

IN THE PAPER TODAY

Mobilizing troops: The grassroots campaign for George Bush in Oakland County has some shaky roots to stabilize. /7A.

Accepting differences: A grieving father from West Bloomfield deals with loss by setting up a camp for children to appreciate one another. /9A

OPINION

Tough sledding: The sled hill near school headquarters is one of the things that makes Farmington special. It'd be a shame if the school board closed the hill to winter activities because of legal and safety concerns. /16A

SPORTS

Johnstown update: See how Walter's Appliance fared in the opening rounds of the All-American Amateur Baseball Association tournament in Pennsylvania. /1B

Great Lakes Soccer: Flint Bud Light beat the Redford Marauders in Sunday's Great Lakes Soccer League final, ending the Marauders' three-year reign. /1B

ENTERTAINMENT

Eating out: Oceania Inn in Rochester Hills serves authentic Chinese cuisine. Chef King Chor Leung was trained in Hong Kong and specializes in seafood. /5B

SUBURBAN LIFE



For equestrians: Therapeutic riding program helps youngsters from throughout southeast Michigan, including Joanna LaPrad (left) of West Bloomfield and riding partner Jill Skodack. /1C

Barneys arrives: Barneys New York, a store for men's and women's fashions, joins upscale Somerset Collection in Troy, with West Bloomfield resident Pamela Pyke as manager. /1C

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'Choice' matter splits politicians



BY JOANNE MALISZEWSKI
STAFF WRITER

Republicans Jan Dolan and Patrick Anderson will see each other at the Republican National Convention in Houston next week. But they already know they won't see eye-to-eye on one major issue.

State Rep. Dolan, R-Farmington Hills, is a pro-choice advocate in the abortion debate. Anderson, vice president of government affairs at Alexander Hamilton Life Insurance Co., Farmington Hills, favors the pro-life side.

Dolan, an alternate delegate, doesn't hold out much hope. But that's not

going to stop her from joining others to change the party's platform — namely the pro-life plank.

"I think a lot of people are willing to stand up and say it's a problem. It is not for government to make that choice," Dolan said.

How many state delegations are willing to take that stand, however, will be a turning point. Both Dolan and Anderson believe there will be two delegations to force the issue to a floor fight and make a dent in the Republican platform. Delegations from six states are re-

quired to take an issue to the floor. "Delegates are important in these matters. If enough get together, I think they could get maybe three or four delegations," Anderson said. "But I predict they will not be able to. The Michigan delegation, in my opinion, will not support a floor fight."

That would disappoint Dolan, a member of the National Republican Coalition for Choice. But she says it won't stop her.

See GOP, 2A



SHARON LEIMY FOR STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Returning: Luigi Camaj (in shovel), a 1983 graduate of Harrison High School, returns to his old school as a construction worker helping put in sewer pipes along 12 Mile road. At right is foreman Ed Watson.

Life rolls on despite detours

BY JOANNE MALISZEWSKI
STAFF WRITER

Construction. Closed roads. Detours.

It's all a necessary inconvenience in the Farmington area this summer. "I believe motorists are doing OK," said Skip Ottwell, Farmington Hills city engineer. "If we had been able to plan it all ourselves, we wouldn't have had all three projects at the same time."

The three road construction projects are the 12 Mile boulevard project, Haggerty to Halsted; 13 Mile, Farmington to Chesterbrook roads; and 12 Mile, Orchard Lake to Middlebelt roads.

Because of timing with funding

and preparation through other agencies, city administrators had little choice when the projects — two of which are in front of high schools — would begin, Ottwell said.

The 12 Mile project, Haggerty to Halsted, is a continuation of a Farmington Hills widening and boulevard project along the thoroughfare. Unlike with other projects, the one-mile portion of road is completely closed because a drain is being replaced.

By now, most motorists have gotten the hang of the detour around the 12 Mile boulevard project by heading toward Hillside Drive to travel in either direction. "They only need to go one mile out of their way," Ottwell said.

Construction projects on 13 Mile by North Farmington High School and 12 Mile by Harrison High School are safety projects.

The 13 Mile project includes widening the roadway, including five lanes in front of North Farmington. As of 9 a.m. Monday, Aug. 10, Farmington to Chesterbrook will be closed all day, including morning and afternoon rush hour.

"We are trying to have it open when school begins Aug. 25," Ottwell said.

The 12 Mile project includes lowering the hill near Rollcrest three feet, as well as moving the traffic signal

See DETOURS, 2A

Schools to focus on safety

BY CASEY HANS
STAFF WRITER

Farmington school officials will focus more attention on chemical storage in classrooms, in light of a recent incident in which acid spilled in an O.E. Dunkel Middle School science room during summer cleaning.

Plans include more stringent inventory control and chemical ordering procedures, increased employee training and awareness, and a focus on middle school facilities. An administrative committee also has been formed to review the district's chemical plan.

"It's hard to believe something like this could happen with all that's been done," said building and student services director Don Cowan. "We have a lot of things in place right now — obviously, it didn't prohibit this from happening."

"Obviously, this (incident) would indicate there's some chinks in the armor."

The incident occurred the morning of July 21 at Dunkel as a summer maintenance crew was cleaning the building. As someone moved a cabinet to clean the area, a bottle containing acid tipped over and caused a vapor cloud and fumes.

The Farmington Hills Fire Department's Special Emergency Response Team was called to the scene to monitor health problems. Special equipment was used to encapsulate the acid. No one was injured in the incident and no students were in the building due to summer recess.

A discussion of the situation came at a Farmington school board safety committee meeting Aug. 4, where administrators involved with science education and safety issues appeared before the board to discuss the incident.

Vocational education director Earl Baumunk said the district began complying with federal Right to Know laws in February 1987, taking chemical inventories with outside consulting assistance, filling out appropriate infor-

See SAFETY, 8A

Resident decries smoking in schools

BY CASEY HANS
STAFF WRITER

A retired school principal has called on Farmington school officials to ban smoking in school buildings, claiming that smoke from staff lounges contaminates the entire building and sends "contradictory messages" to children.

Albert Zack, a Farmington Hills resi-

dent and member of the newly formed community group Advocates for Excellence in Education, read a prepared statement at the Aug. 4 board meeting stating that smoke is retained in the air, can be linked to childhood illnesses and that the presence of smoking lounges in schools gives students the belief that smoking is acceptable.

"Operating in a school setting, these lounges make smoking appear to be a normal, benign adult diversion," he said in his statement.

"Their presence understates to children the dangers of smoking and undermines the health curriculum lessons which are intended to discourage tobacco use."

Zack was a principal for 21 years in the Detroit and Livonia school districts, and has worked on anti-smoking efforts for more than 25 years, he said.

"I think people really expect schools to do the right thing," he said in a telephone interview this week. "They

See SMOKING, 4A

Day campers Olympics

The Olympics in Barcelona are over. But, hopefully, the Olympic spirit will shine on for some young YMCA day campers.

Many of the youngsters who participated in the YMCA day camps this summer will head for the Field House at the University of Michigan-Dearborn this Friday, Aug. 14, for the International Day Camp Olympics.

The event will start at 10 a.m. and closing ceremonies will be held at 2 p.m. Spectators are encouraged to attend.

The Farmington Area YMCA is one of 15 "Y" branches from around the Detroit area to field a team for the athletic events. Carol McMillan, program director at the local "Y" will guide Farmington's efforts.

Each of the participating YMCAs will prepare flags and banners for a designated country. Australia will be Farmington's country. Some other YMCA branches and their designated countries: Birmingham (Chi-

FARMINGTON FOCUS

na), Livonia (Egypt), Highland Park (Norway) and Northwest Detroit (Ghana).

The event is about more than just track and field events, organizers said.

"I'm excited about this because it's a chance for city and suburban kids to get together," said Lillian Bangarner, marketing director for the YMCA of Metropolitan Detroit. "We're trying to teach them about sportsmanship and fun."

Overeaters take note

A "step study workshop" sponsored by Overeaters Anonymous beginning with an 8:30 a.m. registration on Saturday, Aug. 15, at the Administration and Education Building on the grounds of Boisdorf Hospital, Grand River near Eight Mile, Farmington Hills.

The workshop ends at 3:30 p.m. Participants should bring a bag lunch. Cost is \$6 per person. Call Susie (851-2835) or Ellie (855-8878) for more information.

Memory Lane

From the Aug. 14, 1952, edition of the Farmington Enterprise:

• Longtime Farmington-area residents Mr. and Mrs. Harry N. McCracken celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary. Harry McCracken was the publisher and editor of the Farmington Enterprise from 1900-02. He served two years in the state legislature and then was an agricultural agent for Oakland County.

• The Farmington State Bank Tigers and the Farmington Dairy Yanks shared the Little League championship. The league's top three batters were: Yanks' Robert Utley (.440), Cards' Cliff Simons (.428) and Yanks' Dave Catherman (.418).