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THE WEEK AHEAD

MONDAY

Meet: The Farmington Hills City Council will meet for a study session at 6 p.m. and a regular meeting at 7:30 p.m. in council chamber, 31555 11 Mile.

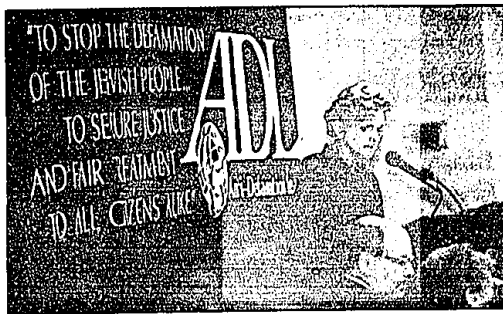
TUESDAY

You're Invited: The Farmington Hills Council of Homeowners Association will meet at 7 p.m. beginning with socializing, followed by a meeting at 7:30 p.m. The meeting will be in the basement conference room of the Farmington Hills Library on 12 Mile Road.

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Granholm: Racists delight in web



STAFF PHOTO BY BILL BREKLER

Passionate argument: Michigan's Attorney General Jennifer Granholm addressed the Anti-Defamation League.

Michigan Attorney General Jennifer Granholm was in Farmington Hills to speak to the Michigan Anti-Defamation League about those who use the web to promote racist and anti-semitic views. Technology isn't necessarily the answer to ridding the web of such views, she said.

BY LARRY O'CONNOR
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What could be isolated is now amplified through technology like the Internet, said state attorney Jennifer Granholm.

Those who spew racist and anti-semitic views maneuver freely on the web.

But the answer to such hate is not always found in modern gadgetry, but in love, Granholm said.

Granholm spoke at the Michigan Anti-Defamation League's annual meeting Thursday at Fusion Restaurant in Farmington Hills. The ADL is a civil rights organization, which monitors and fights anti-Semitism.

Granholm, with the passion of a courtroom closing argument, cited Jewish scripture to underscore her message of what she termed "extraordinary times."

"She's a very dynamic woman," said Farmington Mayor Mary Bush, who attended along with other city officials. "She delivered a message that can't be heard enough."

In the past year, a man shot children at a Los Angeles Jewish community center, another killed basketball coach Ricky Byrdson and wounded others in a racially motivated attack and three synagogues were burned in California.

Michigan ADL has been working with the FBI, ATF and area police

Please see ADL, A4

MEAP: Focus is science

BY TIM SMITH
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Encouraging, but flawed, is how at least one Farmington schools official views the district's latest round of Michigan Educational Assessment Program test results.

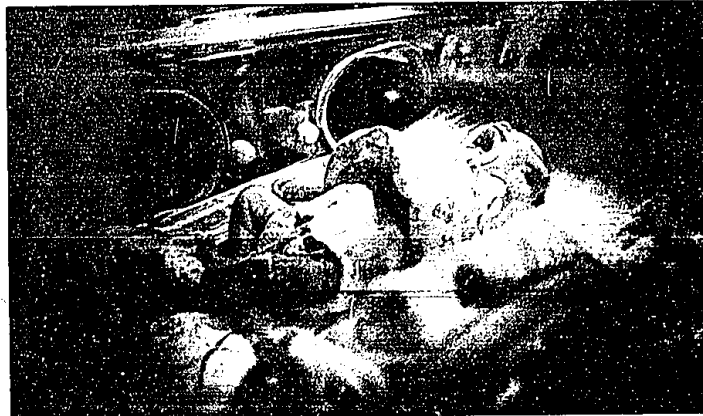
Barbara Cherem, director of evaluative assessment, reported on the winter 1998-99 MEAP scores during a recent Farmington Board of Education meeting.

"I think the growth in reading and math are both encouraging," Cherem said. "I don't see anything to apologize for in reading and math. And writing actually is holding its own ... So the area we need to focus on is eighth-grade science."

But Cherem stressed that science performance wasn't poor, just a little off the mark. According to the board report, 69 eighth graders missed attaining the proficient category in science by one or two questions.

Please see MEAP, A5

Special care



STAFF PHOTO BY BRYAN MITCHELL

Early riser: A premature baby in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit at Mott Children's Hospital in Ann Arbor yawns following an early evening nap. The baby is pictured in its isolette, a warming bed that provides extra heat to the premie. Please turn to page B4 for a special story and photographs of two area NICU units.

Teachers return to classrooms

BY LARRY O'CONNOR
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When Franco Iaderosa returned to Chadsey High Thursday, his students had questions and the math teacher supplied answers.

Instead of numerical problems, the teens peppered the Detroit teacher with queries

DETROIT SCHOOLS

about the strike.

The Farmington Hills resident returned to work with Detroit teachers after walking out Aug. 30. Teachers agreed to go back while waiting the results of a mail-in vote on a tentative contract.

"The students were pretty positive," said Iaderosa, who grew up in Detroit and has taught there 21 years. "They wanted to know why we went out and what the issues were."

A couple students asked Iaderosa about the state law, which prohibits teachers from striking.

School districts have the authority to invoke the law and fine teachers. Detroit Superintendent David Adamany had not done that as of Thursday.

"They (students) also understand in order to change a law that you think is unjust, you have to challenge that law," Iaderosa said.

Another Farmington Hills resident who teaches in Detroit is glad to be back, but thinks the contract is far from settled. Results of the mail-in vote won't be known for two weeks, reports say.

"I still see this as potentially ongoing," said Neda Patton, who is a first-grade specialist teacher at the Woodward School.

"I'm glad we made the decision to go back into the classroom because it doesn't make

Please see TEACHERS, A5



STAFF PHOTO BY BRYAN MITCHELL

Discussion: Judge Marla Parker, Steve Hodkinson and Tyrone Chris Tartt are members of the Farmington Hills-Farmington Community Foundation for Children, Youth and Families.

Cornucopia

*New approach is sought
for fund-raiser*

BY TIM SMITH
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More businesses and families in Farmington Hills and Farmington are being courted to be at the ball than ever before.

Or, to at least chip in with tax-deductible donations, auction items or, if nothing else, moral support.

That so-called "whole new approach" to the annual Cornucopia Ball extravaganza is being welcomed by the board of trustees of the Farmington Hills/

Farmington Community Foundation for Children, Youth and Families. The board met Friday morning at Botsford General Hospital's administrative building to discuss fund-raising and publicity efforts for the event.

The fifth annual dinner-dance is scheduled for Friday, Nov. 12, at Glen Oaks Country Club. Efforts are under way to include a wider range of businesses and families in the fund-raiser.

To that end, a letter written by Todd Lips, director of youth and family pro-

Please see BALL, A5

Incumbent says compromise is a lesson learned

BY LARRY O'CONNOR
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It doesn't take much to wind up Vicki Barnett. Just pick a topic.

Be it the bike helmet ordinance, a pending state bill seen as an infringement on home rule or even Y2K, the Farmington Hills City Council woman

starts talking.

Supporters would say Barnett is passionate. Some might see her as unrelenting.

Barnett's council colleagues, who don't always share her views, respect her. She is seeking a second four-year term on the city council in the Nov. 2 election.

"I think they put stuff on the agendas to get me going," said Barnett, who lives in Lincolnshire Estates.

"Despite the fact they tease me, I think they tease me because they like me."

A testament of that came during a contentious vote earlier this year.

The council needed to appoint a replacement to serve Terry Sever's unexpired term when he was elected to the Oakland County Commission.

A stalemate ensued. Council members broke into two camps: one supporting planning commissioner Barry Brickner - who intended to run for election - and former councilwoman Jody Soronen, who didn't



STAFF PHOTO BY BILL BREKLER

Incumbent Vicki Barnett

want to run.

Barnett sided with Mayor Aldo Vagnozzi and Councilwoman Cheryl Oliverio in supporting Brickner. Council members Jon Grant, Nancy Bates and Jerry Ellis backed Soronen.

After several deadlocks, which eventually saw Oliverio switch support to Soronen, Barnett refused to make the final ballot unanimous. Her anger was barely containable.

Those hard feelings, which would permanently scar most public bod-

Please see BARNETT, A4

