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FARMINGTON Observer

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Heated up
A gas fireplace can flame the fire.
At Home, C1



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Pro-life group will picket Mercy HS

BY SUE BUCK
STAFF WRITER

A group whose members helped lobby Mercy High School to remove "Lunch with Gov. Jennifer Granholm" as an auction item now plans to picket the school during the Saturday night event. School officials reversed their decision

Monday, after a Sunday afternoon Board of Directors meeting.

Members of the Stop Granholm Church and Truth Project, along with staunch pro-life advocates who included parents and alumni, first contacted Sister Regina Marie Doelker, the school's president, after a Project member spotted the item on a list for the Feb. 22 "Night with the Stars" auction.

The school is located on 11 Mile Road, east of Middlebelt Road in Farmington Hills.

A school parent had helped arrange the Granholm auction item, which was yanked from the catalog last week under pressure from those opposing Granholm's pro-choice stance.

Granholm, who is Catholic and personally opposes abortion, has said she supports every woman's right to choose in this matter.

Doelker communicated only through a press release issued Monday.

"Our consideration last week to with-

PLEASE SEE PICKET, A5

City names Cowley to DDA post

BY SUE BUCK
STAFF WRITER

Greg Cowley, a partner with Cowley's Old Village Inn on Grand River, was appointed Monday to serve on the Farmington Downtown Development Authority.

City Council members made the appointment to fill the position vacated by President Ron Oglesby. Oglesby cited health and family concerns and said he wants to devote more time to his law practice.

"Though at the end of his term - his last meeting was Feb. 8 - Oglesby remained an active advocate for the organization.

"Ron Oglesby recruited me," Greg said after the meeting. A Wilmarth subdivision resident, Greg is a partner in the new restaurant with his brothers Mike and Pat.

He also works as a sales director for National Account Services in Dearborn, which does outsourcing for human resources, benefits and payroll.

His parents John and Marie purchased the restaurant in 1970. The family completely rebuilt the restaurant and bar, which is scheduled to open in time for St. Patrick's Day. Having made such a substantial investment in the downtown area, Cowley is eager to participate on the DDA board.

"The National Main Street Program really attracted me," Greg said.

He referred to a three-year technical services grant which will help guide redevelopment of the downtown area.

PLEASE SEE COWLEY, A2



Adam Thomas, Miles Keach, Melissa Doolin, and Corinne Weddell spent a lot of time trying not to think about food.

Youth raise \$1,300 with fast

BY SUE BUCK
STAFF WRITER

Six students who took part in the first 30-hour fast at First United Methodist Church of Farmington last weekend are glad their personal sacrifice is over.

But they know that for many people around the world, hunger is a way of life.

The six who took part at the church are in a youth group led by Pat Imus, the youth director. Imus was assisted by Mike Pierce, a fellow church member and volunteer, as well as parents Kathy Thomas and Jodie Imus.

The students were Adam Thomas of Farmington Hills, a freshman at Farmington High; sisters Carmen Weddell, a junior, and Corinne Weddell, a freshman, both Farmington residents attending Farmington High; Laura Wilhoite, a Southfield resident and Southfield High senior; Melissa Doolin, a Novi resident and Novi High junior; and Miles Keach, a Farmington Hills resident who attends North Farmington High School.

The fast began at 2 a.m. Saturday and ended at 8 a.m. Sunday.

"We could have water and juice," Adam said. "I was hungry in about 15 minutes."

Carmen said she started feeling hungry the morning the fast began.

Students filled up with food the night before the fast. At Salem Church in Farmington, they attended the regular teen

PLEASE SEE FAST, A2

OUR TOWNS

Chili Cook Off

Farmington/Farmington Hills will hold its annual Chili Cook Off 1-4 p.m. Sunday, March 9, at Page's Food and Spirits in downtown Farmington.



Applications for chili entries are available at Page's. All proceeds will benefit the Farmington Hills Police K-9 Unit.

Marrow drive

A bone marrow drive will be held for Mark Kulchinsky of Inletex, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 22, at the State Farm West Metro Administration Building, 14201 Middlebelt in Livonia.

Kulchinsky, 40, has been diagnosed with acute leukemia. After many treatments of chemotherapy, he is in need of a bone marrow transplant. He and his wife Alice have a 6-year-old daughter, Paige, and are hoping to find a match from this drive.

To become a donor for the Bone Marrow National Registry, you must be between the ages of 18 and 60 and in good health. The entire process takes only 20 minutes.

Kulchinsky's sister, Tina Mystyski of Farmington Hills, is spearheading the campaign. For more information, call her at (248) 474-7082.

Walking the talk

In order to keep his constituents informed on what's going on in Lansing, state Rep. Aldo Vagnozzi has started a series of television shows called Walking the Talk with Aldo. The title recalls the walk Vagnozzi took last May from Farmington to Lansing and his desire to continue to communicate with the residents of Farmington and Farmington Hills.

The first program, which will be shown soon on local cable, deals with the issue of importation of trash from Canada and several neighboring states. Vagnozzi's guest is State Rep. Paul Griesham of Clinton Township, who has sponsored two bills aimed at reducing or eliminating the importation of out-of-state trash.

Vagnozzi has co-sponsored 128 bills, which would bring stricter interpretation of what trash can be brought in and urge Congress to completely eliminate the practice. Griesham said that hazardous waste and recyclable materials would not be shown under his bills.

"Why should we allow three out of states to dump items that our two communities recycle and take to hazardous waste pickup sites twice a year?" Vagnozzi said.

"The ad will very well in your paper - contact it to see how!"

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LOOKING AHEAD
Focus on wine
In Sunday's Taste section, more than any other red wine, Amarone represents production methods used for over 2,000 years.

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Been surfing lately?

Turn Around achievements celebrated

Citizen of the Year announces board bid

Turn Around achievements celebrated

BY JOHN MURRAY
STAFF WRITER

Featuring guest speaker Frank Turner and 216 honorees, the 2nd Annual Turn Around Achievement Awards will be held March 11 at Farmington Hills Manor on Orchard Lake Road.

The luncheon event highlights non-traditional achievements by students who have made great strides in an effort to turn their lives around. Nominated by the adults who are close to them, the students have accomplished goals that include raising their grades,

Improving attendance and cultivating a better attitude in the classroom and at home.

The 26 honorees are from Farmington, North Farmington and Harrison High Schools; Dunckel, Yover, East and Warner Middle Schools; the Farmington Community School and Alternative Academy.

In addition to receiving Lucite



"Turn Around" stars and certificates, students are given "goodie bags" with gift items from local businesses.

Turner is a television news anchor for Channel 7 and a frequent speaker at metro area events and charity fund-raisers. He will have his own "turn around" story to share with students.

This event is sponsored by

PLEASE SEE TURN AROUND, A2

Citizen of the Year announces board bid

BY PAUL R. BOLSEN
STAFF WRITER

Karen Bolsen, co-chairwoman of the area's Multicultural/Multiracial Community Council, has announced she will run for the upcoming vacant seat on the Farmington School Board this year.

Bolsen, who was chosen as Citizen of the Year by the Farmington Area Jaycees



Bolsen

would not seek re-election this June.

PLEASE SEE BOLSEN, A2

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