

## INKWELL

inkwell provides information about education issues and people in the Farmington area. Mail information to: Inkwell, The Farmington Observer, 21898 Farmington Road, Farmington 48336 or send information via fax to 477-9722. Please include a daytime phone number on your news release. Items will not be taken over the phone.

## ★ STELLAR SPELLER

Nicole Martin of O.E. Dunckel Middle School will be one of the state's top 35 spellers to compete March 30 in the Lawrence Tech/Detroit News Spelling Bee. The winner goes on to the Scripps Howard National Spelling Bee in Washington, D.C. The students were pared down from a field of challengers representing 850 schools in Michigan. Public and private schools will be represented in the competition, which begins at 9 a.m.

## ★ BEE SMART

Senior Jeff Gell and junior Jeff Kessler, both of Farmington Hills, were among the Detroit Country Day students who swept all three prizes at the Oakland County Citizen Bee March 10 at Oakland Schools. Gell won first

place and a \$500 savings bond and Kessler took second place and received a \$200 savings bond. Gell and Kessler will represent Oakland County in the state competition in April. Some 36 high school students from 12 Oakland County schools participated in this year's bee. Students are tested on knowledge of U.S. history, geography, economics, U.S. government and current events through a series of oral and written questions.

## ★ SPEAKING FOR TOMORROW

Fourth-graders Lacey Falkey of St. Paul Lutheran and Lindsey Mergener of Gill Elementary, and fifth-grader Patricia Herndon of St. Paul Lutheran, were semi-finalists in the "When I Grow Up" speech contest March 16 at Royal Oak Dendore. The contest is sponsored by McDonald's and encourages children to stay in school and set goals by asking students to give an oral presentation on their career aspirations and how they intend to achieve them. More than 100,000 students participated in this year's contest.

## ★ DAS GOOD

The students in levels II, III and IV German took the Ameri-

can Association of Teachers of German National Achievement Test in January. Outstanding scores were achieved by students at all three high schools. Andy Wayne, Jenny Smith and Ben Goebel of Farmington High and Ryan McKelly of North Farmington qualified to compete for a four-week trip to Germany this summer. Also, six Farmington High students went to Ann Arbor March 12 for the annual University of Michigan German Day Competition. Wayne won first place in speaking. Jenny Smith received an honorable mention in singing and the team of Andy Wayne, Sarah Green, Carrie Owen, Ben Goebel, Jenny Smith and Jonas Wahlén won third place in the TV commercial category.

## ★ MAKE NOTE

Farmington High School Symphony Band, under the direction of Norman Logan, earned a first-division rating at the District 4 Michigan Band and Orchestra Association annual High School Bands and Middle School Orchestra Festival March 6-7. The Farmington High School Orchestra received a second-division rating at the festival held at North Farmington High.

## MILITARY NEWS

If you have military news with a Farmington-area connection, send it to: Military News, Farmington Observer, 21898 Farmington Road, Farmington, 48336.

## ★ REPORTS FOR DUTY

Navy Fire Controlman Chief Petty Officer Stephan R. Rutkowski of Farmington Hills reported for duty at the Rear Adm. Wayne E. Meyer AEGIS Education Center

in Dahlgren, Vir. Rutkowski is a 1980 graduate of Farmington High School. He entered the Navy in 1982. He is married to the former Christine Rondeau of Livonia.

## ★ COMMANDANT'S LIST

Air Force Cadet Mark S. Mitchell of Farmington was placed on the Commandant's List for military excellence with a 3.0 or better military performance at the end of

the semester. He is a 1990 graduate of Farmington High School.

## ★ COMMISSIONED

Christopher Regan of Farmington Hills has been commissioned a second lieutenant in the U.S. Air Force upon graduation from Officer Training School. He is a 1981 graduate of Farmington High School and a 1992 graduate of Chapman University, Colorado Springs, Colo.

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