

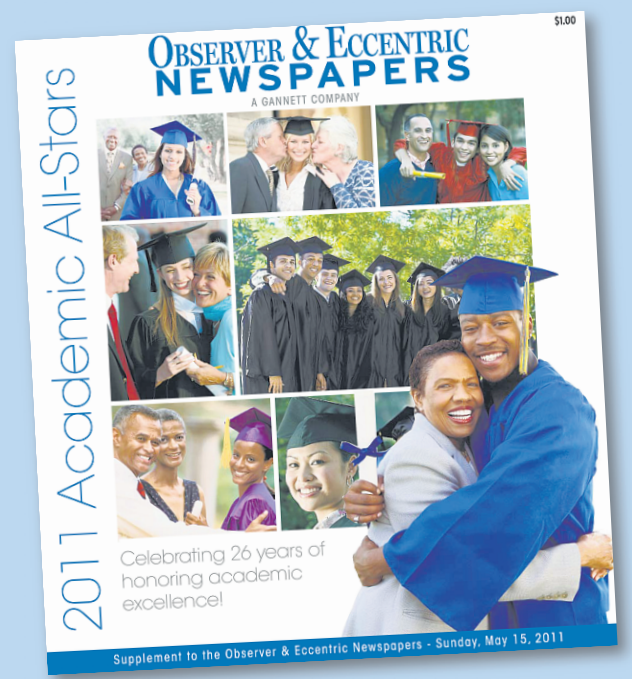
WHERE THE BOYS ARE (OR AREN'T):

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SPECIAL SECTION INSIDE



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The Observer & Eccentric
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LOCAL LINK



Relay for Life

Head to Shiawassee Park in Farmington on Saturday, May 21, to support all of those who are participating in the 24-hour Relay for Life to raise money for the American Cancer Society. Bring a few bucks to donate to the cause and help support those who will be walking or jogging around the walking track from 10 a.m. Saturday, May 21, through 10 a.m. Sunday, May 22.

Relay For Life includes special ceremonies on Saturday: Opening Ceremony at 10 a.m.; Survivor Ceremony at 11 a.m.; Fight Back Ceremony at 4 p.m.; and Luminaria Ceremony at 9:30 p.m. The community is invited to participate in the event to celebrate victories over cancer, remember lives lost, and fight back against a disease that takes too much. Visit Relayforlife.org/farmingtonmi for more information.

Coffee hour

State Sen. Vincent Gregory, D-Southfield, invites Farmington and Farmington Hills seniors to join him for coffee and conversation 11:45 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Friday, May 20, at the Costick Center, 28600 11 Mile, just east of Middlebelt, in Farmington Hills.

Discuss important state and community issues, including the 16 state budgets recently passed by the Senate and Gov. Rick Snyder's proposed pension tax. This event is limited to Farmington and Farmington Hills seniors. For more information, contact Gregory's office at (517) 373-7888 or toll-free at (866) 626-0814. Also, don't forget to sign up for Senator Gregory's e-newsletter at <http://www.senate.mi.gov/gregory/join.php>.

Farewell party

Friends and coworkers of Estralee Michaelson, director of safe schools and student services for Farmington Public Schools, will host a farewell party for Michaelson, whose position is being eliminated after this school year. The party is set for 5:30-7:30 p.m. Thursday, June 2, at Vladimir's, 28125 Grand River, Farmington Hills. There will be hors d'oeuvres, sweets and a cash bar; program will include several speakers who would like to offer their best wishes to Michaelson, who also headed up the Farmington/Farmington Hills Call to Action Coalition.

Tickets are \$10; mail checks, made out to Vladimir's, to Becky Dworkin at 37000 Fox Glen, Farmington Hills, MI 48331. For more information, call (248) 661-4646 or e-mail rwdworkin@yahoo.com.



Estralee Michaelson

HISTORIC HOME NEEDS REPAIR

Fines mount for Burrowes home

BY STACY JENKINS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Fines continue to mount and the owner of the historic Marcus Burrowes home remains unresponsive to the 47th District Court.

As promised, the city of Farmington Hills is working with the court to issue daily fines of \$250, in an attempt to get the property owner, Gladys O'Brien, who lives in Canada, to properly repair the home's exterior. She's been fined \$8,900 so far and has not paid, responded or shown up to court.

HISTORIC PRESERVATION

The city of Farmington Hills' Historic District Commission brought the situation to the attention of city council, staff and the city attorney, because the 1924 English Revival home is a historic district.

The HDC must issue a "certificate of appropriateness" on any exterior renovations or improvements on structures considered a historic district.

Steve Olson, chairman of the HDC, said they work with property owners

Please see **HOME, A6**



The Marcus Burrowes home is in disrepair and the owner has been unresponsive to the city of Farmington Hills and the court.

FOUND IN SPACE



PHOTOS BY JOHN STORMZAND | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Kathy Koperski, with Shira Rebenstock, looks at a mission patch designed for Apollo 13.

Warner students have a blast with moon rocks

BY SUSAN STEINMUELLER
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

"The moon rocks."

That's what the enthusiasm of Warner Upper Elementary students conveyed as they talked about the moon rock samples that have landed in their classroom over the last couple of weeks.

"It's tough to see moon rocks because they don't have that many in the world," said Max Stein, 11, speaking from fifth-grade science teacher Kathy Koperski's class on Monday. "It's really cool that our class can get to see something you might not see in your life."

"Ms. Koperski also got meteorites," said Nick Murphy, 11. "That was really cool how they are all different and you can compare."

"It's kind of unique because the meteorites could have come from anywhere in space and they ended up on the earth," said Jake Efrusy, 11.

CERTIFIED

Koperski, who has participated in two programs sponsored by the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, is certi-



Matt Baughman, 10, gets up close to see meteorite samples.

fied to borrow the authentic moon rocks and meteorite samples.

The small lunar rocks and soils, as well as the meteorite samples, are showcased in acrylic disks.

Koperski had previously borrowed them while teach-

ing at Forest Elementary. This is the first time they have been at Warner Upper Elementary in Farmington Hills, which was reconfigured this year to serve grades 5 and 6.

Please see **MOON, A6**

All dressed up

Hills couple will visit their school in Africa, gifts in hand

BY STACY JENKINS
OBSERVER STAFF WRITER

Like a tapestry of goodwill, things are coming together, piece by piece, for Paul and Nancy Berrigan.

The Farmington Hills couple, who has opened a secondary school in Chelekura, a remote area in the east African nation of Uganda, about four hours east of the country's capital, Kampala, will return there in June, bearing gifts.

About 2,000 of them.

The gifts are colorful, cotton, handmade dresses for the girls of Chelekura.

"Each one is cuter than the next," said Nancy Berrigan, who was contacted by Joan Mountford of Canton, after reading an article in the *Observer* about the John Paul School built by the Berrigans.

Mountford sews the dresses and gives them to the Berrigans. She came up with the idea of sewing the dresses out of fabric or pillow cases, when she saw the Little Dresses for Africa nonprofit set up at the Summit in Canton. She knew, from reading the newspaper story, that the Berrigans would return to Africa, so she contacted them to see if they'd be interested in taking some dresses.

Please see **DRESSES, A8**



JOHN STORMZAND | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Paul and Nancy Berrigan, of Farmington Hills, have opened a school in Uganda and are preparing to visit in June. They will take about 2,000 handmade dresses for the girls.

Free Senior Expo set for Tuesday

Join hundreds of senior adults, their families and friends from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Tuesday, May 17, for the *Observer & Eccentric* annual Spring Senior Expo.

O&E Web Editor Larry Ruehling will be on hand to answer web-based questions about hometownlife.com and help seniors who want to learn more about Facebook and Twitter. Facebook is a great way to keep in touch with your grandchildren no matter how far away they may be and Larry is the guy to show you how to get started.

Photojournalist John Heider will be on hand to shoot a video montage of seniors at the event. Stop by the *O&E* exhibit booth for more information.

Tuesday's event features more than 60 exhibitors, speakers, programs and demonstrations. Learn a lot then have some fun playing the Senior Feud. The Entertainment Network of Southfield will host this version of Senior Feud (a fun spoof of the original show

Please see **EXPO, A2**



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