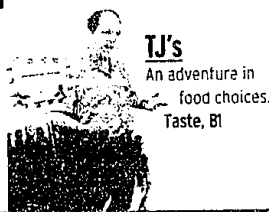


# FARMINGTON Observer



TJ's

An adventure in  
food choices.  
Taste, B!

## Granholt's message sparks local response

BY SUE BUCK  
STAFF WRITER

Students at Mercy High School won't have any problem if Gov. Jennifer Granholm is successful in asking school districts to require community service hours to graduate.

Granholm suggested 40 hours of community service during her televised State of the State address Wednesday night. It's important to "raise young people who embrace service," Granholm said.

Mercy requires 25 hours of community service over four years.

"Most students far exceed that amount," said Pat Atchinson, service learning coordinator. "They start in their sophomore year and must be finished by Easter Break of their senior year."

It's not uncommon for students to log 100 hours but Atchinson says the average amount of hours is about 70.

"About 70 percent of students go way over," she said. "They get caught up in it." Mercy students help at soup kitchens,

shelters, in nursing homes and volunteer in the library, Atchinson said. They decide on their own contributions.

If a Mercy High student seeks membership in the National Honor Society, that's 20 hours of service over and above the graduation requirement, Atchinson said. These hours can be a combination of service both in and out of school.

"Most students tend to do it in school," Atchinson said.

While Farmington Public Schools doesn't have a community service requirement,

the Bloomfield Hills School District has for more than 10 years, said Farmington School Superintendent Bob Maxfield.

He proposed a similar program about seven or eight years ago, shortly after he became superintendent.

"It was a lively debate, something like our late school start discussion," Maxfield said. "Some liked the idea and thought it was wonderful. Others called it involuntary servitude."

PLEASE SEE GRANHOLM, A5

Our Towns

### Get organized!

Papers piled to the ceiling, clothes strewn about, last week's mail still unopened and chores gone undone. Anyone for whom that sounds familiar might need



some help from Debi Weinstein, owner of I've Gotta Get Organized of Farmington Hills.

Weinstein will be teaching a Clear the Clutter class at Henry Ford Community College's Center for Lifelong Learning on Wednesdays, Feb. 12-19. Two class times are offered either during the day or the evening. One class starts at 10 a.m. and runs until noon and the other class begins at 6:30 p.m. and runs until 8:30 p.m.

The class will meet at HFCC's Dearborn Heights Center, located at 22266 Ann Arbor Trail between Warren Avenue and Outer Drive. The cost for Dearborn School District residents is \$35 and \$39 for all others.

For registration information and a complete list of classes, please call HFCC's Center for Lifelong Learning toll free at 1-877-855-5252 or visit HFCC online at www.hfcc.edu.

### Voc Ed Week

In honor of Vocational Education Week, which begins Feb. 9, Oakland Schools is offering open houses at its four technical high schools.

The Oakland Schools Technical Campuses, located in Royal Oak, Pontiac, Clarkston and Wixom, serve students from all 28 public school districts in the county, as well as students enrolled in private and



parochial schools. Two open houses were already held, but open houses will be held 5 p.m. at these two locations.

■ Northwest Campus, 8201 Big Lake Road, Clarkston on Wednesday, Feb. 12.  
■ Southeast Campus, 5055 Delemere, Royal Oak on Thursday, Feb. 13.

For more information regarding Oakland Schools Technical Campuses or the open houses, call Aukee at (248) 209-2015.



### Team spirit

Team Farmington's Darrin Reynolds congratulates Detroit Pistons player Mehmet Okur on making a 3-pointer. Okur spent some time practicing with local Special Olympics on Tuesday. Team Farmington's annual bowl-a-thon will be held Feb. 15 at Drake's Lane, and they're still looking for teams to participate in this fund-raising event. For information, call (248) 888-5021.

## Board to look at shared time issue

BY SUE BUCK  
STAFF WRITER

The controversial shared time program proposal between Our Lady of Sorrows and the Farmington Public School District is on the Feb. 11 public school board agenda.

The 7:30 p.m. meeting will be held at the school administration building located on Shilwassee in Farmington. While no decisions will be made at this meeting, the public is invited to attend.

Officials will consider a final decision no sooner than the March 4 meeting.

The Feb. 11 meeting will feature presentations by Monsignor Walter Hurley, OLS Principal Jim Watson and Sister Fran Nidolney, superintendent of Catholic Schools for the Archdiocese. While it isn't necessary to have an Archdiocesan official present, it may be helpful, Hurley said.

"This has the support of our council and school community," Hurley said of

PLEASE SEE SHARED, A4

## Road project headed for home stretch

BY JONI HUBBARD  
STAFF WRITER

Farmington Road construction isn't quite over in the downtown area, but this year's project will definitely be less disruptive for most motorists.

Work on the small stretch from Grand River north to Shilwassee will begin after the annual Farmington Area Founders Festival, which takes place in mid-July. Acting Farmington City Manager Bill Costick said the project will strip off the existing roadway, which is at least 50 years old.

"This will include removal of a 50-year-old water main," he said. "There's a gas main under the roadway Consumers (Energy) may wish

PLEASE SEE ROAD, A7

## Dog park issue isn't dead, just resting

BY PAUL R. PACE  
STAFF WRITER

The possibility of a dog park in Farmington Hills is not a dead issue, according to the Farmington Hills City Council.

"It's not exactly a tale that's wagging, either, officials admit.

Councilman Harry Brickner brought up the on-going issue at a recent goals study session.

"This has not been resolved," he said of launching a dog park where pets can run free under the supervision of their masters.

"Either we do one or don't do one," Brickner said.

He said a committee of residents looking for ways to create a dog park in the city has basically dwindled to one person.

When the issue came up last year, councilman Jerry Ellis said he went around the community attempting to find a suitable location and suggested an area around

PLEASE SEE DOG PARK, A7

## Couple marks 10th year with romantic dinner

BY JONI HUBBARD  
STAFF WRITER

Friends might be surprised to learn Paul Zanchos is a pretty romantic guy.

He doesn't save displays of affection for Valentine's Day. The Farmington Hills resident brings

home flowers more than once a month, gives his wife, Laura, romantic cards and leaves her notes to start out the day.

But what he did for their 10th wedding anniversary in November really pegged the Romance Meter.

PLEASE SEE COUPLE, A5



Paul and Laura Zanchos had the Longacre House all to themselves for a romantic anniversary dinner.

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LOOKING AHEAD  
Love nest  
In Thursday's At Home section  
Homeowners learn how Feng Shui  
in the bedroom makes for better  
romance.

6 53174 12000

Love and marriage...  
go together like a horse and carriage



So the song goes. Weddings don't go together at all without a lot of intense planning. Look for our 2003 Wedding Guide on Sunday, February 16 and discover ideas, advice and interesting features to assist with your wedding.