



Here's how: Farmington Observer Editor Joanne Maliszewski (seated) and staff writer Tim Smith (standing, third from right) show the Cub Scouts how we use computers to put out the newspaper twice a week.

Visiting Cub Scouts stop by Observer

Longacre Elementary School Cub Scouts Monday visited the Farmington Observer office to learn about journalism.

The visit by Longacre's Pack 45-Den 1 gave Cub Scouts an opportunity to learn about communication and about how a newspaper covers an historical event, said den leader Annlee Morrison.

She added that the visit was for the Cub Scouts to earn the "Bear" ranking.

Cub Scouts making the visit were Morrison's son, Graham, Michael Danielson, Michael Ferriss, Chris Gossman, William Morrison (unrelated to Graham), Matthew Mosakowski and Ben Schoener. All of the boys are age 8.

Please turn to page A16 to see what the scouts said for our Community Voice.

Parent helpers Todd Danielson, Andrea Ferriss, Mary Gossman and Marty Mosakowski also were on hand for the visit.

Observer editor Joanne Maliszewski and staff members Bill Bresler, Joni Hubred, Katie McManus and Tim Smith showed the youngsters different aspects of their jobs. Those included: how pages are printed; how pages are designed; how page design on computer works and deadlines for stories and photographs.

Two new officers join Hills

By JONI HUBRED
STAFF WRITER
jhubred@oe.homeschool.net

Farmington Hills police welcomed two new officers recently, graduates of a cadet program that provides future officers with hands-on training.

"It's always a pleasure to have new officers who are bright and educated," Hills Police Chief Bill Dwyer said at the promotion ceremony Dec. 30. "They're prepared to meet new challenges."

One cadet faced a life and death challenge even before his promotion.

Last summer, Craig Dersa came upon the scene of a high-way traffic accident, which had trapped a woman inside her car. The victim was conscious, but couldn't roll down her window. "That's when the car started on fire," Dersa said. "I can't even tell you how, but somehow I ripped the door open."

After lifting the woman out of the car, he carried her to safety. Assigned to the Patrol Division Command Desk, Dersa hasn't faced that level of high drama on the job... yet. After he graduates from Schoolcraft Police Academy in May, he'll start the department's field training program and begin a probationary period.

A third generation police officer, Dersa said he hasn't decided which aspect of police work appeals to him most.

"I'm going to want to work the road," he said. "I also want to get into investigations."

Cadet Michael Platt has always wanted to get into police work, but didn't make a final decision until his first year of college. He worked his way through Oakland Police Academy and was contacted about taking the test for the Hills cadet program.

He has nothing but high praise for the training he received.

"We're learning as we go," Platt said. "I'm getting a better understanding of what's involved in the job."

Platt joined the department in July of 1998. He attended St. Mary's University in Minnesota and Henry Ford Community College. Dersa, who attended both Madonna University and Henry Ford Community College, started at Schoolcraft this month.

AGENDA

City of Farmington Hills
Planning Commission
Public Hearing
Council Chambers
7:30 p.m. Jan. 20

■ Reapproval - Special Approval
Location - 32905 Northwest Highway

Request - Reapproval for temporary outdoor plant/flowers retail sales site in RA-4, one-family residential district, B-3, general business district, and P-1, vehicular parking district

Proponent - Ramond Hesano (Ray's Plants & Flowers)
Owner - Thomas Langan

■ Rezoning Request
Location - North side of 12 Mile Road, east side of Halsted Road.

Request - Rezone from RA-1, single-family residential district to OS-1 office service district.

Proponent - Robert D. Wine-man, Etkin Equities, L.L.C.
Owner - Thomas Langan

■ Rezoning Request
Location - 30130 Grand River Avenue (Historic district site 0314)

Request - Rezone from RP-2, planned residential district to RC-2, multiple family residential district.

Proponent - Fritts Fransted, Bestak Company
Owner - Mornington Associates, Ltd. Partnership.

Drop off cards

For the ninth consecutive year, residents of Farmington and Farmington Hills can drop off their holiday greeting cards (fronts only) through Friday, Jan. 21 at five locations. Look for the drop boxes at Farmington and Farmington Hills city halls, both branches of the library, and the Farmington Hills Department of Public Works building on Halsted Road.

Made In Heaven.



When you've found the right partner, you just know it. That's why St. John Health System and Providence Hospital and Medical Centers have joined together to care for you for life.

The power of this merger is even greater than we had imagined. In all the ways that matter to our patients, we've taken a vow to stay just the way we are - close to home, familiar, compassionate. And in all the ways that matter to insurers and business partners, we will make the most of our new opportunities to share resources.

Our new strength is yours to the most important place - your hospital - for all your health care needs. And our commitment to lower costs through our partnership. Using the expertise that comes with experience.

- 1,500 open heart surgeries annually
- 10,000 babies born each year
- 5,200 new cancer cases each year
- A staff of 2,500 doctors at 14 hospitals and 175 medical centers

Together, the doctors, hospitals and medical centers of St. John and Providence will continue to offer superior cancer care, open heart surgery, home-like birthing centers and more to care for you - in sickness and in health.

For more information, call 248-1234.

St. John and Providence are committed to your health. God bless you and your family.

