

## Hills seeks applicants for firefighter training

At a time when people are recognizing more and more the valuable role emergency services workers play in the community, Farmington Hills Fire Department is seeking recruits to train as part-time paid-on-call firefighters.

An informational meeting will be held at 7 p.m. on Monday, Feb. 11 at Fire Station 5, located at Orchard Lake and 11 Mile Roads in Farmington Hills. The application deadline is February 18.

The selection process includes background checks, an agility test, oral interview and a physical exam and drug test. Recruit classes begin in April.

No prior training or experience is required, but applicants must hold a valid Michigan driver's license and have no criminal convictions. Recruits must be at least 18 years old and a high school graduate in good physical condition.

Part-time firefighters are required to respond to emergencies that occur during the evenings and weekends. They handle emergency medical calls and fight fires, as well as

participating in fire prevention activities, including inspections and public education.

The majority of the department's calls are medical.

Training opportunities are made available so that members can upgrade their skills, obtaining certification for Medical First Responder, Firefighter 1 and 2, Driver's Training, Apparatus Pump Operator, Hazardous Materials Responder Awareness and Operations Levels and Emergency Medical Technician. The department also holds twice monthly drills to maintain essential skills.

On-call firefighters are compensated for emergency responses and training. Protective clothing and equipment, a notification pager, worker's compensation and life and disability insurance are provided.

For more information, call 248-426-4400 during business hours, or visit the city's website and download an application: [www.ci.farmington-hills.mi.us](http://www.ci.farmington-hills.mi.us)

## Turn Around to honor students

BY JONI HUBBED  
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A program founded to recognize "non-traditional" achievements will honor 26 students at a March 5 luncheon, held at Farmington Hills Manor.

The Turn Around Achievement Award winners were nominated by teachers from Farmington, Harrison and North Farmington High Schools, the Alternative Academy, Farmington Community School and Dunkel, East, Power and Warner Middle Schools. All students have made significant life improvements,



such as positive changes in grades, attitude, attendance and behavior.

"There's nothing more special in the life of a kid than being identified as special in some

way," said Superintendent Bob Maxfield. "This unique program provides us with an opportunity to say to kids that we're watching and we care."

Community service groups and other organizations are encouraged to become a part of this effort, by making donations to cover the cost of the awards and luncheon, to which the students' parents and/or guardians and nominating teachers have been invited.

In addition, merchants are being asked to donate items for a "goodie bag" distributed to all award winners - included may be passes to movies, miniature

golf, skating rinks or other recreational activities, gift certificates for music or books, pizza or other "fast food" coupons.

"Contributing to this program gives you a chance to make a difference on behalf of the entire community," Maxfield said.

Farmington Public Schools, Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, the Farmington Public Safety Department and Farmington Hills Police Department are co-sponsoring the Turn Around Awards. For information, call Maxfield at the school district offices, 248-489-3339 or the Farmington Observer, 248-477-5450.

## Cities, schools plan meeting

The annual meeting of the Farmington School Board and the city councils from Farmington and Farmington Hills is scheduled for 7 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 26 at the Farmington Training Center.

The center is located at 33300 Thomas Street, one block north of Grand River in Farmington.

The school board is scheduled to host this year. The agenda hasn't been set.

## Police offer reward in finding suspect

Farmington Hills Police are offering a \$2,000 reward to anyone with information that leads to the apprehension and conviction of a man accosting young girls near Farmington schools.

A witness who encountered the man Wednesday gave police the most detailed description of the suspected vehicle in the case, a black or navy four-door Ford Explorer with rear tinted windows, step rails, a cracked passenger side



mirror, only one windshield wiper, a slightly bent blue license plate whose last character may end in the numeral 7.

Witnesses describe the man as a white male, 20-30 years old, 5-feet, 11-inches tall, thin build with short, dark, messy hair, possibly pulled back. In one incident, the suspect was wearing a gray sweatshirt with dark stripes.

Anyone with information is asked to call the Hills Police Department at (248) 473-9695.

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