

# Farmington Observer

Your hometown newspaper serving Farmington and Farmington Hills for 115 years

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HE PAPER

ENTERTAINMENT



In the Park: 'Green Face' is the work of Nina Cambron, one of 420 artists who will be featured at Art in the Park./B1

Hey, Hey Hollywood: Producer Bob Cicchini is a

local Redford boy who has made very good in a town where fame and fortune are very hard won./B1



Pint-sized assistance: Youngsters learn what's involved in cooking and cleaning when they spend time in the kitchen. And. they may offer to help out, too./C1

#### HOMETOWNLIFE

Dream come true: Soon after Nidhal Gorges came to the United States from Iraq, she had a dream that represented freedom – a great sense of freedom./C4

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### Change of country



Enjoying the U.S.: Above, a young John Weigel (left in striped shirt) poses with his parents, John and Christine, and his four siblings: Elizabeth (hand on hip), Adam (suspenders), Eva, Henry (striped shirt), and Margaret. This picture may have been taken in Pennsylvania when John was about 13.

# **Coming to America**

Immigration changed man's life

BY RENEE SKOGLUND STAFF WRITER

For centuries, immigrants have For centuries, immigrants have sought the American dream at our shores. They left behind family, friends, hardship and oppression. Only during the Great Depression and World War II years did the tide of immigration slow. They still come, these future citizens, determined to work hard, embrace our culture and start a new life. If America has an enduring legacy, truly it is the story of the immigrant.

Please see IMMIGRANT, A4



Truly it is the season of grant.

John Weigel's story began in a recent photo Gyönk, a small town in Hungary, taken outside of his Farmington home.

Emma Lazarus, an American author born in Now York in 1849, wrote the poem *The New Colossus* in 1883. In 1903, sixteen years after her death, the sonnet was engraved on a plaque and placed as a memorial of the pedestal of the Statue of Liberty:

Liberty: "Give me your tired, your

poor,
Your huddled masses
yearning to breathe free,
The wretched refuse of your
teeming shore.
Send these, the homeless,
tempest-tost to me,

## Civic help is being sought

■ The City of Farmington is looking for five volunteers to help raise funds and plan "gap" events for the renovated historic theater on Grand River.

The City of Farmington is looking for five good men and women who are innovative, creative revenue producers to bring added programming to the historic Civic Theatre.

"Gap programming is a term coined by Bill Richards, assistant Farmington City Manager, to deseribe events which will take place outside of the regular movie schedule at the city-owned theater located on Grand River, east of Farmington Road.

Farmington City Council discussed in study seasion criteria for the new Friends of the Civic Theatre group, Committee members, who will not be paid, will be selected in September.

"They should be available, interested and willing to give a one-year commitment," Richards said.

Council has developed desirable "KSAs," a personnel term for knowledge, skills and abilities, Richards said.

Committee members should be Farmington/Farmington Hills residents or work in those two cities. These include but are not limited to people with experience in live theater pro-

Hills residents or work in those two cities. These include but are not limited to people with experience in live theater production and or video production knowledge of the film business, and connections to film theaters.

The committee will work with a minimum of assistance from city staff, report to council and keep in close communication with MKA, the theater's Wixom-based management

company.

Officials haven't mentioned a specific amount of money they wish to raise. The goal for the first year is to create two events. Revenue will be derived from ticket sales, Richards

events. Revenue will be derived from tieres saires, said.

Frograms could include community anniversary celebrations, historic programs, family events, talent shows, concerts and film festivals, midnight shows and 'artsy' shows.

The size of the theater, its stage and its sound system, will limit the scope of programs, Richards said. There's limited seating — 275 seats downstairs and 136 upstairs.

For applications, contact the Farmington City Manager's office at (248474-5500. Applications are expected to soon be on the city's website www.ci.farmington.mi.us

#### Sale starts Friday



Cleaning house: The historic Longacre House will hold a rummage sale 9 a.m. -3 p.m. Friday, July 5 and 9 a.m. -1 p.m. Saturday, July 6. The House is located at 24705 Farmington Road between 10 and 11 Mile Roads. Pictured, Longacre volunteer Isabel Berlin sorts ladies clothing, which will be for sale, along with collectible dolls, books and other miscellaneous items.

### Knollenberg promises high service to new district

By Dan West STAFF WRITER dwest@oe.homecomm.net

His congressional district is changing, but U.S. Rep. Joe Knollenberg said it won't alter the way he does business. "On the general trend of things, we still have to provide good constituent services to the people, cities and townships we serve," Knollenberg said. "The only thing that might change is some of the new cities and townships in the district may have different needs and we need to learn them."

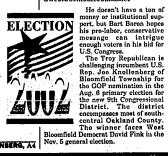
The Bloomfield Township Republican is running for his sixth, two-year term in Congreas. Knollenberg, 68, is being challenged in the Aug, 6 primary by Bart Baron, a 68-year-old auto consultant from Troy. The winner faces Demorat David Fink, a 49-year attorney from West Bloomfield, in the Nov. 5 general election.

For Knollenberg, his campaign focuses on two major national issues: economy and terrorism.

Despite criticism by his opponents, Knollenberg said the cenomic stimulus packages approved by Congress over the winter and the free trade deals he endorsed have been effective.

"We've extended unemployment and health care benefits for those out of work while keeping tax cuts in line," Knollenberg said. "The economic free fall is (in) part to blame on stocks being so overvalued. Some stocks were valued 100 times their worth and

By Dan West Starp Writer dwest@oe.homecomm.net



He doesn't have a ton of

Please see KNOLLENSERG, A4

### |Troy's Baron bids for upset in new congressional district

Baron, a 59-year-old automotive

Baron, a 59-year-old automotive management consultant, is particularly perturbed with U.S. trade agreements that Knollenberg supported, but which Baron said helps business executives more than the overall American economy and families.

"I'm about issues that help kids and grandkids and I don't like what I see," Baron said. "They are moving manufacturing jobs out of this country in favor of lower-paying labor in other countries. With the trade treaties welve negotiated, we gave away the cookie jar."

He blames NAFTA (North American Free Trade Agreement) and trade deals that are eliminating skilled jobs that

He blames NAPTA (North American Free Trade Agreement) and trade deals that are eliminating skilled jobs that pay \$20-\$25 an hour. This hurts our economy because this takes away purchasing power from

Please see BARON, A4

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