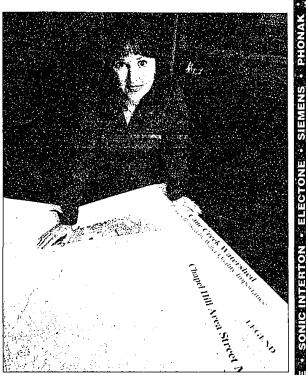
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Janet Jackson d'splays maps in the office of Orange Water and Sewer Authority in Chapel Hill. Jackson graduated May 18 with a degree in geography from the University of Horth Carolina at Chapel Hill.

FHS graduate earns college degree - 30 years later

After pursuing her bache-lor's degree for more than 20 years, one would think Janet Dutton Jackson would have

years, one would think Janet Dutton Jackson would have Dutton Jackson would have given up. Jackson, who grew up in Farmington Hills and is a 1973 graduate of Farmington Hills for Parmington Hills School, finally got her degree this spring from the University of North Carolina – 30 years after taking liper first college course in Michigan. Jackson's parents, Jack and Patt Dutton, and sister Judy Dutton Madigan still live in Farmington Hills. Jack and his sons, Doug and Jim, run the Farmington Hills-based Northwest Patient Co. Fatt said she's very proud of her daughter's accomplishment. In fact, the college newalest in the second of the sec

after her first marriage broke up, looking after a sick child, going back to work then focusing on her bachelor's degree in geography after landling a Job in the geographic information systems department for the Orange Water and Sewer Authority, which serves Chapel IIIIl and Carrboro, N.C.

"We're really proud of her," said Patt, who noted her daughter was in Farmington Highs marching band. "She really sticks to it."

Geography Professor John

High's matching band. She really sticks to it.
Geography Professor John Florin told the UNC newspaper that he guided Jackson in her four years at UNC. He is quoted as saying her 'enthusiasm, perseverance and constant upbeat attitude' pulled her ahead of other candidates for a coveted undergraduate award. The McNally Award for Excellence in Geography recognizes the sentor geography region with superior academic performance.
Jackson has since re-married and gained a stepdaughter. She uses her bachelor's degree in geography, with a minor it in information science, at the water department as

the GIS coordinator.
Where did she find the energy to complete her degree?
She credita her parents' drive and determination.
I think I come by it naturally; Jackson said by rhone from North Carolina.

North Carolina.
"I'm glad I am where I am,"
she said. "It's been a long road."
When Jackson knew where
she wanted to go, she realized
that she needed technology

she whitest to go, she teanized that she needed technology skills to get there. "I wanted a career that would go the distance." Jackson is also the first student at the university to go on a speakers tour. She traveled across the state, talking to community groups about the benefits of automatic external heart defibrillators. She won first place in a regional sudfey speech contest for her efforts. Jackson said she has advice for single parents who want to pursue higher education. Things don't always work in a straight line," she said. There will be setbacks, but you keep going.

AAUW 'Garden Party' fund-raiser slated

The Parmington Branch of the American Association of University Women in con-junction with the Longacre House at 24705 Farmington Road, Farmington Hills, will present a number Garden present a summer Garden
Party on Saturday, June 28.
A salad luncheon menu is
scheduled, prepared by the a summer Garden Saturday, June 28.

Longacre House resident chef. Donations are 821 each, and the public is invited to attend. All proceeds go to the AAUW Scholsrship Fund. Call for reservations by June 13, (246) 553-3866, or (248) 661-0706. Attendess are requested to wear big hats and long.

romantic skirts. The Longarer House is an 1869 Georgian Manor House, with beautiful gardens to enjoy. "There is lots of room, and we will not be hampered by the weather, should it become rainy, said Ruth Rihm, co-president of the Farmington branch.

Area Founders Festival needs you

The Farmington Area
Founders Festival is seeking
volunteers for the annual
vorent, held July 17-19 in
downtown Farmington.
Festival organizers guarantee
a good time, new friends, good
feelings and a sense of pride

that come with being involved in this community event. Volunteers will be treated to a continental breakfast, food tickets, refreshments and other amenities to make their time even more enjoy-able. The application process

is simple and painless.
Organizers strive to match
volunteer interests with the
areas that need assistance.
For more information or a

volunteer form, go to www.foundersfestival.com or call (248) 932-3378.

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