THURSDAY

November 28, 2002

75 cents

FARMINGTON

Who wants a pasty?



IIII Free headset

@Wireless stores in Metro Detroit are making the roads a little safer this holiday season. Stop in at any @Wireless store, and pick up a free headset to use with your cellular phone, while supplies last. No purchase is neces-sary. @Wireless has nearly 20 Lansing. For a listing of area store locations, call 1-800-613-

Pet adopters

Backdoor Friends Purebred
Cat Rescue is search of adoptive and foster parents for
their four-legged friends. Due
to the overwhelming amount
of rescues that have recently
taken place, the house is out
of room.

Backdoor Friends keeps as

Rackdoor Friends keeps as many of their rescued guests in volunteer foster homes, but the foster homes are also

but the foster homes are also running out space. Because of this, several cats are boarding at a local veterinary hospital, at great expense to the rescue. The rescue is currently looking for permanent homes for its special needs residents by Christmas. These include behalves are read domestic male who tested positive for the FPV virus, and Farrah, at year-old feral tenale who is learning "Social Shills 101" with the help of one of our foster moms. For more information, call Backdoor Friends. mation, call Backdoor Friends Purebred Cat Rescue at (248) 442-0259.

📰 Blood drive

The American Red Cross will hold a blood drive 2-7:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 5, at St. John Lutherian Church in Farmington Hills. Appointments are now being taken and walk-ins are welcome. Call (240) 474-0594. The church is located at 23225 Gill Road, between Road.

Mew in classified

tf you missed the Tuesday deadline for placing your classified ad in the Observer classified ad in the 'Observer Excentric, don't worry. The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, in an elfort to better serve our customers, now offers a "Too tale to Classify" category for those last minute additions for the Thursday paper. Deadline for the "Too Late to Classify" category is noon Wednesdays. Call 1=80-579-SELL to place your classified ad.

After-school programs, like the one that serves the Farmington community, is being reddied for lowering juvenile crime rates, according to the Michigan Loague for Human Services and Michigan's Children group. The two released the Kids Count in Michigan Data Book, which provides data on children's

health in one comprehensive source and includes profiles for the state and each county. One topic is the Oakland County juvenile arrest rates for violent crimes and property offenses. These rates show a decrease over the last seven years.

years.
In comparing rates in the county from 1991-3 and then from 1998-2000, violent crime arrest among juveniles dropped

39.7 percent.

In property damage crimes among youth for the same time periods, arrest rates dropped 35 percent, said Kal Engelberg, chief of Youth Assistance in Oakland

Juvenile crime rates dow

of Youth Assistance in Oakiana County's Circuit Court Family Division.

Engelberg attributes the lower iuvenile crime rates to a strong community structure to keep

ssistance is a model program. He said juveniles, especially in he middle school level, are most

at risk of getting into trouble between 3-7 p.m. on weekdays, when they are out of school and the parents are not yet home

the parents are not yet nome from work.

"The after-school programs like the one in Farmington/ Farmington Hills makes a huge difference," Engelberg said.

"Nationally, as many as 7 mil-

lion young children are left alone after school and that's when kids tend to get into trouble; he saids "Locally, we can be proud the communities can pull these programs together," he said. It has to be a community focus, where he city, the pollec and the community are on the same page, saying these are our kids."

Farmington Hills Assistant

Hills man

victim

of 1-96

attack

A 22-year-old Lincoln Park man was armigned Monday for allegedly running over a 48-year-old Farmington Hills man in Novi approximately 1:30 p.m. Saturday. According to Michigan State Police, Brian Matthew Ackerman allegedly ran over the Farmington Hills man after both vehicles stopped on the shoulder. Interviews indicated that Ackerman runmed the rear of the

Interviews indicated that Ackerman runmed the rear of the victim's vehicle while they were driving eastbound on I-96. After the vehicles stopped on the shoul-der, the female passenger of

PLEASE SEE RATES, A10

Sheep to share

Jada Jones, 3 resident of Coalition on Temporary Shelters feeds the sheep with Rockette Krystle Richeson of Farmington Hills after the blessing of the animals outside the Fox Theatre. See Arts and Entertainment on BI for the story.

PLEASE SEE ATTACK, AZ

Harris looks back on unexpected

career

If it weren't for a fraternity brother's deci-sion years ago, 47th District Court Judge Frederick Harris may never have been an attorney, much less a judge.

Bob Sting, a classmate at the University of Detroit, told Harris he was going to sign up for law school while Harris was waiting to be called to duty in the Marine Corps in the early 1950s.

be called to duty in the Marine Corps in the carly 1950s.

Since it appeared his number wasn't coming up anytime soon, Harris looked at his friend and said, "I'll go with you."

The two signed up for classes and got their books. Everything was ready to go until the next day, when Harris was ordered to report to duty in 1925. Six years later and back in Michigan, Harris kept his promise to finish law school.

He took night classes and studied on the

MEASE SEE HARRIS, A10

Moffitt lands in the thick of GOP politics

Oakland County Commissioner David Moffitt had less trouble getting elect-ed than he had trying to be heard at the recent Oakland County Republican conven-tion.

Moffitt won his 10th elec-tion Nov. 5, after a gentle-

manly campaign with Democrat Jim Nash. Two weeks later, he found himself in the eye of a political storm in Fontiac, where conserva-tive and moderate Republicans battled for con-trol of the party. "By statute, county parties are run by an executive board, which consists of 49 members," Moffitt explained,

adding those members are usually chosen from around the county.

That didn't happen. After what Moffilt described as a long roll call, supporters of newly elected Oakland County Commissioner Tom McMillin got him appointed temporary party chair, replacing County Executive L. Brooks Patterson.

McMillin then presented his own slate of delegates to the executive board. While he has no problem with McMillin's supporters rally-ing enough votes to elect him, Moffilt is opposed to what happened afterward. When Moffit demanded to know whether Farmington

PLEASE SEE MOFFETT, A10

Owen urges teens to find positives

Self-described entrepreneur Adrian Owen chal-lenges his 19-year-old son and 17-year-old daughter to work on a "five-to-one system" when it comes to approaching their parents.

"Every time they came to Mom or Dad with a prob-lem – I like to call it a challenge or opportunity – I say make sure try to find (five) things right and positive about the problem," said Owen, during Student

PLEASE SEE OWEN, A6



Batterior Basistant City Manager Bill Richards gives a City Hall four to students Anne Wardle, Annette Skrzycki, Mick Pederson, Katle Mitchell, Allison Matthews and Wike Ellis.



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LOOKING AHEAD

Wine columnists Ray and Eleanor Heald suggest holiday gifts sure to please wine enthu siasts





Traditional Holiday Toys



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