss it in: Kyle Rehner helps Lee McGrew with the bean bag toss.

oration. They said the whole experience helped them change their perception of children who have special Please see Circle, A3



Pals: Donald Stein carries his buddy, Cloverdale's Matthew Levingston, to the next event.

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