



## IN THE PAPER TODAY

**'If walls could talk':** The author of a new book about famous old homes in the Farmington area takes a special approach to local history. /3A

**Any good gardens?:** The Farmington Garden Club could use some help in locating good-looking gardens in the Farmington area. /6A

## COUNTY NEWS

**Unusual day camp:** Children growing up in families where alcoholism is present get a chance to learn how to cope. /10A

**Suburban scourge:** Gypsy moth caterpillars in their environment - a Rochester Hills city park - are spotlighted. And in *Creative Living*, a three-part series concludes today. /7A,1D

## OPINION

**Future festivals:** Let's not forget the founders in the upcoming Farmington Founders Festival. /14A

## SPORTS

**Summer baseball:** After a fast start, the Farmington American Legion team hit a three-game skid at the start of the week. /1B

## ENTERTAINMENT



**Animated classic:** A special reissue of Walt Disney's "Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs," featuring never-before-released material from music archives, opens Friday, July 2. /6B

## SUBURBAN LIFE

**Fun for kids:** Youngsters don't have to go far to find entertaining things to do this summer, in their own communities or nearby. /1C

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# Family group aims to fill gaps



By BILL COUTANT  
STAFF WRITER

It doesn't have a stated mission or a formal structure, but the Farmington Hills Unmet Needs of Children and Families Committee is working to help families take advantage of

more than 100 local service organizations.

The committee, which includes representatives from the city, schools, library and several service organizations, is trying to become a clearinghouse for information on all kinds of

services to benefit families. Mayor Nancy Bates said she hoped the committee could help find ways to make family life more fun, and committee members agreed that setting up a workshop in September to give public exposure to organizations in the community would be a good start.

"We don't want to duplicate anything," Bates told committee members at a recent meeting. "But I still feel we have some holes." The committee already has some

resources, thanks to the Council of Community Resources, which has put together information on several community groups.

The council also will sponsor a workshop Aug. 19 on volunteerism. That workshop will focus on how to recruit, train and keep volunteers.

The committee wants to shorten its name and use speakers, such as sports figures, to publicize ways to improve family life.

See FAMILY, 6A

## Stars in the Park



SHARON LEMIEUX/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Crowd hears jazz band: Stan Mazur of West Bloomfield relaxes to the sounds of the Farmington Community Jazz Band with his three grandsons, (from left) Christopher Mazur, Sam Hurt and David Mazur. About 400 attended the recent Stars in the Park concert. "It's the biggest crowd I've seen in Heritage Park," said R. Paul Barber, band director.

# Council chews the fat on meal expenses

By LARRY O'CONNOR  
STAFF WRITER

In politics, there are no free lunches. That's why one Farmington council member suggests they should

look into drawing up a specific policy on getting reimbursed for them and other expenses.

There's no written policy at the moment on repayment of out-of-pocket

costs to council members in Farmington. Councilman Richard Tupper thinks there should be.

A study session has been set up for sometime in September.

"I think we've got to put things into perspective, number one," said Tupper at the June 21 council meeting.

See EXPENSES, 6A

# Retests help Clarenceville students tame MEAP

By MARIE CHESTNEY  
STAFF WRITER

Extra tutoring and retests have whittled away at the number of Clarenceville High students ineligible next year for a state-endorsed diploma.

Fourteen members of the Class of '94 still have not yet passed either the math, reading or science parts of the 1992 Michigan Education Assessment Program (MEAP) exams, said Clarenceville High principal David Simowaki.

But that number is considerably less than the number of 11th graders who initially failed at least one of the three tests and stood in danger of not getting the certification.

Clarenceville's 1992 scores were so low Superintendent David Kamish called them embarrassing and unacceptable. Kamish and the school board made beefing up the curriculum Clarenceville's number-one priority. The "beefing up" included voluntary after-school tutoring, retests and meetings with parents to stress the importance of the tests to their child's future.

"I'm not dancing on the rooftops but I am encouraged by the results" of the retests, said Simowaki.

In 1994 the state will require that graduates earn passing scores on all three MEAP tests to earn a diploma officially endorsed by the state.

Ten of the 25 11th graders retested in math have passed the retest. That means 15 11th graders still must pass the math test in their senior year to get their diploma state-certified.

Seven of the 14 11th graders retested in reading have passed the retest. That means seven 11th graders still must pass the reading test. As seniors, the 11th graders will get two more chances to pass the tests.

Ten of the 14 11th graders retested in science have passed the retest. That means four 11th graders still must pass the science test to get state certification.

There are about 35 10th graders — the Class of '95 — who still need to pass at least one of the three tests,

Simowaki said. Clarenceville's students, Simowaki said, now know how important the tests have become to their future.

Kamish said he is pleased with the progress students have made in passing the tests. "The test is now worth something and requires thought and consideration."

Clarenceville's goal is to have every student graduate with an endorsed diploma. The endorsement might become a measuring stick used by colleges and employers.

The stakes jump even higher for the Class of 1997. That year, graduates won't get a high school diploma at all unless they receive passing scores on the three MEAP tests.

## Another lightning strike

They say that lightning never strikes the same place twice. They're wrong!

Just ask Alex Baran, who lives on Highway in northern Farmington Hills. He has another hole in his roof to prove them wrong.

Baran, who describes himself as a "semi-retired" Catholic bishop, was watching workmen repair a hole in his roof, which he says was struck by lightning during Monday's thunderstorm. Last Sept. 6, lightning struck the south side of his roof.

"Maybe the Lord is trying to send me a signal," said the 77-year-old Baran. "He's taking real good care of me, though."

No fire resulted and no one was injured in either lightning strike.

## FARMINGTON FOCUS

### Festival raffle

If you're thinking about the upcoming Farmington Founders Festival, starting thinking also of the Festival Fantasy Car Raffle.

That's the advice of the Farmington/Farmington Hills Chamber of Commerce, which sponsors the annual festival and uses the raffle to help pay for it.

As in past years, first place in the raffle is a new Corvette or \$30,000. There are lesser prizes totaling \$2,500. Tickets cost \$100 each, and only about 1,000 are sold. The drawing is scheduled for Saturday, July 17.

Tickets are available at the Chamber of Commerce office, 22411 Grand River, Farmington. Call 474-3440.

### Calling all kids

The Farmington Downtown Development Authority's summer program for youngsters continues Wednesday, July 7, under the tent on Grand River east of Farmington Road with a swap-and-sell meet just for kids.

Items like books and games may be sold or traded, and participants must be 15 years of age or younger. Pre-registration (473-7278) is required.

As part of the DDA program, children's meetings will be shown at the Civic Theater on Grand River most Wednesdays. Call the DDA (473-7278) or the Civic (474-1951) for more information.