

IN THE PAPER

TODAY

Smoking mad: A resident across the street from Farmington High School is furious about students congregating in front of neighbors' homes./3A

Election day: Don't forget to vote in the Farmington Schools millage renewal election./3A

STREET SCENE

New look: It's a new year, so why not a new look? That's the case with Street Scene, which has reincarnated some old features and added new ones to give readers more music, more entertainment and just more of everything./4A

COUNTY NEWS

After the freeze: Will taxpayers rise up in anger as their tax bills reach their mailboxes?/10A.

TASTE

Chef's Secrets: Cake shop owner Mary Denning makes prize-winning cakes, melt-in-your-mouth sweets, and teaches pastry classes at Henry Ford Community College./1B

SPORTS

Wrestling duel: North Farmington won its first wrestling dual meet Thursday at the expense of crosstown rival Farmington./1C

Win streak: Harrison High won its third consecutive game Friday in boys basketball, 59-56 over host Northville./1C

CABLE TV WEEKLY

Local access: "Groove Session" will be presented on Channel 12. Check your cable guide for time and date.

The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers today begin an exciting electronic bulletin board program. ON-LINE will allow those with personal computers to engage in Multi-user Chats and Chat Conferences, download programs, call up community calendars, check out electronic magazines, respond to newspaper stories and editorials and receive a reply. A start-up software package is available for \$5.

FOR MORE INFORMATION
Call 953-2266

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Teaching veteran looks back



Making a stand: Lyman Warnock, recently retired from the Farmington Public Schools, displays some of the music stands he makes.

BY LARRY O'CONNOR
STAFF WRITER

After 30 years of teaching, Lyman Warnock's best accomplishments are measured in sawdust.

That's only because the pile of wood particles was usually at the feet of an eager student, whose woodworking project became a source of gleaming pride. Those are memories a shop teacher can never sweep away.

"I enjoyed working with the kids on the projects," said Warnock, 58, who taught 30 years at East Middle School. "Maybe he couldn't quite get his math or his English, but you could work him through a project, and it would be something he would be proud of."

Warnock retired in December.

TEACHER

Though his career shepherding gangling kids in safety goggles through woodworking, drafting and metal classes ended, the lathe still turns.

Warnock crafts ornate wooden music stands, which he says are more visually appealing than black metal ones.

The longtime teacher certainly has an insightful spin on education. He started in 1960, teaching wood shop and drafting at Lapeer High School.

Warnock arrived at East Middle School in 1963. He was one of the original 25 teachers at the new school.

When he started, a kid received a swat for being caught without safety glasses or running in the shop. "That went out in the '70s," Warnock said.

With the '70s came Vietnam and Watergate. Authority in the classroom was circumvented by a newfound defiance. The '80s brought technology.

Suddenly, working with wood and metal in industrial arts was replaced by computers and robotics with classes in technology. East Middle School was the first in the district to make the transition to a more technologically-based curriculum.

Warnock had to learn to use new tools.

See SAWDUST, 6A



Frank Lauhoff

New city manager faces full agenda

BY LARRY O'CONNOR
STAFF WRITER

He's just come on board as Farmington city manager. Frank Lauhoff has things to do.

On the list is the completion of the \$18-million Sewer Improvement Project. Then there's the upcoming budget and a downtown clock plaza proposal to work out.

And he's not even sworn in yet. That will take place tonight, Feb. 1, at 7 in the council chambers at city hall. The reception is open to the public.

Lauhoff takes the oath as the replacement for Robert Deadman, who leaves behind a 20-year legacy. And with it some pressure.

See MANAGER, 2A

Killer's restraint moves judge

BY BILL COULTART
STAFF WRITER

A convicted murderer's decision not to repeat the crime on a woman in Farmington Hills not only saved her life, but helped convince Judge Debra Tyner to recommend a prison sentence within the guidelines for attempted murder.

"I have struggled with this case, back and forth," Tyner said during Bernard Scarborough's sentencing Friday in Oakland County Circuit Court in Pontiac.

"Because you stopped your attack and because you've shown remorse and accepted responsibility for what you've done, after great consideration I'm going to stay with the (sentencing) guidelines. You've taken the first step."

Tyner sentenced Scarborough, who pleaded guilty Jan. 6 to attempted murder of a 24-year-old Royal Oak woman working at Cellular One in Farmington Hills, to 15-40 years with credit for 498 days served. Although that would allow Scarborough, of Detroit, to serve as few as eight years in prison for the murder attempt, he will likely be returned to Texas to serve more time for violating his parole for a similar incident that ended with the rape and murder of a college student.

For his part, Scarborough, 32, dressed in orange jail coveralls and handcuffed to other prisoners in the jury box, said he regretted hurting his victim, but also letting down his family.

"I'd like to apologize . . . especially to my father who has been sticking

with me from day one," he said.

Scarborough had served 10 years in a Texas prison for the rape and murder of a woman in 1980 that was similar to the incident in Farmington Hills in which he attacked the Cellular One employee in the women's bathroom while he was working for a company cleaning the building.

Scarborough had choked and cut the woman during the aborted attack of September of 1991. She did not suffer any permanent injuries and was in court for Friday's sentencing.

Oakland County assistant prosecutor Randy Secontine said the victim had agreed with the sentencing guidelines. Scarborough's attorney, Cornelius Pitts, said his client had gotten

See SENTENCING, 2A



Bernard Scarborough

Parents to fight violence

■ Citizens Against Violence is a new group in the Farmington area. Its members say they want to "create an awareness" of the violence they say has become a problem in schools throughout the area.

BY LARRY O'CONNOR
STAFF WRITER



Some Farmington-area parents have formed a group to answer the call against violence in schools.

Citizens Against Violence in the Schools will have its first public meeting 7-9 p.m. Monday, Feb. 8, at the Farmington Community Library. Allen Martin from Save Our Sons And Daughters will be the guest speaker. Also, an expert on closed head injuries is expected to attend.

"We just want to create an awareness," said Joanne LaFleur, whose son was injured after being punched by another student at Farmington High.

In the highly-publicized Dec. 8 incident, her son was in intensive care for two days with a concussion and other facial injuries after being punched in the hallway.

Since then, LaFleur's been outspoken in the schools' handling of such incidents. She is expected to file a lawsuit.

She decided to form the group after getting 40 calls from other concerned parents. One was from a mother, whose son's eye was bruised and swollen shut after a fight Jan. 8 at Farmington High.

A report was filed with Farmington Public Safety Department after the student was taken to Providence Hospital by his parents.

"I was mad," said the mother following the incident, who asked that her name not be used. "When you see your son like this, he couldn't open his eye. We worried about him losing his sight."

A group of 10 parents — all from the Farmington area — have met informally twice. Not all involved have had children in fights, though.

"I think violence is becoming a solution for children, and that concerns us," said Cath Lathers, whose daughter is a senior at Farmington High. "My child has not been a victim. I just care a lot about the kids who are out there, including my own."

See VIOLENCE, 6A

FARMINGTON FOCUS

Love that board

As anyone who attended the last meeting of the Farmington Board of Education knows, this is School Board Recognition Month.

Rene Chou, a junior at North Farmington High School, read a tribute to the Farmington board members, and Superintendent Michael Flanagan presented plaques to six of the seven. Trustee Helen Prutnow was absent.

Trustees also wore corsages provided by parents.

Fashion folks take note

If you're hosting a spring fashion show March 25 or later, the newspaper would like to hear from you.

Memory Lane

From the Feb. 6, 1953 edition of the Farmington Enterprise:

- Work was to begin in spring on the widening and resurfacing of Orchard Lake Road between 11 Mile and 14 Mile roads, the Oakland County Road Commission announced.
- The Farmington High PTA launched a campaign to raise \$3,000 to purchase new band uniforms.
- The Enterprise newspaper could be home delivered in the Farmington area for \$2.50 a year.
- Vlastic butter was advertised at 71 cents a pound at Conroy's Market in Farmington.
- Items for Farmington Focus may be mailed to the Farmington Observer, 21898 Farmington Road, Farmington 48336, or dropped off at the newspaper office.