



Farmington Observer

Volume 98 Number 37

Thursday, February 12, 1987

Farmington, Michigan

100 Pages

Twenty-Five Cents



Low science scores spark state reaction

By Casey Hans
and Rich Perilberg
staff writers

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

TAKE note. Presidents' Day will be observed next Monday.

Farmington Postmaster Kenneth Harris said there will be no regular residential or business mail delivery. Special delivery, express and mail post office box service will be provided. Courier service will be available for customers who regularly pick up their mail 8-10 a.m.

Mall will be picked up from all residential collection boxes as late in the day as possible to meet first-class mail service standards. Mail in business collection boxes with the large 5 p.m. decal will be picked up after 5 p.m.

Farmington Hills City Hall, 4th District Court and most banks will be closed Monday. Farmington City Hall will be open. Trash collection won't be affected in either city.

FARMINGTON STUDENTS scored higher compared with state totals.

'We need to look at critical thinking, and not worry about memorizing the facts.'

— Doug Cooper
science coordinator
Farmington schools

BONING UP. Farmington Hills Fire Chief Richard Marinucci recently returned from two weeks at the National Fire Academy, situated on a small campus in Emmitsburg, Md. He studied something called "executive development."

"That's where you learn how to improve your ability to be an administrator of a fire department or a major division within a fire department," Marinucci said.

"You learn how to realize your skills and potential and to maximize those of your people."

The big plus, he said, was the informal idea exchange with peers from around the country. "It's a good opportunity to pick up on new ideas that worked in other departments," he said.

Marinucci was one of 300 students studying a variety of fire science topics. Distractions were few. "There wasn't a whole lot else to do," he said.

Academy enrollment is limited. Applicants are carefully screened. The federal government pays all costs except meals.

From Feb. 15 to 26, Farmington Hills Deputy Fire Chief Peter Baldwin will attend the academy to study the same course Marinucci did.

KEEP these numbers handy for reference when calling the Farmington Observer: news line, 477-5450; sports line, 591-2312; home delivery, 591-0500; classified ads, 591-0900; display ads, 591-2300.

FOOTNOTES: One year ago this week — By year's end, the long-planned, \$15.6-million expansion of Botsford General Hospital in Farmington Hills is expected to be completed.

The 75,000-square-foot addition will provide badly needed space and increase the hospital's licensed bed capacity from 300 to 335, said William Scheiben, assistant administrator.

FARMINGTON — One year ago this week — By year's end, the long-planned, \$15.6-million expansion of Botsford General Hospital in Farmington Hills is expected to be completed.

The 75,000-square-foot addition will provide badly needed space and increase the hospital's licensed bed capacity from 300 to 335, said William Scheiben, assistant administrator.

State educators Tuesday called for the creation of nine or 10 development centers for teachers in the wake of low science scores in a statewide testing program for fourth-, seventh- and 10th-grade students.

They also said higher salaries would be needed to attract qualified science teachers.

Administrators of Farmington schools testing and analyzing scores from the Michigan Educational Assessment Program's new science tests to determine the impact on the district's overall science curriculum.

The teaching centers are envisioned as "adjuncts" to universities.

They would serve as centers for teachers to improve both their knowledge of subject matter and their teaching methods, according to Ed Roeter, supervisor of MEAP testing for the Michigan Department of Education.

In a press conference Tuesday morning in Lansing, education officials announced that only 59.3 percent of fourth graders, 27.3 percent of seventh graders and 22.4 percent of tenth graders passed at least 75 percent of test objectives.

FARMINGTON STUDENTS scored higher compared with state totals.

Please turn to Page 6

Meager turnout renews millage

A precinct by precinct breakdown of results: 10A.

Farmington Public Schools will continue operating with \$2.5 million following voter approval of a millage renewal effort Tuesday.

But only 1.4 percent — less than 1,000 of the 57,979 registered voters in the district — went to the polls for the special election to renew 4 mills for 10 years.

That's less than the 2 percent vo-

Please turn to Page 10

ter turnout of last June's regular school election, when two incumbent trustees were returned to their seats.

There are nearly 6,000 additional voters now registered compared to the 52,000 registered last June.

The millage was approved by 644 voters and rejected by 188, according to information on the non-canvassed results from the Farmington Hills city clerk's office.

Academy enrollment is limited. Applicants are carefully screened. The federal government pays all costs except meals.

From Feb. 15 to 26, Farmington Hills Deputy Fire Chief Peter Baldwin will attend the academy to study the same course Marinucci did.

KEEP these numbers handy for reference when calling the Farmington Observer: news line, 477-5450; sports line, 591-2312; home delivery, 591-0500; classified ads, 591-0900; display ads, 591-2300.

FOOTNOTES: One year ago this week — By year's end, the long-planned, \$15.6-million expansion of Botsford General Hospital in Farmington Hills is expected to be completed.

The 75,000-square-foot addition will provide badly needed space and increase the hospital's licensed bed capacity from 300 to 335, said William Scheiben, assistant administrator.

FARMINGTON — One year ago this week — By year's end, the long-planned, \$15.6-million expansion of Botsford General Hospital in Farmington Hills is expected to be completed.

The 75,000-square-foot addition will provide badly needed space and increase the hospital's licensed bed capacity from 300 to 335, said William Scheiben, assistant administrator.

Coming down

Hills OKs Tulipwood barrier's removal

By Joanne Malszewska
staff writer

As barricades go, it has the longest history.

With the reopening of the Tulipwood barricade, another page can be added to the anthology.

Farmington Hills City Council's unanimous decision Monday to open the Tulipwood connector street comes eight years after it was closed following lengthy and emotional hearings.

Following two hours of comments from residents in the adjacent Kendallwood, Farmington Green and Colony Park West subdivisions, council members Monday agreed to open the barrier and remove the barrier was to be open. In addition, council authorized a series of 30 traffic control orders, including stop and yield signs, as well as a parking prohibition on Tulipwood.

Kendallwood residents — who petitioned for the barrier eight years ago — claimed that reopening the connector street would bring an onslaught of traffic into their 30-year-old neighborhood.

Farmington Green and Colony Park West residents claimed the barrier forced them to drive into congested traffic on 12 Mile and

Farmington Road in order to reach Wooddale Elementary in the heart of Kendallwood. Residents also claimed that the barrier has served to divide the neighborhoods.

"IF BARRIERS are necessary, why don't we put one up at the entrance of every subdivision and become a gateway community?"

said William Kinney, representing Farmington Green.

"We also feel somewhat rejected as if we are not really wanted to be a part of section 10," Kinney said. "To promote the concept that we are one town, the barrier should be removed so we can keep communications open."

The three neighborhoods are in the area bounded by 12 and 15 Mile and Farmington and Dixie roads.

Kendallwood residents, however, denied attempts to use the stub street as a social barrier.

Instead, they maintained their interests were in safety and the potential for greatly increased traffic on

the subdivision's narrow and hilly roads.

"Had Kendallwood residents wanted to live on a thoroughfare, we would have bought a home on Orchard Lake or Grand River," said Sue Suddeth, Kendallwood Homeowners Association president.

Back in 1978, Kendallwood residents requested the barricade to prevent traffic cutting through their neighborhood from the newly built Farmington Green.

Please turn to Page 14

For a related editorial comment, see Page 16A.

By Joanne Malszewska
staff writer

The planned athletic park northwest of 13 Mile and Farmington Road has been named "Pioneer Park."

The new name — approved by the Farmington Hills City Council Monday — continues a historic theme begun when officials named the former 212-acre Spicer property Heritage Park.

Council's decision to follow a Parks and Recreation Commission recommendation to avoid naming whole parks after an individual defeated efforts to name the youth park after the late civic activist Jim Ells.

Ells' name was suggested for the park by his widow, Beverly, who wrote a letter to the Farmington Hills City Council last fall. Ells' recommendation, with longstanding support from the Farmington Falcon Boosters Club, assistant athletic di-

rector of the Farmington Rockets Little League Football teams and a commissioner of the South Farmington Baseball for Boys Little League.

Though parks and recreation commissioners recommended naming parks on a historic theme, they agreed — and the city council approved — of honoring particular playing fields with an individual's name, such as Ells', said Dan Potter, special services director.

PARKS AND RECREATION commission

Please turn to Page 4

Channel expands audience

By Casey Hans
staff writer

Dean Cobb and his students are aiming for a new audience — you.

Cable television Channel 10, the local educational access station serving Farmington, Farmington Hills and Novi, will begin broadcasting Thursday nights with specialized programming, according to Cobb, telecommunications coordinator for the Farmington school district.

The idea is to make the channel, now used as a teaching tool within the schools, more community-oriented.

"I would like to hit the non-parent community to show them what goes on in the schools," he said. "This is what your tax dollars go for."

Please turn to Page 4

what's inside

Around Farmington	2B
Business	1-4C
Cable connection	6C
Crossword puzzle	9E
Entertainment	6-8D
Obituaries	15A
Opinion	16A
Police/tire calls	18A
Readers' forum	17A
Sports	1-5D
Suburban Life	1-4B
Travel	7C
Classifieds	Secs. C-F
Index	8C
Auto	2F
Real estate	2E
Employment	9C

