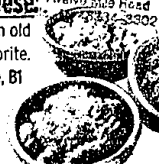


Mac & Cheese
New twist on old favorite.
Taste, B1



FARMINGTON Observer

Your hometown newspaper serving Farmington and Farmington Hills for 116 years

SUNDAY

February 16, 2003

75 cents

VOLUME 116 NUMBER 43

www.HomeTownLife.com

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Lottery held for 'Schools of Choice'

BY SUE BUCK
STAFF WRITER

Two mothers who applied for the In-district Schools of Choice plan did so to keep their children together with their friends. Their families are from Harrison

High's attendance area, but applied for enrollment at North Farmington.

In this instance, the families - who live two doors away from each other - experienced different outcomes at a secondary level lottery held Feb. 7 at the Farmington Training Center. When the district

receives more than 15 requests for a school, names are selected at random.

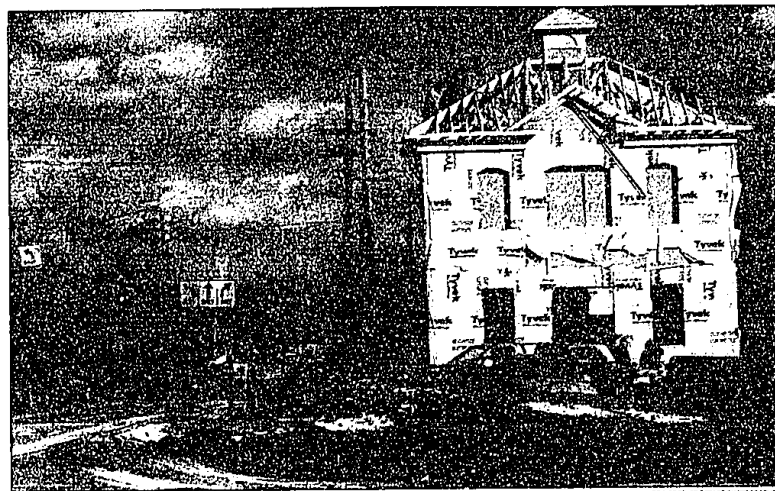
"I know some people call it 'Schools of Chance,'" said Assistant Superintendent Jan Colliton.

Without looking at the name strips, Colliton reached behind her and pulled

the strips, read the names and then handed them to her assistants Kay Clark and Helen Hill. They recorded the names and numbers.

Doreen Frederick was on hand to hear

PLEASE SEE LOTTERY, A5



This building is one of two under construction at the corner of 14 Mile and Farmington Roads, the result of a consent judgment in a lawsuit filed against the City of Farmington Hills. Neighbors say the buildings are too close to the roadway.

Consent judgement angers neighbors

BY PAUL R. PACE
STAFF WRITER

Jeff Kowalsky thinks they look ridiculous. Phil Neuman says he and his neighbors are outraged.

"They're huge monstrosities that are less than 16 feet from the street," Neuman said.

Both men are talking about two office buildings, constructed opposite each other on the south corners of 14 Mile and Farmington Road. Neuman, a Farmington Hills resident, told the city council about

PLEASE SEE BUILDINGS, A7

Our Towns

Cal Ander

A new calendar show debuted on public access channel 12 this week, starring Calvin "But you can call me Cal" Ander (pictured).



Cal and his alter ego, Farmington resident Brian Golden, invite churches, civic and other organizations, to contact them with meeting notices, which will be featured on the monthly show. Call (248) 478-7098.

Scrapbooking

The Farmington Area Jaycees will be hosting an "Intro to Scrapbooking" event "14 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 22, in the basement of the Farmington Community Library.

A scrapbooking consultant will be on hand to show the basics on how to arrange your photo memories in a unique and fun manner for all to enjoy. Cost is \$10 per person and bring about 10 photos so that you can go home with a complete page - or just come and listen! Experienced scrapbookers are welcome.

Nominations

The Farmington Area Commission on Aging will be presenting awards along with the 2003 Diamond Award during the Annual Senior Division Volunteer Luncheon to be held on April 10 at the Cosklick Activities Center, 28600 11 Mile, Farmington Hills. For information, call (248) 473-1830 or (248) 473-1821.

The Gold Award will be presented to the individual age 50 or older who is an active volunteer providing community service. The Senior Division Award will be presented to the individual age 50 or older who is an active volunteer in Senior Division Programs.

Over the past 10 years, individuals aged 75 and older who remain active in community service have been honored with the annual Diamond Award.

Due to the tremendous efforts of so many senior adults in the community, the awards were expanded this year to reflect their contributions and the community's appreciation for their efforts.

To nominate a senior, write a statement with the person's name, age, phone number and a short description of the nominee's community service.

Mail nominations to: Farmington Area Commission on Aging, c/o Mary DiManno, Cosklick Center, 28600 11 Mile, Farmington Hills, MI 48336 or fax them to (248) 473-1830. All nominations must be received by the commission before March 18.

Students talk about different kind of diversity

BY SUE BUCK
STAFF WRITER

Although most Farmington students who attended a recent diversity conference know others who are gay or lesbian, they have varying comfort levels with the topic.

And while diversity as a broad subject has been addressed in schools, homosexuality with all its perceptions, myths and half-truths hasn't been discussed much.

Friday during Farmington Schools' annual Student Diversity Day, students from Farmington, Harrison, North Farmington, Farmington

Alternative and Mercy high schools discussed the subject during a session on sexual orientation. The event was held at the Farmington Training Center.

While students appreciated the event, some would like to somehow broaden its scope.

"The same presentations keep being shown to the same kids," said Ellen Schneider, a

PLEASE SEE DIVERSITY, A5

Colony Park residents want school to pay

BY PAUL R. PACE
STAFF WRITER

Residents in the Colony Park West subdivision in Farmington Hills know they need their roads redone.

But some residents say an elementary school in the subdivision should fork over

more to help pay for the project, claiming the school has caused increased wear and tear on the roads.

City officials held a public hearing for a road rehabilitation project for Colony Park West subdivisions No. 1 and 2, located south of 13 Mile and west of Farmington Road Feb. 10. Of the 171 homeowners in the subdivi-

sion, 54 percent signed a petition to start the process for a special assessment for road rehabilitation.

The city has agreed to pay up to 20 percent of the estimated \$447,700 cost.

Resident Gloria Gaines who lives on a

PLEASE SEE ROADS, A6

French students enjoy local visit

BY SUE BUCK
STAFF WRITER

Pablo Leger knew he wanted spaghetti when he went to Ginopolis Restaurant and steak at Applebee's Restaurant. But the French foreign exchange student couldn't understand why everyone kept asking him if he wanted a carryout bag.

"He had no idea what we were talking about," said Diane Phillips of Farmington Hills, whose family is hosting him. Few French restaurants offer doggie bags, explained chaperone and teacher Isabelle Savy and her neighbor, Amel Dibb, both from Marseille.

"I think it's great," Savy said. Leger, 12, is one of about 20 students in the Back to Back French Program who will stay two weeks in Farmington Hills. They return to France Feb. 22.

Local students and host families welcomed the group at their school following their flight Feb. 7. Duncle students will, in turn, also visit France this school year.

"We were jumping up and down, holding Welcome signs," Kelli Phillips said.

PLEASE SEE STUDENTS, A7



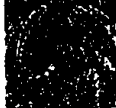
Though neither is very fluent in the other's language, the middle school students figure out how to get along. Host Jackie Duchene and Etienne Fenetrier share a laugh.

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LOOKING AHEAD
Ice princesses
In Thursday's ASE section: Disney's leading ladies dazzle audiences in a spectacular ice show at The Palace.



ON FEBRUARY 14TH BEING HOLIDAY INN TROY ON ROCHESTER COURT AT 6:00 P.M. & 8:00 P.M.
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Call (248) 477-5450 for more information.