



Farmington Observer

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Farmington Focus

If you have a news item or an idea for a feature story, or an action picture with a Farmington-area connection, send a typewritten note to our downtown office at 33203 Grand River, Farmington 48024.

MERRILLAC Hall residents received a surprise package containing an Apple II, a gift from the Michigan Adoptive Parent Association (MaPa).

Most of MaPa's holiday gifts to residents at the Farmington Hills home for unwed mothers are cosmetics and perfume. This year, however, a Vegas Night benefit yielded enough cash to buy a computer for the hall.

Instrumental in the gift giving was Fousd Baldoon, a MaPa member and a North Farmington High School teacher.

HE'S stepping down. Farmington City Council has honored the request of Del Cornwell not to be reappointed to the assessor's board of review.

Cornwell, a manager of several properties in the city, wanted to avoid any potential conflicts of interest at board of review time. City Manager Robert Deadman said.

ONWARD and upward. Seventeen students from the Farmington area were among recent bachelor's degree winners at Central Michigan University, Mount Pleasant.

They are: Catherine Christensen and Susan Watsonman (hospitality services administration); Gregory Finlayson (sociology); Karyn Gies (communication disorders); Craig Hane (theater and interpretation); Thomas Kern (finance); John Leary (journalism); Laura Niehaus (language arts); Jane Ebel (broadcast and cinematic arts); Kenden Caldwell and Lynda Frisch (management); Kathleen Horn, Jolla Roberts, Lisa Rat, Donald Vancott and Michael Womlak (marketing); and Bonnie Wright (anthropology).

THEY'RE high achievers in accounting. Bernadette Carroll of Farmington Hills received the highest achievement award in accounting at Madonna College, Livonia.

Nancy Delonis of Farmington Hills and Virginia Lakkari of Farmington received a high achievement award.

THE travel, tourism and convention business is expected to become Michigan's top industry by 1990.

To meet the demand for skilled personnel, Oakland Community College's Orchard Ridge Campus will offer an industry development and marketing class Monday nights during the winter semester.

Robert Cartwright, Southeast Michigan Travel and Tourist Association executive, will be the instructor.

Call Cartwright for details: 849-8368.

KUDOS are in order. David Weigel of Farmington was awarded a business and economics scholarship at Evangel College, Springfield, Mo. The freshman is majoring in accounting.

George Fornin of Farmington Hills was elected a member of Sigma Pi Sigma National Physics Honor Society in recognition of high scholarship in physics at Eastern Michigan University, Ypsilanti.

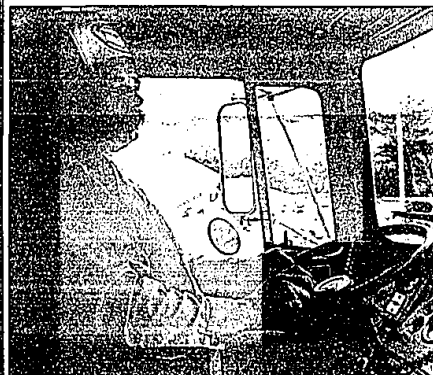
FOOTNOTES: One of Farmington's earliest morticians was Sergeant Lyon, who operated an undertaking business just north of the present Heeny-Sundquist Funeral Home at 33730 Grand River beginning in the 1850s. Lyon's funeral home burned about 1905.



RICK SMITH/staff photographer

Farmington Hills Department of Public Service workers load salt into a salt truck Monday morning.

They're on guard for slippery roads



Paul Pinkowski (above) is an 8½-year veteran of the Farmington Hills Department of Public Service.

By Casey Hans
staff writer

During winter's inevitable but erratic snowfalls, everybody pitches in to keep area roads free of snow and ice, according to local officials.

From stunts in Farmington Hills, Farmington, Oakland County and at the state level, to citizens who keep cars parked off of roads to help plowing efforts, almost everyone does their part, they said.

But those residents who choose to park on the street during subdivision plowing may find their cars towed by law enforcement agencies.

Both Farmington and Farmington Hills have city ordinances prohibiting parking on streets during plowing.

Farmington City Manager Robert Deadman and Farmington Hills Superintendent of Public Works Dan Rooney said cars will be ticketed and towed if not removed.

Farmington posts subdivision plowing information, and residential streets are plowed when snowfall reaches 2-3 inches, Deadman said.

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Business outlook is 'positive'

By Casey Hans
staff writer

Paperwork requirements are "substantially reduced," a state business ombudsman was appointed and venture capital investments have increased, all to the benefit of Michigan businesses in 1985, according to James Barrett, Michigan State Chamber of Commerce executive director.

Barrett spoke to more than 60 members and guests at the annual Farmington/Farmington Hills Chamber of Commerce Christmas Luncheon Dec. 19 in the Boisford Inn, Farmington Hills.

"The economy has picked up and I hope you people are feeling the fruits of this," he told the group.

About 700 rules applying to business paperwork were dropped this year, according to Barrett. In addition, the state Department of Commerce has hired an ombudsman to help businesses work with government agencies. Many other changes involving chamber members were recorded.

A \$500 MILLION workers' compensation insurance savings was recorded this year, Barrett said, despite Michigan's continuing high rate — still more than 20 percent over other states.

He tells a different story about Michigan's unemployment insurance. It is still the "highest in the nation," Barrett said. Michigan employers pay an average \$587 per year per employee, compared with the national average of \$273.

Barrett urged business leaders to follow changes in unemployment rates, scheduled to begin at the end of 1986.

The present cap of \$197 per week paid to unemployed workers getting benefits will stop at the end of 1986. Based on a 5-percent increase on the average weekly wage, unemployment

maximums are due to increase to \$232 in 1987, \$255 in 1988 and \$280 in 1989.

And there remains a "considerable" employer debt in the unemployment insurance fund, he added.

THE MICHIGAN Employment Security Commission (MESC), which monitors payment of insurance claims, is reportedly having problems providing needed statistical information. Not having accurate information regarding the state weekly wage by a Jan. 1 deadline could cause the state's businesspeople a problem calculating what they

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'Tis the season: illegal drinking

By Louise Okrutaky
staff writer

Police in some Oakland County communities are using a new tool this year for cracking down on holiday drinkers.

Those best liability ordinances are designed to give officers an edge in ferreting out underage drinkers, but in some quarters, they still evoke a flood of questions on the constitutionality issue.

Critics aren't advocating careless celebration over common sense, but they are wary of liability laws, which penalize adults who knowingly allow minors to consume alcoholic beverages or illegal drugs at house parties under.

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Business-minded

Language helps shape a philosophy of life

people

By Jackie Klein
staff writer

There's more to translating than languages. It's understanding different concepts and philosophies and touching the nerve of cultures.

That's the perception that Mariano Pallares, president and owner of International Translating Bureau (ITB) in Southfield, brings to his expanding business operation and his personal life.

The 42-year-old Farmington Hills resident came to this country from Cuba at the age of 15. He continued his education at Brooklyn College of the City University of New York.

Graduating with honors, he was awarded the George W. Carver Medal for his work and ideas on racial integration and academic achievements.

"I joined the faculty of Oakland University as a foreign language professor in 1972 after completing graduate school at the University of Wisconsin," said Pallares, who uses a soft, educational approach to his work, coupled with a friendly, outgoing personality.

ARMED WITH a teacher assistantship award and several fellowships to study Portuguese, Pallares, who speaks Spanish, Portuguese, French and some Italian, freelanced as a translator while at Oakland.



MINDY BAUNDERS/staff photographer

Reaching beyond language into cultural differences is a philosophy Mariano Pallares brings to business and to life.

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As we celebrate a grand new, brand New Year, we'd also like to express thanks for your loyalty and support!

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