

CARRIER OF THE MONTH: FARMINGTON



BY SUE DUCK
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Meagan Giovanni has been named December Carrier of the Month for the Farmington Observer. She is the daughter of James and Colleen Giovanni and has a big brother Sean who helps her deliver the paper.

Giovanni is a sixth-grade honor roll student at Our Lady of Sorrows School and names math, reading, science and art as her favorite subjects. She enjoys acting, singing, snow skiing, volleyball and softball in her spare time and performs at the Marquis Theatre in Northville.

She recently donated 16 inches of her hair for Locks of Love. When Giovanni graduates, she would like to go to college for

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performing arts or become a veterinarian.

Giovanni has enjoyed meeting the nice people on her route and likes to play with their dogs, too. She has learned to organize her time and give her customers very good service.

Transportation for middle and high school students in the School of Choice program was eliminated Tuesday by a unanimous vote of the Farmington School Board.

The move is expected to save the district about \$60,000 plus mileage costs, according to Cheryl Cannon, assistant super-

intendent of business, finance and operations. Though transportation has been provided since the early 1990s, the decision shouldn't have come as a surprise to those families affected.

"This year's letter to parents offering school of choice noted that transportation may not be provided next year," Cannon said.

Farmington Superintendent Bob Maxfield said the public

should note that only transportation will be eliminated, not the entire program. He said he has not heard complaints or objections from parents.

The district incorporated its on-going committee discussions, which include studying a later high school start time, into the decision, he said.

School of Choice students ride the bus to their home schools and then are shuttled to their school of choice. In order to

accommodate these students, those who attend schools in their home area arrive about 20 minutes before school starts.

About half of the 233 school of choice students ride the bus.

"The vast majority of students are not school of choice," said School Board President Cathy Webb.

The decision is effective with the 2002-2003 school year.

Elks host annual contest

The Farmington Elks held their annual Hoop Shoot free throw contest for area girls and boys ages 8 to 13, on Dec. 15 at East Middle School.

Contestants included boys and girls who won their school's contests in their respective age groups. Over 600 students participated.

The winners for girls ages 8-9 were: Dan Deutch and runner-up Billy Lott; ages 10-11, Jordon Weinger and runner-up Keyon Taylor; and ages 12-13 Muhammed Cunmulaj with runner-up Matt Watson.

The winners compete at the district level in a contest to be held in January. Winners at the district level then advance to the state level; those winners go on to a region/multi-state event which then leads to the national contest.

Winners of the national contest receive college scholarships and are enshrined in the Basketball Hall of Fame.



Hoopers: This group of local young people, ages 8-13, participated in the Farmington Elks Hoop Shoot, held Dec. 15 at East Middle School.

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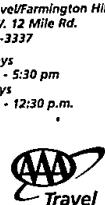
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