

# FARMINGTON Observer

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## Arabian delights



Festival  
features  
food and  
music. B1

## Our Towns

### Dear Readers:

Your hometown  
Farmington Observer has a  
fresh new look and a new  
size. It's leaner - 15 inches  
narrower - easier to hold  
and updated with a fresh  
new typeface, headline style  
and graphics.  
"We've changed the look  
but kept the hometown  
appeal and your favorite sec-  
tions."  
Our new narrow width  
necessitated some press  
retooling and some extra  
time. As a result, some  
papers were late on  
Thursday. This was not the  
fault of your newspaper car-  
rier.  
In addition to our new  
look, the OSE has installed a  
new classified ad computer  
system which will help us  
serve you better. The new  
system is up and running but  
we are continuing to work  
through some "bugs." We  
apologize for any inconve-  
nience and/or delays it has  
caused our classified cus-  
tomers.  
As always, we welcome  
your comments. You can  
reach me at (734) 953-2100  
(for Observer editions) or by  
e-mail at  
srosiek@oe.hometown.net

Sincerely,  
Susan Rosiek

*Susan Rosiek*  
Executive Editor

### In his spare time

Earlier this week,  
Farmington Assistant City  
Manager Bill Richards could  
be seen around town proudly  
carrying a trophy won last  
weekend by the 15-year-old  
baseball team he coaches.  
The Michigan Panthers 15  
and under travel baseball  
team were the NWFB (North  
West Farmington/Bloomfield)  
"Summer Classic"  
Tournament's second place  
winners. In addition to a  
team and individual trophies,  
the second place finish  
includes a USSSA 15 & under  
World Series berth in Florida.



Asst. City Manager  
Bill Richards

Richards has coached  
since his son, Jeff, started  
playing ball. Jeff has some-  
thing in common with team-  
mate Adam Smith; Smith's  
mother Beth also works for  
the City of Farmington, in the  
Clerk/Treasurer's Office.  
To help the boys partici-  
pate in the World Series, con-  
tact Richards at 248-344-  
2792.

## Hot weather leads to watering restrictions

BY HEATHER NEEDHAM  
STAFF WRITER

Residents and business owners in  
Farmington and Farmington Hills are  
being asked to pay close attention to two  
things before doing any outdoor water-  
ing - their addresses and the dates.

Water pressure problems, recent hot  
weather and a lack of rain has prompted  
the City of Detroit Water and Sewerage  
to issue a mandatory system-wide out-

door watering restriction. The odd/even  
outdoor watering restriction will remain  
in effect until further notice. Detroit  
provides water to most metro communi-  
ties.

Outdoor water use includes but is not  
limited to lawn and plant watering,  
swimming pool filling and car washing.

In both Farmington and Farmington  
Hills, those with addresses ending in  
odd numbers should do outdoor water-  
ing on odd-numbered dates, and resi-

dents with addresses ending in even  
numbers may water on even-numbered  
dates.

A voluntary restriction on watering  
between 6 and 9 a.m. daily is also in  
force.

The city of Farmington is following  
Detroit's recommendation and has  
issued a mandatory odd/even watering  
restriction, said Frank Lauboff,  
Farmington city manager.

Watering restrictions will be enforced

by the city's water, public works and  
public safety departments. Violators  
could face fines of up to \$500 after  
receiving verbal warnings, according to  
Lauboff.

Normally, a lush, green lawn is a  
source of pride for homeowners, but  
during times of sparse rain, a green lawn  
may cause some neighbors to see red.  
During a water restriction three years

PLEASE SEE RESTRICTIONS, A2



Rebecca Plasenlin, 4, of Livonia thoroughly enjoyed the boat ride at Shilawassee Park.

## Pony rides a favorite at Kids Day

BY CHRISTINE BRODA  
STAFF WRITER

Shortly after noon on Thursday,  
Alexander and Philip Matta - two jersey-  
clad teen-agers with boy band aspira-  
tions - took the stage at Shilawassee Park  
in Farmington before an audience of  
face-painted and balloon-toting children  
and their parents.

The Mattas and their four female  
dancers, known in the musical world as  
MB2, kicked off the annual festivities of  
Kid's Day in the Park with an energetic  
rendition of the popular N'Sync song "I  
Want You Back."

This is the third year the Troy-area  
teens have performed at Kid's Day, an  
event they enjoy because of the fun-filled  
Farmington atmosphere.

"I just like singing and the applause  
and the crowd," Alexander, 17, said. "The  
weather wasn't bad, either. It's been per-

PLEASE SEE KIDS DAY, A2

## Vagnozzi keeps home rule stance

BY JOHN HUBBARD  
STAFF WRITER

After running unsuccessfully twice  
for the House District 37 seat, Aldo  
Vagnozzi is confident the third time  
will be the charm.

Vagnozzi faces Charisse Heath in  
the August 6 Democratic primary.  
Heath did not respond to the  
Farmington Observer's request for an  
interview.

Although defeated twice by term-  
limited State Rep. Andrew  
Raczkowski, the Farmington Hills  
Democrat lost by only a few hundred  
votes two years ago. A walk to Lansing  
earlier this year drew state-wide  
attention, and Vagnozzi now spends  
his time going to door to door, talking  
with residents about what he believes.

His main issue hasn't changed since  
his first campaign.

"Over the last few years, the state  
has attempted to take over local con-  
trol," Vagnozzi said. "Our community  
led the fight to defeat it."

He's still concerned about condi-  
tions in nursing homes as well, and is  
coordinator for the Michigan Chapter  
for Quality Care, which advocates for  
better care of the elderly. Not surpris-

PLEASE SEE VAGNOZZI, A4

## Hills dentist waives preliminary exam

BY PAUL R. PACE  
STAFF WRITER

Former Farmington Hills dentist  
Donald Quinn waived his right to a pre-  
liminary exam in 47th District Court  
Friday concerning his 12 felony counts  
regarding rape and drug possession  
charges.

The former dentist who had a thriving  
practice in Farmington Hills will be  
tried in Oakland County Circuit Court.

After several adjournments in the case  
since being arraigned on the charges in  
April, Quinn appeared in his usual wrin-  
kled and untucked white dress shirt and  
uncombed, long hair before Judge  
Frederick Harris.

He told the judge he agreed to forgo  
his right to the exam.

Quinn remains jailed with a \$5 mil-  
lion cash surety bond.

Quinn's attorney, Robyn Frankel, said  
after the hearing that her client decided

to not try the case in district court  
because it "deals with very intimate  
details of people's lives" that shouldn't be  
publicized.

Ask whether those details will come  
out in the circuit court hearing, Frankel  
said, "I don't know what will happen."

On the initial charge of stalking the  
alleged victim, a 27-year-old Farmington  
Hills woman who was a patient, Quinn

PLEASE SEE EXAM, A4

## Thursday storm doesn't dampen Festival spirits

BY HEATHER NEEDHAM  
STAFF WRITER

A thunderstorm ripping through  
downtown Farmington Thursday  
afternoon proved to be a jolting expe-  
rience for one crafter, and left some  
others with soaked merchandise.

"I won't hang onto metal poles  
again," said Sandy Hyek of  
Commerce Township, who, along  
with Audrey Atkins of Farmington,  
were selling hand-crafted novelty  
Santa figures and "unusual critters."

Hyek said she was unhurt and did  
not receive any medical attention.

"I felt a jolt go down my arm and  
down to the end of my feet," she said.

The incident happened between 4  
and 5 p.m. Thursday, as the second

pass of a thunderstorm came through  
the area.

Other crafters reported light sales  
and wet merchandise to show for the  
storm.

"We got a little soaked," said Sari  
Rickert of Farmington Hills, who,  
along with husband, Brad, were sell-  
ing memorabilia in a booth on Grand  
River across from the Downtown  
Farmington Center.

Moe Rieli of Hudson, Fla. said  
sales of his wooden crafts took a dive  
during the storm.

"We just didn't get any buyers," he  
said. Friday afternoon he coped with  
the mid-day heat and humidity by

PLEASE SEE FESTIVAL, A4



Five year old Dorothy look-a-like's, Rachel Sherman and  
Hailey Todd try to control "Toto" during the contest.

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LIVING IN THE MIDDLE OF THE WORLD

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**LOOKING-AHEAD**  
Come, but not forgetful  
Glenn Brantley and William Duffley,  
who started their careers at  
roughly the same time, celebrated  
their retirement together recently.



**Primary reasons**  
Who do we recommend in the upcoming  
Democratic and Republican primary races?  
Check the **OPINION PAGE** in this section.