

IN THE PAPER TODAY



On Broadway: Angela Corsi, Miss Farmington 2000, and the contestants performed a revue during Wednesday's Miss Farmington pageant.

Meet the Queen: Tracey Finlayson was crowned Miss Farmington/Oakland County Wednesday evening at the Farmington Civic. See HomeTown Life / C7

Critical need: The American Red Cross will hold a blood drive August 2 at Farmington Hills City Hall to help bridge a critical gap between need and supply. / A2

Sweet Success: The Farmington Founders Festival drew more than 100,000 people downtown over three days. / A3

Locals testify for youth in D.C.



Mayor Nancy Bates and David Kinchen will bring the story of the city's youth recreation program to Capitol Hill, where it will be presented as a model use of incentive grants to prevent juvenile delinquency.

BY KEVIN BROWN
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A local recreation and activity program for kids ages 11-16 will be recognized today in Washington, D.C., as a model program.

Farmington Hills Mayor Nancy Bates was scheduled to testify today before the House and Senate appropri-

ations committees about the use of federal incentive grants for delinquency prevention.

"I think it's very exciting," Bates said. Of the program, in the fifth year, she said, "I think in a lot of ways it's the pride of the community."

"It's a neat honor for our program, we put a lot of work into making this the best we can for our kids and our families," said Todd Lipa, Youth and

Family Services program director.

At 10 a.m. Tuesday, about 40 kids were reaping its benefits in an upstairs activity area at the Farmington Hills Ico Arena.

Justin Konrecki, 12, played bubble-boy table hockey with an adult visitor, and quickly slammed the puck in an opponent's goal. "I like the video games," Justin said, adding he comes to the center with friends nearly five days a week.

Handfuls of kids seated in molded beige plastic chairs played video games shown on full screen TVs. At a table, Lara Knauder, 11, took turns with other kids playing a puzzle.

"I like skating," Lara said, adding, "I just meet people here." Behind her were racks with a range of snacks for sale.

The group was scheduled to head downstairs and board a bus for a field trip to the United Artists West River theater. While the program is free, field trips to activities ranging from horseshoe riding to rock climbing cost \$10-\$45.

Farmington Hills applied for federal grant money made available for such programs five years ago. The city was awarded \$384,000 for three years.

Please see YOUTH, A12

We love a parade



Rolling along: Fire-fighter Greg Fyffe weaved about the Founders Festival parade route Saturday on in-line skates, accompanying trucks of all shapes and sizes from the Farmington Hills Fire Department. The Farmington Public Safety Department and Hills Police Department were also represented among the parade units.

STAFF PHOTO BY ELIZABETH CAENIGLE

OPINION

Festival files high: Kudos to all for this year's highly successful Founders Festival. / A10

Pageant pécadillo: What really happened at this year's Miss Farmington pageant? / A11

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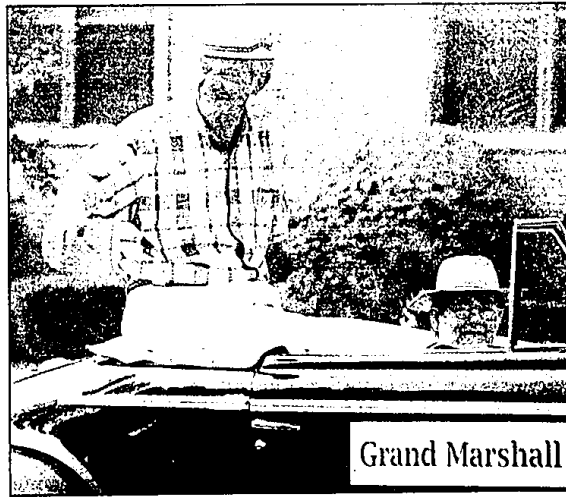
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Parade route: Six year old Shelby Accettura of Farmington (pictured left) does his own pom pom routine while waiting for the combined Farmington high school marching bands to pass by during Saturday's Founders Festival parade. Grand Marshall of the Year Lincoln Avery (pictured right). More festival stories and photos, page 3A.



Grand Marshall

Authorities issue warrant after pedophile violates parole

BY KEVIN BROWN
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Authorities are once again looking for a man jailed last year on charges he fondled two Farmington Hills brothers ages 12 and 14. Jim Thompson, 56, formerly of Southfield is being sought on a warrant that he absconded or skipped court-ordered meetings with probation officers in Sanilac County, where he began living after his release from jail in December 2000. He has also failed to show since early June for court-ordered sex offender therapy sessions. Thompson in April 2000 pleaded no

contest in Oakland Circuit Court to charges of second and fourth-degree criminal sexual conduct, stemming from the Farmington Hills case.

Judge Deborah Tyler sentenced him to one year in the county jail. In December, he was released to the Jubilee Farms work farm in Fremont Township.

"He quit reporting to the probation department in Sanilac County on or about June 6. The case had been transferred to their jurisdiction because that's where he was living," said Ken Aud of the Oakland County probation department.

Please see THOMPSON, A2

Filing deadlines close in for Farmington, Hills elections

BY SUE BUCK & KEVIN BROWN
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Anyone wishing to run for public office in Farmington or Farmington Hills will face filing deadlines next month.

Three Farmington City Council terms, held by Mary Bush, Arnold Campbell and James Mitchell, will expire this year.

According to Farmington City Clerk Patsy Cantrell, Bush and Campbell have four-year seats;

Mitchell has a two-year seat.

Bush has been on the council since first being elected in 1993. Campbell served from 1985-89 and then again in 1991, from which time he served continuously. Mitchell has served since 1995.

The Farmington Council race Nov. 6 is non-partisan, and there is no primary. Council elections are held ever two years, and three council members are elected each time.

Please see FILING, A2

