

THE WEEK AHEAD

THURSDAY

Founders Fest kicks off: Festivities for this year's Farmington Area Founders Festival begin Thursday with food vendors, rides, local merchants displays, commercial booths, a craft show and artists, in the Downtown Farmington Center Parking lot (Grand River and Farmington Roads), beginning at 9 a.m. Art on the Grand opens at the same time in Memorial Park, on Grand River just west of Farmington Road.

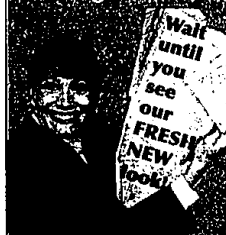
Kids Day in the Park: Sponsored by Farmington Hills Special Services Department, this year's events include pony rides, a small petting zoo, children's rides, face painting, small train rides, police/fire department displays. Stage acts will begin at noon on Thursday with balloon animal expert, Professor Balloono. The event is held at Shiawassee Park, located just off Shiawassee and Power Roads in Farmington.

Stage acts: Thursday's Founders Festival stage act schedules are as follows: Varsity Automotive Group Main Stage/5:30 p.m.-Barbara Hatch School of Dance, 7 p.m.-Farmington Community Band, 8 p.m.-Farmington Community Chorus; Art on the Grand Stage/6 p.m.-Jeremy Kittel, 2000 U.S. National Scottish Fiddle Champion; Founders Cafe (Ox Roast Tent)/8-11 p.m.-Scoot Magoo.

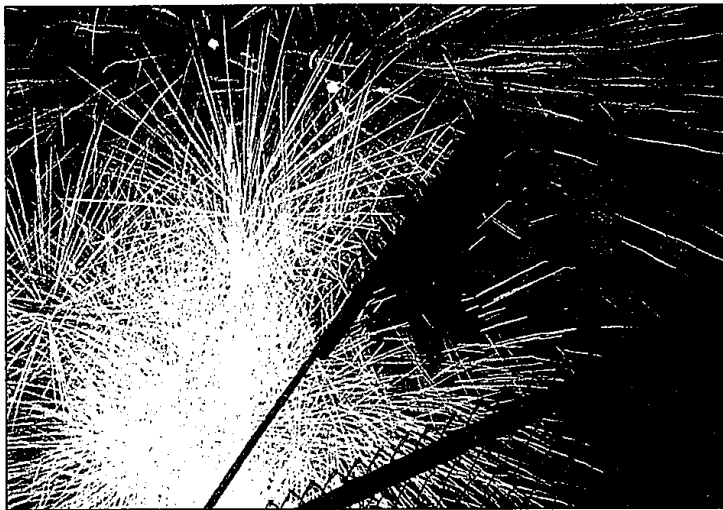
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Coming July 18th!



Still a 'Grand Old Flag'



STAFF PHOTOS BY KATY BATHORY

Old Glory: The Farmington Fourth of July celebration and fireworks were held at Founders Sports Park Thursday night.

A family affair: The Delons family of Farmington enjoyed the fireworks display. Ricky Delons, 2, (left) seemed to be more interested in his glow stick than the actual fireworks.



Make you own: People brought out their own fireworks before the big show. Amanda Ardner, 13, paints the sky with duel sparklers.

Vouchers score Supreme victory

By SUE BUCK
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Though a U. S. Supreme Court ruling June 27 allows publicly funded vouchers to pay for religious schools, it won't affect Farmington schools because it doesn't overturn the Michigan ban.

Some believe, however, that it will reopen the discussion on vouchers. Michigan voters overwhelmingly rejected a proposal two years ago.

"Voucher proponents are probably feeling a sense of victory," said Farmington Public Schools Superintendent Bob Maxfield. "It shouldn't have an affect in Michigan because the constitution is more direct than the federal constitution. I suppose it's possible to change the constitution."

The discussion seems to be limited to schools that are not achieving, Maxfield said.

An attempt was made to reach a number of parents with children in private schools for comment. Some declined comment or couldn't be reached because of the Fourth of July holiday.

Some of the strongest voices against

What do you think about the Supreme Court's ruling to allow publicly funded vouchers for private schools? Write to 33411 Grand River, Farmington MI 48323, fax to (248) 477-9722 or email jhubred@oe.homecomm.net

Please see VOUCHERS, A4

EXTRA! EXTRA!

Warner Mansion runs own press

By JONI HUBRED
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Covered in rust and stiff as a board, an old printing press has stood in the storage barn at the Governor Warner Mansion for years.

During the Farmington Area Founders Festival, however, the 1909 Golding Pearl press will come to life thanks to the hard work of two men, a great deal of vinegar and lots of oil. The Mansion will be open from 1-5 p.m. on July 18 and 1-7 p.m. July 19, with demonstrations planned both days featuring veteran printer Gene McAdams.

"I think he started when he was in junior high," said mansion volunteer Dick Carvell, noting McAdams is now in his 80s. "He still works for a printer in Plymouth."

McAdams and Jack Horvath, hus-



band of mansion director Linda Horvath, worked for hours to get the press back in shape. They scrubbed off rust with vinegar and sandpaper, replaced a couple of rollers and oiled it up.

"I think they used five gallons of oil," Linda Horvath said.

Carvell said the press was donated by a printer in Southfield, who said it wasn't workable. Lead type in five fonts had been purchased years ago in Rogers City as well, he added.

While the machine itself is almost in working order, a hard, flat surface is needed to ensure the type is evenly placed.

"They used a big stone or piece of metal to level the type," Carvell explained.

Horvath said a piece of marble or a metal table top 18 inches square would work, so long as the surface is completely level.

Along with the type fonts came wooden blocks with photographic plates attached to them, which were also used in the printing process.

The press will be run for the first

Please see PRESS, A4



STAFF PHOTO BY BILL BARBER

Reconditioned: Linda Horvath spins the wheel that operates the antique printing press being restored.

Cities go head to head with mallets

By JONI HUBRED
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If you attend only one event at this year's Farmington Area Founders Festival, don't miss the one inaugural event sure to create scars that will last for years to come.

Parades may come and art festivals may go, but the War Between the Cities marks a day that will live in infamy. Or not.

City council members from Farmington and Farmington Hills will battle with mallets in the 1st Annual Croquet Match held at 2 p.m. on Saturday, July 20, at the Gov. Warner Mansion on Grand River. To say that both sides are more than ready to settle this inaugural score would be

■ Croquet was played by kings for centuries in one form or another. Now the two cities will use the game to do battle.

an understatement. To say both come at the competition with the same attitude would be just silly.

"The Hills perspective has been a tad more spirited," said Farmington's Assistant City Manager Bill Richards, who spoke in the absence of City Manager Frank Leuhoff - mysteriously absent from his office with the competition only a week away.

"I wouldn't even call it a rivalry," Hills City Manager Steve Brock said from his command post at City Hall, projecting that team members' crisp, white linen slacks and freshly laundered shirts would soon be stained with "mud, blood and other bodily fluids."

Generally speaking, croquet matches aren't supposed to be played that way.

A genteel history

Croquet, according to Hickok-Sports.com, is a sport whose ancestry can be traced back to the 14th century, although no one is really sure whether it was a twist on lawn bowling or played

Please see CROQUET, A4

Road Watch

Information for Road Watch is supplied by the Road Commission for Oakland County (www.roccweb.org). Information is subject to change.

Farmington

■ Road: Farmington Road, south of Nine Mile to Grand River — This section of Farmington is closed to southbound traffic as the RCOC reconstructs and widens the road. During the project, the detour route for southbound traffic is Grand River, Drake and Nine Mile. Motorists traveling northbound on Farmington should expect delays and are encouraged to use the detour route as well. Completion is expected Sept. 30 (section north of Slocum to be done by July 15).

Farmington Hills

■ Road: 12 Mile at Orchard Lake Road — The RCOC is widening this intersection (adding a right-turn lane to westbound 12 Mile and extending the right-turn lane on eastbound 12 Mile). Completion is expected July 15.

