

Farmingington Observer

VOLUME 104 NUMBER 68

MONDAY, APRIL 19, 1993 • FARMINGTON, MICHIGAN • 52 PAGES

FIFTY CENTS

© 1993 Suburban Communications Corporation

IN THE PAPER

TODAY

What's in store?: The owner of a former downtown Farmington store gives her opinion on doing business there./2A

Cop calls: The Farmington area's police and fire departments had a busy last few days./8A

COUNTY NEWS

Swinging along: The county's central services director has a reputation as a good golfer and for being in the right place at the right time./5A

MALLS & MAINSTREETS

Retalling, '90s-style: Somerset Collection developer Nathan Forbes gives his view of where shopping centers go from here./6A

OPINION

A beast's prey: World travelers find economic challenges along the trail. Don your armor and read Sandra Armbruster's Point of View./10A

TASTE

Quick salads: Toss up a delicious, crunchy salad in seconds with pre-cut salad mixes and vegetables./1B

STREET SCENE



Good mix: He does more spins than a Waring blender and twirls and whirls like a dervish... all for the sake of a mixed drink. Dan Kotwiczki's show explains why he's rated the best bartender in the metro area./5B

SPORTS

Softball preview: Harrison High has a lot of young players on its team, but the Hawks expect to be competitive nonetheless./1C

CABLE TV WEEKLY

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

INDEX

Classifieds B-D	On the Agenda 11A
Auto B-D	Opinion 10A
Employment C,D	Personal Scene 7B
Index 3C	Police, fire calls 8A
Real estate C	Sports 1C
Crossword puzzle 4C	Street Scene 5B
Mailbox 6A	Taste 1B
Obits 4A	

HERE'S HOW TO REACH US

Newsroom: 477-5450
 Newsroom Fax: 477-9722
 Sports: 593-2141
 Reader Comment Line: 953-2042
 Classified Advertising: 591-2900
 Display Advertising: 591-2300
 Home Delivery: 591-0500
 Cable/TV Weekly: 478-5160

Exchange student needs a home



Marc Moskofian is a French foreign-exchange student in need of a host family if he wants to graduate from Farmington Harrison High School in June.

BY LARRY O'CONNOR
STAFF WRITER

Exchange student Marc Moskofian came from France to learn about American culture. He might be finding out about homelessness.

Moskofian's not living in the streets. At the moment, he's temporarily staying with a fellow French exchange student at a home in Livonia.

The Farmington Hills Harrison senior needs a host family, though, so he can finish his senior year. His agency's local coordinator is frantic.

"Sending him back to France is not an option," said Lynne Levenbach, who works with Academic Year in America.

Moskofian's dilemma arose during Easter break when he had to leave the

home where he was staying. The father of the Farmington Hills family had an unexpected job change, which required him to travel frequently.

Also the mother, who worked part time when Moskofian arrived, is now working full-time. The situation became untenable.

"There was a lot of tension," said Moskofian, 18, who is from St. Genis Pouilly, France, which is near Geneva, Switzerland. "She told me the situation clearly."

The family was the second Moskofian's been with since arriving in August. He lived in another Farming-

ton area home for two months.

Levenbach said he was moved in November after she found out he was being used as a baby-sitter.

His second host family has been very helpful. Especially when he found himself on academic probation during the fall semester. He's now earning A's and B's, crediting the mother and her son for helping him to catch up.

He seems unaffected by the shuttling.

See STUDENT, 9A

House comes to them

BY BILL COUTANT
STAFF WRITER

Wayne and Cindy Elliott are moving into a new house.

Well, the newlyweds are moving into a different house, but it was built in 1929. And instead of them going to where the house is, it's coming to where they are, or at least where their property is.

"We had the lot and we were going to build our own home," said Wayne Elliott, a builder and specialist in restorations. "Then Bernie Ludwig of the historical commission asked if we were interested in this house."

Despite its vintage, the cost of moving the structure, and the red tape of going through several agencies, to get the permission, the Elliotts have decided, with the blessing of the First Presbyterian Church of Farmington Hills, that the Kirby White House is what they want in a home.

The house does not qualify as historical because of its vintage (85 years), but rather, because it was designed by architect Marcus Burrows for executive K.B. White as a country estate. Burrows is famous for his work, which includes the Dearborn City Hall.

The church, on the corner of 11 Mile and Farmington Road, wanted to expand, but could not because of the house. After even considering demolishing the 5,000 square foot structure, the church with help from the historical commission, looked for a suitable person who would appreciate and preserve the house's special qualities — on a different plot of land.

The Elliotts, and their vacant land on 10 Mile and Farmington Road, fit the bill.

"My first thought was that Wayne does this all the time," Cindy Elliott said.

See HOUSE, 3A



Making ready: Builder Wayne Elliott stands in the doorway of an upstairs bathroom of the historic Kirby White House that is being prepared to be moved a mile south to 10 Mile and Farmington roads.

SHAWN LAMMERS/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

DDA gets down to business with downtown plan

BY LARRY O'CONNOR
STAFF WRITER

Bricks and concrete are only part of the puzzle, according to the Farmington Downtown Development Authority.

Down towns also have to get down to the business of marketing themselves.

That's the basis of an amended development plan, which the DDA

board approved at its April 6 meeting. The plan will be presented to the Farmington City Council tonight. The council in turn submits it to the Farmington School Board and Oakland County Board of Commissioners.

A public hearing will also take place before the council acts on the plan.

More money from the DDA's bud-

get will be directed to business development and promotional marketing programs, helping stimulate a mix of a retail and service business district. Streetscape improvements will continue under the plan.

"(The plan) represents a maturing of the DDA," said assistant city manager Robert Schultz. "It represents the general recognition of the factor that what makes a downtown func-

tion is more than what you build. It's people oriented."

Included in the amended plan is improved marketing of the shopping area, informational kiosks, and additional landscaping.

Also, a Facade Lending Program will be started, allowing building owners to borrow money at a low cost

See DOWNTOWN, 2A

'Auction Extravaganza'

The third-annual "Auction Extravaganza," a benefit sponsored by The Women of North Farmington, will be at 7 p.m. Saturday, April 24, in the club house of the Mulwood Apartments, 35055 Mulwood Drive, Farmington Hills.

Proceeds from this annual event have benefited community programs, including the Farmington Hills Meals on Wheels. The Women of North Farmington's donation of \$4,500 has helped buy a new steam table and insulated meal carriers for the delivery of meals to homebound senior citizens.

The club has also contributed \$4,500 to the Farmington Area Advisory Council for audio-visual equipment and materials used in the council's substance abuse program.

FARMINGTON FOCUS

'Without Consent'

The Southwestern Oakland Cable Commission will present a live call-in show on rape prevention — "Without Consent" — at 8 p.m. Wednesday, April 28, on MetroVision's Channel 12.

The program will offer no-nonsense advice on how women can protect themselves if they are attacked. Ann Thompson of WDIV-TV will moderate the show. Jeff and Connie Duncan, trained in self-defense, will demonstrate simple moves to fend off would-be attackers.

Joyce Wright, a representative from Haven, an Oakland County shelter for abused women, will

provide guidance on how to deal with the emotional and psychological aspects of assault.

Survivors of rape will tell their stories. TV viewers may participate in the show by calling 473-7265.

Memory Lane

From the April 23, 1953 issue of the Farmington Enterprise:

■ Pat Killeen pitched a four-hitter as Clarencerville beat Farmington High, 9-4, in the 1953 baseball opener for both schools. Farmington's Fred Leach was the starting and losing pitcher.

■ Sirloin steak could be bought for 69 cents a pound and a three-pound can of Crisco cost 89 cents at Zehenders Market on Grand River in Farmington.