

FARMINGTON Observer

Soothing
Simmering soup soothes the sniffles. B1



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Officials expect to appoint Costick

BY SUE BUCK
STAFF WRITER

Former Farmington Hills City Manager Bill Costick is expected to be appointed as an interim Farmington city manager at Monday's 8 p.m. council meeting in Farmington City Hall. Farmington City Manager Frank

Lauhoff retired Friday. A dinner in his honor will be held Jan. 9 at the Farmington Hills Manor on Orchard Lake Road.

Costick will work part time as he continues in his position as director of business development for Orchard Hillz & McCliment Inc., the city's engineering consultants, based in Livonia.

Costick retired as Farmington Hills city manager on Feb. 20, 1996, at age 52. He will work about nine hours a week, over three days, holding specific office hours, according to Farmington Mayor Jim Mitchell. His salary will be more than \$100 an hour.

In the meantime, Vince Pastue, an Isabella County administrator/controller

who was offered the Farmington city manager position Dec. 21 - but has not yet accepted the position - will interview city department heads while his wife meets with middle school officials at Power and Warner Schools in the Farmington Public Schools district.

PLEASE SEE COSTICK, A4

OUR TOWNS

Retirement roast

Now former Farmington City Manager Frank Lauhoff can look forward to many laughs and a long trip down memory lane at Thursday evening's retirement party, held at Farmington Hills Manor.



Among the archival relics we at the Observer uncovered from a career that started when he was 22 years old is this photograph taken during his days as a Public Safety Officer.

COHA changes

There's been a change of venue for the next Council of Homeowners Associations meeting. The 7 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 21, meeting will be at Fire Station No. 5, behind Farmington Hills City Hall off Orchard Lake Road, south of 11 Mile.

Fame and fortune

An amusing police report from Farmington Hills Police Department made it on the Tonight Show with Jay Leno Monday night.

The story, published several months ago, reported that a man was pulled over by police and was asked to shake his pants to check for drug possession. A baggie of marijuana fell out of the bottom cuff and the 18-year-old told the officer, "Hey, these aren't my pants."

Car show

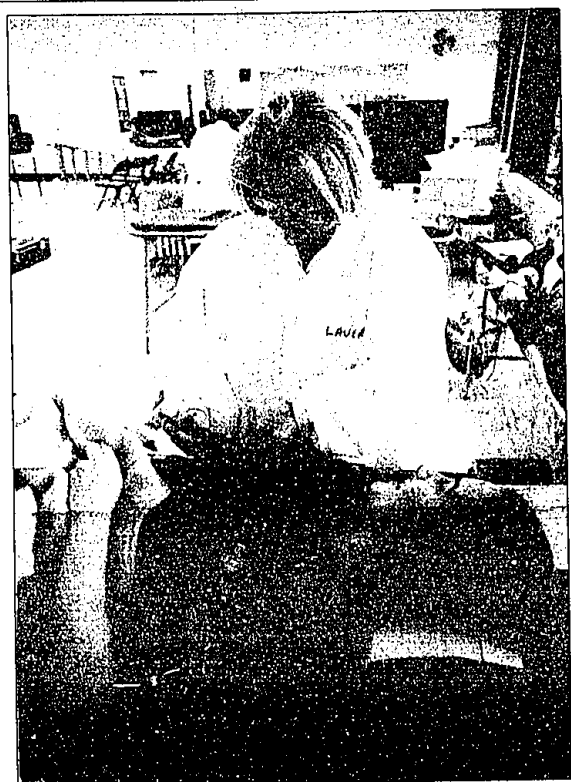
The 2003 North American International Auto Show in Detroit plans to host the biggest and best show yet, said Ron MacEachern, general manager of the Bill Cook dealership in Farmington Hills.

Bill Cook serves on the North American International Auto Show committee.

MacEachern said the dealership representatives are excited about the upcoming show, open to the public on Jan. 11.

"There will be more press conferences than any other shows and there will be more new products introduced than in the past," MacEachern said.

This year will be especially exciting for the dealership, because each automaker Bill Cook represents will be bringing new products out this year, including a first-ever SUVs by Porsche and Volkswagen, and the crossover car/SUV Murano by Nissan.



The giving season

Laura Paulson, R.N., searches for a good vein on donor Maryann Shango's arm at Monday's YMCA blood drive. You can still help with critically low supplies by attending the next blood drive. Details, page A3.

BILL BRUEHLER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER



Former Farmington City Manager Frank Lauhoff was named city manager 10 years ago. He started as a public safety officer at age 22.

Lauhoff looks back on successful years

BY JONI HUBBARD
STAFF WRITER

When Farmington City Manager Frank Lauhoff announced his retirement in September, he spent the next couple of months getting used to the idea.

By Thursday morning, he was ready to go.

"Until things get close, you can't do what brings you to a conclusion," Lauhoff said. "The good part is it feels very com-

fortable to be doing this now. I know it was the right thing to do."

Having suffered with severe back pain over the last several years, he decided it was time to take care of himself. He and his wife, Vicki, will be moving to Arizona, where he expects to just take it easy for a while.

Lauhoff's staff also seems ready for the change. Over the past couple of months, he's

PLEASE SEE LAUHOFF, A5

Desperately seeking romantic proposals

"Will you marry me?" Those four simple words, uttered a zillion times since Adam and Eve, continue to stir the heart, raise legions of goosebumps and even tickle the funny bone. They're not always accompanied by wine and roses. Sometimes, they're written across the sky, announced at sporting events or delivered by a messenger in a gorilla suit. But always, they're so mean-



ingful. In honor of Valentine's Day, the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers is sponsoring its

PLEASE SEE PROPOSALS, A5

Greek immigrant follows his passion

BY PAUL R. PACE
STAFF WRITER

Nick Hadjimarkos knows the meaning of being an American.

He doesn't take for granted the opportunities he's been afforded by coming to Michigan from Greece as a young man.

The 74-year-old has endured the tragedies of Nazi occupation in his homeland, watching executions, escaping capture from Communist guerrillas and finally starting a new life in America at age 27.

Freedom to him also means freedom of expression in oil paintings, sculptures and any-

The 74-year-old has endured the tragedies of Nazi occupation in his homeland, watching executions, escaping capture from Communist guerrillas and finally starting a new life in America at age 27.

thing else that strikes his interest.

"How I survived so many times, it's amazing," he said of growing up during the Nazi occupation and then civil war in Greece from 1945-51.

He likes to tell a story from his childhood about the time he was slapped by the teacher for drawing in class. That image stayed with him for years.

PLEASE SEE ARTIST, A5



Nick Hadjimarkos has become an accomplished artist since emigrating to America.

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LOOKING AHEAD

Cheerily commutes
Cooking in this week's At Home section: A Birmingham house was designed in the style of a French Creole cottage.

World of Floors **NEW YEAR'S SALE** \$1 Per Yard