

You can find a shoe
for any running foot, 1D



Falcons win
title, 1C

More than raw fish,
the sushi story, 1B

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Twenty-Five Cents

Farmington FOCUS

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EXCHANGING
hope.
The Farmington
Area Exchange Club
has placed canisters on
counters in local stores for
contributions to go toward
preventing child abuse.
Donations will go to the
Michigan Exchange Club Child
Abuse Center, based in
Washtenaw County.
The center and 30 like it
around the country are
designed to provide volunteer
therapy to families of
abused and "at risk" children.

LIGHTER moment.
After discussing whether
to open Harrison High, which is
below enrollment capacity, to
all Farmington Public Schools
senior high students,
regardless of where they live,
an audience member asked the
school board Tuesday, "What
happens if you have 300
students who want to transfer
from North and Farmington?"
Quipped superintendent
Graham Lewis: "Mrs. Ankle
would have a lottery." He was
referring to the lottery that
assistant superintendent Mary
Lou Ankle held for parents
wanting to enroll children in
the new Highmeadow
Common Campus program to
ease elementary school
crowding.
Then answering the query
seriously, Lewis said: "We
have to feel our way through
that. We can't predict what
will happen."
Harrison High principal
Clay Graham thinks it's
unlikely the school would face
that situation because most
students tend to prefer going
to the school that serves their
neighborhood.

what's inside

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Reminder...

Your Observer
Carrier will be
stopping by this week to
collect for the month. Please
have the money ready and
be sure to get your receipt.
It's worth a \$2.00 discount
on the next classified
advertisement you place in
your hometown newspaper.

Kids, parents learn drug lessons

Damage can be severe

By Joanne Maliszewski
staff writer

Fourteen-year-old Margaret
O'Sullivan didn't realize how de-
structive drugs can be for young
people.

"I didn't know it could hurt the in-
side of your body," she said.

After hearing the first of two
drug-education panel discussions
Wednesday morning at North Farm-
ington High, Jenny Weh, 13, wants to
see more special programming for
kids.

"My parents have informed me
about drugs," she said. "This kind of
program is good for a lot of kids
whose parents don't tell them."

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photos by RANDY BORST/staff photographer

Panelists Jane Williams (left), professional
chemical dependency therapist; Charles
Nebus, Farmington Hills police sergeant;
moderator Sue McLean, educational access

Channel 10 publicist; panelists Donald Cowan,
North Farmington principal; and Betty Nicoloy,
Farmington Families in Action chairwoman, at
the Wednesday morning discussion.

Street is called 'war zone'

By Casey Hans
staff writer

One 16-year resident calls her
street in Farmington Hills "a war
zone."

There are three known drug hous-
es on her southside street. Police
have conducted raids, confiscated
guns. Her young son is asking if they
sell bulletproof vests for 9-year-olds.
Many times, "customers" come to
her house by mistake.

Her family wants to move.
What's going on along this Farm-
ington Hills street is happening
throughout the Detroit area and its
suburbs. It has prompted a call for
community action and awareness
campaign, which began last week.

Hills police Chief William Dwyer
said police action will continue, but
the problem goes beyond police in-

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Music therapist likes to help

By Casey Hans
staff writer

A blending of musical talent and
the desire to help people led Pat
Morris Weaver into a profession
where she could do both.

She chose music therapy.
The West Bloomfield resident and
Farmington Public Schools employ-
ee is apparently successful, as decid-
ed recently by her peers. Last
month, she was named 1988 Teacher
of the Year for the Association for
Retarded Citizens/Oakland County.

"I knew I wanted to use my musi-
cal talent to help others," said the
surprised award winner. "It seemed
like music therapy was the best of
both worlds."

Morris Weaver was the first music
therapist to be hired by Farmington
schools, in the 1984-85 school year.
Today, she is one of three therapists
who serve eight special education
programs in the district. She works
with students at Cloverdale Center,
Farmington Training Center and
Kenbrook Elementary.

Children and adults with learning
and behavioral disorders benefit
from her enthusiastic presentation
and her love of music.

"I work a lot on non-music goals,

people

using music as a tool," she ex-
plained. "It's a way of using a differ-
ent road to learning."

"It is me — that is what I do," she
added.

HER CAREER developed from a
musical childhood. She has sung at
weddings and other events, was in-
volved in church music and youth
groups.

"My music definitely came from
my mother, who would sing opera
and show tunes," she said. "She in-
fused the love of music in me."

But it was her "exceptional ser-
vice" that won her the ARC award,
after she was nominated by co-work-
er Sandra Elling. Morris Weaver is
the first music therapist ever to win
the award.

Working with music as a therapy
tool has made Morris Weaver "more
analytical," but "has really in-
creased my love of music," she said.
"I can see the power of music. They

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Putting meetings on TV doesn't rate high with Hills, Farmington

By Joanne Maliszewski
staff writer

Residents in Southfield, Livonia and Birmingham can
curl up with a bowl of popcorn and tune into their week-
ly city council meetings without leaving home — thanks
to cable television.

Farmington Hills, Farmington and Novi residents
can't do the same. Regular city council meetings are not
broadcast or taped for community access viewing. And
it's not likely to be a part of the immediate viewing
future.

"The initiative would have to come from the councils
themselves," said Lark Reid, executive director of the
Southwestern Oakland Cable Commission, which repre-
sents the cities of Farmington Hills, Farmington and
Novi.

So far, Farmington Hills and Farmington aren't
showing much interest in cablecasting regular city
council meetings. But occasional special meetings ex-
pected to pique public interest have been taped, said
Dave Tietmeyer, Farmington Hills video production
specialist.

"Originally when we got cable we thought we'd do it.
But we've discussed it twice. Both times it was almost

*"If citizens are interested, then
it's important that they come
to city hall and see it in
person."*

— Mayor Jody Soronen,
Farmington Hills

unanimous. If not unanimous, that we not do it," Farm-
ington Hills Mayor Jody Soronen said.

"If citizens are interested then it's important that
they come to city hall and see it in person," Soronen
added.

FARMINGTON MAYOR Richard Tupper said the
idea of cablecasting or taping council meetings "didn't
get high marks" from the city council when it was
discussed previously.

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Lark Reid
it's up to councils
to take initiative

17 teachers pink-slipped

Seventeen Farmington teach-
ers will receive pink slips, follow-
ing school board approval of
layoffs April 19.

District officials say they plan
to recall most of the teachers by
June for the 1988-89 school year.
Nine of the teachers are from the
district's three high schools, four
are from middle schools, two
from elementary programs, and
two others did not have buildings
specified.

Five of the teachers are from
North Farmington High School.

According to personnel direc-
tor Robert Coleman, declining en-
rollment at the secondary schools
is affecting this year's layoffs.

What is currently affecting
teachers at the secondary is what
previously affected elementary,
he said. "I don't think we'll be
able to recall all the teachers on
the list."

If teachers' layoffs become sec-
ondary, they are considered at this
time each year, according to their
union contract.