

# SWOCC staff sharpen skills at different conferences

This past week, members of the SWOCC staff did some traveling to different parts of the country for conferences and continuing education. Staff members Melissa Cohn and Lynda Peterson attended the annual Alliance for Community Media three-day spring conference in Grand Rapids. Hosted by the Grand Rapids Media Center (GRTV) at the Grand Valley State downtown campus.

They attended numerous sessions such as a Marketing/Outreach/Public Relations seminar, which highlighted the ways other Access Centers recruit and keep their volunteers active for years. It also taught ways of improving the public image of our Access Center in the Community and making sure that the channel reflects the diversity of the community.

## CABLE CONNECTION

Another great session was the Trainer's Roundtable session which included fellow Public Access staff members who discussed their ideas for pushing the envelope on how media production is taught.

There were over 150 attendees from other Access Centers from Michigan, Ohio, and Indiana.

Along with a Technology Fair which included AT&T Solutions, Iserv, MSC, and Nextel among others, Peterson and Cohn also took a tour of GRTV's studio and radio station to get more ideas for our own new facility, which is slated to open late summer.

The fall conference will be held at the Kalamazoo Community

Access Center in October where the Philo awards, a regional award, which highlights Community Access Programs and is sponsored by the Alliance for Community Media will be presented.

Also during that same week SWOCC Staff members Eric Angott and Lisa Antuna attended the annual five-day National Association of Broadcasters (NAB) conference in Nevada. NAB (National Association of Broadcasters) is one of the largest annual conventions in the country.

Held in Las Vegas, Nev.; this is the only city large enough to handle the number of vendors and equipment that the NAB has to offer. SWOCC Studio's staff was there to research the latest in broadcasting equipment and technology. NAB offers

convention rooms filled with cameras for the consumer to the video professional, along side seminars and demonstrations. "It was like walking through a toy store for big kids that like video," says Lisa Antuna, Production Supervisor for SWOCC Studios. "The best part about NAB is learning new things about equipment we currently have and about equipment we could get in the future."

SWOCC staff were given a chance to share equipment ideas and operations with broadcasters from other similar facilities throughout the country. Also, they were able to get a better look at new equipment that could be integrated in the renovation of the new SWOCC Studios facility.

Overall, NAB provided a valuable experience to keep your

SWOCC Studios staff up to date with the latest software and technology video production has to offer. Check [www.nab.org](http://www.nab.org) for more about NAB. Technology is constantly changing and no where is this more true than in television production.

So keeping up with everything is crucial and that is exactly what SWOCC Studios is doing!

The next CAC meeting is at 7 p.m. Tuesday, May 14 at SWOCC. The next SWOCC meeting is at 7 p.m. Wednesday, April 24, at the City of Farmington Hills.

Melissa Cohn is the Public Access Coordinator of the Southwestern Oakland Cable Commission (SWOCC)

## Cash, ring taken from apartment

On Tuesday, a resident in the Cedar Ridge Apartments in the 21300 block of Tulane said she discovered someone broke a bedroom window to enter her unit. A \$5,000 wedding ring and \$500 in cash were taken.

In the 27100 block of Gate-

## POLICE CALLS

way Drive, an apartment resident said between April 18-21, someone took two laptop computers, a video game system and \$900 in video game cartridges from the home. There were no signs of forced entry.

### WHEEL COVERS STOLEN

On Monday, someone stole two wheel covers to a 1998 Jaguar at GAP, located at 30825 Orchard Lake. Loss was \$200.

### TAILGATE RIPPED OFF

During Monday night the tailgate to a Ford F-150 was stolen while the vehicle was parked in the 21700 block of S. Brandon. Loss was \$500.

### GOOSE TAKEN

In the 23300 block of Barfield, a \$50 goose lawn ornament was taken from a residence on Monday.

### TOYS DAMAGED

Between Friday and Tuesday, someone damaged several playground plastic toys and toy cars at KinderCare on Farmington Road. Damage was \$300.

### DRUG POSSESSION

Police pulled over a vehicle at Grand River and Middlebelt around 4:25 a.m. Thursday for having a burned out brake light. The driver, an 18-year-old South Lyon man, struggled with police when he attempted to hide something. The man had a hypodermic needle and heroin on his possession.

Police pulled over a vehicle on Grand River and Middlebelt around 8:50 p.m. Thursday for not having an operable license plate light. Police found five baggies of marijuana in the vehicle. The driver, a 38-year-old Detroit woman, told police she smokes marijuana because she is stressed about taking care of her elderly mother.

### DRUNKEN DRIVING

Police pulled over a vehicle at 10 Mile and Research for erratic driving around 1:45 a.m. Friday. The driver, a 25-year-old Farmington Hills man, had a .12 blood/alcohol level.

### CELL PHONE SNAKED

A student at Harrison High School told police her \$300 cell phone, put in a bag in a locker room on Monday, was taken while the bag was out of her sight.

### MONEY STOLEN

A teacher at North Farmington High School on Thursday said she placed her purse, containing \$300 in cash, in a classroom desk drawer and discovered the money missing later. Money from a jar for charity was also taken from the room, she said.

Compiled by staff writer Paul R. Pace from reports on file at the Farmington Hills Police Department.

## High school artists honored

The Farmington Area Arts Commission recently announced the winners of the Seventeenth Annual Contest for High School Artists of Farmington and Farmington Hills. Jeri Fullbrook, local artist, instructor and recipient of the 1990 Art Commission Service to the Arts award, judged the entries.

■ Two dimensional art  
1st prize - Tina Farnia, North Farmington High School  
2nd prize - Ji Min Hong, Farmington High School  
3rd prize - Alanna Pfeiffer, Mercy High School

■ Three dimensional art  
1st prize - Courtney James, Farmington High School  
2nd prize - Nandini Lohithaswa, Farmington High School  
3rd prize - Samantha Kalish,

North Farmington High School

■ Honorable mentions  
Brandon Belknap, Farmington High School; Chad Burns, Farmington High School; Sarah Huston, Farmington High School; Jenny Jary, North Farmington High School; Stephanie Karros, North Farmington High School; Genevieve Mihalko, North Farmington High School; Alicia Orihel, Farmington High School; Leslie Orihel, Farmington High School; Whitney Sage, Farmington High School; Sarah Schon-schack, Farmington High School; and James Wolk, North Farmington High School.

Awards will be presented at 2 p.m. today, April 28, at the Costick Center in Farmington Hills. Winning art will be displayed at the Farmington Festival of the Arts taking place at the Costick Center April 28-May 5.

## Grubbs receives Eagle Scout award

John Grubbs, 15, of Farmington Hills, has achieved the rank of Eagle Scout after nine years in the scouting program. He is a member of Troop 389, sponsored by Nardin Park United Methodist Church in Farmington Hills.

Grubbs, now finishing his sophomore year at Harrison High School, began his scouting career as a Tiger Cub, earned the Cub Scout's highest award, the Arrow of Light, and then joined Boy Scouting in 1997. He attended Junior Leader Training, served as Assistant Patrol Leader, Patrol Leader, and Senior Patrol Leader.

For his Eagle project, Grubbs assisted St. Clare of Assisi Roman Catholic Church during

their recent renovation project. He led a group of volunteers that removed the landscaping from the front of the church and disposed of the shrubs, landscaping rocks, and timbers. This project involved 12 volunteers who spent over 50 hours of effort. The volunteers included fellow scouts as well as members of the youth group at St. Clare.

Grubbs' other interests include playing varsity football and lacrosse at Harrison High School. He also lectures regularly at St. Clare of Assisi. After graduation in 2004, Grubbs plans to attend the University of Michigan and ultimately obtain a law degree.

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