Services scheduled for Friday Longacre supporters for Farmington bus driver

A memorial service for Kathi Ausland, a Farmington Public Schools bus driver, will be held at 2 p.m. Friday, June 13 at Northrop-Sessaman Funeral Home, 19091 Northville Road in Northville.

in Northville.
Ausland, 53, and a Redford
Township resident, was a bus
driver for the district since
1995. She died June 5 from a
form of bone cancer, according
to Bill Tousley, transportation
director.

Her last day working for the district was last year when she had the North Farmington High School, Forest Elementary and Hillside Elementary routes.
However, she might be more renembered from her Harrison High School and Highmeadow Common Campus routes, which she held a longer time, Tousley said.

held a longer same, said.
"She was a great employee who will be sorely missed," Tousley said. "She was very caring, a great driver. She

worked all the Farmington
Hills open houses, where we
had buses. She talked about
bus safety. She had a good
relationship with the students.
Survivors, according to
Tousley, include Auslands two
sons and a daughter.
Condolences can be sent care
of Phylls Clan Cepartment)
15413 Pomona, Redford
Township, M1 48239. She will
see that the appropriate family
members receive them.

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CLARIFICATION

Sunday's front page election map, provided to the Observer by Farmington Public Schools two years ago, was outdated and contained poliling information from 1996. The Observer regrets the error and apologizes to voters for any inconvenience caused.

A story on The Longacre House controversy contained incorrect information about the way the House was deceded to the communities of Farmington and Farmington Fills, Livonia and other Oakland County communities, to be operated as a nonprofit community center.



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agree to work on solution

BY PAUL R. PACE STAFF WRITER

People involved with The Longacre House in Farmington Hills agree the historic mansion is a precious gem given to the community. But who is in control of its operations and even the cost of single membership remain in question.

Different factions agreed Tuesday to work together to keep the historic home from closing and changing its original scope when it was donated to the community in the late 1960s.

House member Brian Golden launched a membership information meeting Tuesday at the house off Farmington Road in an effort to inform people about the house's history and recruit

nouses instory and recruit members.
However, chairwoman of the board overseeing the house, May Arvo, contested Golden's actions early on. Eventually, the assembly progressed into a free-for-all where people vented their concerns.

cerns.

Board Treasurer Ray
Okonski said Golden and
board member Joni Hubred,

community editor of the Farmington Observer, were trying to undermine a four-vote decision of the board to fire the house's executive director, Denise Tawyca.

Okonski said Tawyca has locked board members from

the house and that she was

the nouse and that she was trespassing.

He said members have been dissatisfied with Tawyea's per-formance since being hired on

about one year ago.
He said Tawyea has taken
away classes, turned away volunteers and is transforming
the building into a catering service instead of a community

service instead of a community center.

Tawyea said the only way to keep the house in the black was by offering the only service paying enough to turn a profit. She said until board members are said until board members housed in the said until board members where we have been dead to the said until board members to cover cost overturns, there was no point to continue classes such as yoga and dance.

Realistically, this has to run a profit, she said.

Okonski said he was willing to have members vote for a new board of directors, but until then the current appointed board members was legiti-

mately in control.
Golden contended he wanted the meeting to gather people's opinions about the house and hopefully gain enough support to hold a membership meeting and vote for a new board of directors.
Member Linda Wantin has been involved with Longacre for 23 years and served on the board of directors from 1992-97.

97.
"This is not the first time we've had a crisis here," ahe said. "It's been worse than this. This is our house and we all love it. We need to do it prop-

Ints is our nouse and we all love it. We need to do it properly."

Attorney Mark Accettura attended the meeting out of concern for the house's future. He agreed to examine the house's bylaws and offer an opinion on questions raised at the meeting.

Arvo said she was willing to work with Golden at the board's next meetling on June 24 and devise an agenda together. Arvo said after the meeting that she was willing to give Tawyea another chance to keep her job.

"Im glad it ended up the way it did," Arvo said of the meeting. In the end we want what's best for the house."

Police respond to more ethnic intimidation

BY PAUL R. PACE STAFF WRITER

Farmington Hills residents who raised racial intimidation complaints to police and Farmington Public Schools officials in recent months said they have suffered another intimidation incident in their neighborhood.

neighborhood.
According to police reports,
a 14-year-old neighborhood
boy admitted to police he
called a 15-year-old AfricanAmerican girl a "n----" while
she was doing yard work at her
home on Oak Forest Friday
evening.

A neighbor across the street confirmed what the boy said. The boy was joined by two other boys his age, two riding their blkes and one on a Moped as they rode twice past the girl's home. home.
The girl's parent, Gloria

The girls parent, Gloria Gaines-Hann, and the trwin children are being infunidated by fellow students at North Farmington High.

She reported attacks on her home over the past several months, once by a bullet being shot in a bathroom window and another time when the home's front doors were damaged with some type of explo-

sive. Police are investigating

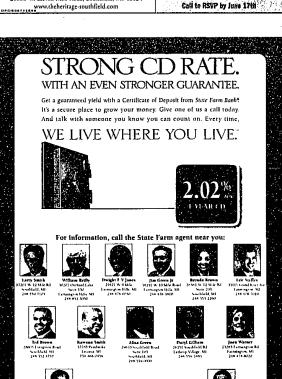
sive. Police are investigating charges against the boy. On Sunday afternoon, Gaines-Hanna told police a different 14-year-old boy in the neighborhood gave her the finger while she was doing yard work.

She said cha told the boy he

work.

She said she told the boy he shouldn't be disrespectful to adults and the boy said, "F---

you."
The boy told police he only waved to Gaines-Hanna.
The cases remain under investigation.



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