

# Motor from page A4

Bledsoe understands why people often take commercial vehicles for granted. As motorists pass them on the highway, he said, they don't really get a sense of proportion.

"I'd like to see citizens stand alongside one of those enormous trucks and then tell me you don't want us to check the safety equipment and make sure the proper people are driving," he said. "Stop and really take a look at them. They're enormous."

land), chairman of the Transportation and Tourism Committee in the state Senate, told Hills council members Monday he had slowed the process of the six bills, which had been on track to reach the governor's desk by the end of 1999. One concern has been alleged abuses in other communities where truckers have complained of multiple violations issued for the same infraction in one day.

"Are there abuses by municipalities in motor carrier enforce-

## MOTOR CARRIER PROGRAM

ment? I've heard that is true," he said. "If there is, what's the remedy?"

Mayor Bates could only attest to her own experience.

"I don't know if there are abuses in other communities, but

there aren't any here," she stated. "If there are abuses, why do you punish everyone? It's fixing something that isn't broken."

Bates also referred to a continuing assault on "home rule," or a city's power to govern itself, as well as the general fund budget. Local officials have also joined a lawsuit filed this week to block a change in utility personal property tax calculations that would cost Farmington Hills an estimated \$117,000.

"It just can't go on," she said.

Bullard said he isn't a fan of telling communities how to spend their money, but he wouldn't agree to just leave all of it alone, as suggested by council member Jerry Ellis.

"We need to identify where the problems are," Bullard said, promising the bills would be given "careful consideration."

He urged officials to participate in hearings on the bills, which will begin in late January or the first week in February.

**LIBRARY**  
Books in Demand

Pat's recent 6-week book the Farmington Community Library provides the Observer with their list of books. Based on requests for titles by these authors. The books are available by placing a request with the Hills library 563-0300 or the downtown Farmington library at 474-1176.

**MOT PITS**

- **Moose**, Jonathan Kellerman
- **Saving Private Ryan**, Steven Spielberg
- **Atlanta Fused**, Clay Cussler
- **Tales**, Michael Crichton
- **Personal Injuries**, Scott Turow
- **The Lion's Game**, Nelson DeMille
- **The Attorney**, Steve Martini
- **Void Moon**, Michael Connelly
- **Porfano's Rocks**, Anita Shriver
- **Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone**, J.K. Rowling
- **Soft Focus**, Jayne Ann Krentz
- **Last Dance**, Ed McBain
- **The Brothers**, John Grisham
- **Irresistible Forces**, Danielle Steel
- **Shunting Back**, Tony Hillerman

## Battle of the Books begins

January, 2000, is more than the beginning of a new century, it's the beginning of the four-month middle school Battle of the Books competition.

The young adult librarians from the two branches of the Farmington Community Library visit the schools during January to introduce the program and the 10 selected titles to students.

Teams of four, five or six students, in grades 6-8 will read the titles and then compete with other teams by answering questions based on the books.

Because of the success of the program and the number of teams, semi-final rounds will be held simultaneously in all participating Farmington Public Schools on Wednesday, April 12.

The 60 top-scoring teams will be invited to the final round at the William Gostick Activities Center on Wednesday evening, May 3.

The Battle of the Books is designed to encourage reading and to give recognition to those who like to read.

For additional information, call Peggy Schmidt, director of media services, at (248) 489-3414.

## CHAMBER NOTES

The Farmington/Farmington Hills Chamber of Commerce will host an After Hours Business Connection 6:30-7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 2 at Legato full-service salon in downtown

## FEB. 2

Farmington. Salon professionals from Legato will be on hand to offer clinics for men and women. Eight clinics will be offered throughout the evening including nails/hand care, make-up, facials/skin care, highlighting, hair color, cutting, products and special occasion hair. A numerologist will also be available to offer readings for guests in attendance. This is an excellent opportunity for business professionals to educate themselves on the latest advances in hair and skin treatment while increasing business clients through networking opportunities.

The cost to attend is \$10 for those who confirm reservations with payment by Wednesday, Jan. 26; the cost is \$15 per person thereafter. Reservations may be made by contacting the Farmington/Farmington Hills Chamber of Commerce at 474-3440, ext. 21, or by visiting the Chamber's website at [www.fhchamber.com](http://www.fhchamber.com)

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