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Twenty Five Cents



Discover and enjoy

Mike Cowen zeroes in on a bird's nest and all of its intricacies when pre-schoolers in Nardin Park Community Nursery School were invited to discover and enjoy a host of science projects they will study this year. Newstaffer Loraine McClish and photographer Harry Maute talk about the new science curriculum for tots in Thursday's issue of the Farmington Observer. (Staff photo by Harry Maute)

Command officers demand more pay, pension benefits

In addition to attempts to straighten out the confusion over its contract with patrolmen, Farmington Hills officials are listening to command officers demands for higher pay and increased retirement benefits. The officers are asking for a percentage difference in pay between the patrolmen and themselves according to Command Officers Association (COA) President Capt. Russell Conway.

Although he didn't reveal the exact percentage the COA wants, Conway said the dollar amount given to an officer would depend upon how much the patrolmen eventually receive.

How much the officers get depends on what the patrolmen end up with, Conway said. We haven't set a definite figure because it depends on the patrolmen.

The patrolmen's new contract has been held up in arbitration and court battles over the interpretation of its cost of living clause.

The command officers haven't had a new contract since April 1973. With cost of living benefits, the officers in their present contracts with a top yearly salary of \$19,921. Lieutenants receive \$19,122 and captains are awarded \$23,122 yearly. The problems with the patrolmen have delayed the contract with the COA. Administrative Assistant Michael Duran said. City Manager George Mayors declined to reveal the city's position in the contract talks.

The department still has to take the city into account. The city will be able to afford to pay a half percent retirement. It couldn't begin to pay into the fund all at once.

The sooner they pay into the fund the better, Conway said.

Both sides are currently researching material to support their positions. We're not being unreasonable before arbitration, Conway said. If you are you'll lose your demands.

He indicated that the COA was researching the amount of retirement benefits and salaries that surrounding departments were according to their officers.

We hope we won't have to go to arbitration, Conway said. Negotiations haven't broken down yet.

Forest parents block OCC's plans for tower

Dr. Dan Greenberg, a professor of communications at Oakland Community College's Orchard Ridge campus, isn't giving up his attempts to establish a financial educational radio station.

Greenberg was forced to back down from his plan to build the 120-foot radio tower behind Forest Elementary School, after residents loudly condemned it as unsafe at last Tuesday's meeting of the Farmington Hills Zoning Commission.

While Greenberg has abandoned hope of using the Forest School site for the tower, he is searching for a place that is privately owned.

I'm not going to say where it is, just what I want to talk to the other first, he said. Although his critics applauded the concept of a student-operated, community-oriented, educational station, they expressed concern over the safety of elementary and junior high students who use the school as a gathering place.

Boys will have a platform for climbing. I have a child who'll work very hard to climb a tree. That tower would be a fantastic temptation to climb, she said.

It's an area where children go to play. Junior high kids meet there after school in the evening.

Although she liked the idea of a educational radio station, she believed that anything constructed on a play area should be safely used by the children.

Armand Ardenman, a Board member of the Rollings Oaks Home Owners Association, echoed Mrs. Vireck's concern for the children's safety.

Dr. Greenberg told us that there would be a 12-foot cyclone fence with three strands of barbed wire on top of it, and the tower. The roof of the tower is 110 feet high. A kid could climb on the roof and fall off near the playground at night, he said.

Some of the residents thought the tower would have been unable to withstand wind or falling tree branches.

But another with the residents in mind, the tree could fall on it if it was loaded with ice. A tree could fall on the tower.

Greenberg said that it was highly unlikely that the tower would be knocked over by the wind.

It can be knocked over, he admitted. But it would take a hell of a lot to knock it over.

Forest School was chosen as the tower's location to meet a Federal Communication Commission requirement that each station be far away enough from residential areas to avoid interference. In contrast, Rollings Oaks, the tower should be located within 10 miles of the nighttime educational station operated by the Oak Park public school system at Oak Park Blvd. and Goshong.

Spacemen and dragons dwell behind Farmington facades

The faces of the businessmen who live in the Farmington community are seen as looking out over a world of dragons and spacemen. The dragons are the problems that threaten to tear the fabric of the community apart.

When a dragon is spotted in Farmington, City Manager Robert Davidson said he doesn't want to say anything until he gets to the bargaining table.

THE OFFICERS ARE also asking the city to increase their retirement pay and to have retired officers health and life insurance.

As the department grows, if we don't get squared around on a half percent increase, by the time there are 20 officers in the department, he has said.

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Ladies and gentlemen, Frank Sinatra. (Staff photo)

Dan Byrnes outlines crimefighter tips

When a person like Farmington Hills David Jones is murdered at Olympia Suburbans before a war of attrition, it's not only a tragedy to the victim's family but also a tragedy to the community.

Byrnes doesn't go to Detroit much, but says that when he does he isn't frightened.

There are however a number of precautions an individual can take short of carrying a submachine gun and wearing a bullet proof vest.

Byrnes advises that before going into the city you gas your car, make sure your tires are good, and lock your car doors.

Don't park in an unlighted lot or on some deserted side street far from your destination.

When you can, travel in groups, Byrnes said, particularly if you're female.

If someone does stick a gun in your back, or you find yourself surrounded by a gang of punks, don't resist.

Hand over your wallet, your watch, your shoes, or whatever it takes to remain alive.

Byrnes' common sense advice is the same he gives to people going to the suburbs. If people go to the suburbs thinking they're safe, they could be in for a real surprise, Byrnes said.

While the per capita crime rate isn't as high in the Farmington area as it is in Detroit, the suburbs have their share of purse snatchings, robberies and other felonies.

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Frankly, his name is familiar, but he doesn't sing like Sinatra

They ask me all kinds of questions. Everybody gets a kick out of it and so do I. Everybody remembers the name. It helps me in my business.

Occasionally drinks call Sinatra on the phone late at night and want to know if he is Frank Sinatra. At least that's what Sinatra thinks they're saying. He just hangs up.

Frank Sinatra, the singer, named his son Frank Sinatra Jr. So did Frank Sinatra the salesman. Frank Sinatra Jr. is either a singer like his father or a chiropractor practicing in Milford depending on which

or you're talking about Frank Sinatra Jr. or Frank Sinatra Jr.

Sinatra has never said Sinatra Jr. has been called to distinguish several years back to hear a Sinatra concert. Sinatra once says a few Sinatra records. You must say it's a Sinatra fan.

Sinatra has never married to Mrs. Sinatra for 15 years. You must say it's a Sinatra fan.

Actually, it's easy to tell Frank Sinatra from Frank Sinatra. Sinatra is the one without the middle name.

Holiday schedule planned for mail

The U.S. Postal Service will operate on a holiday schedule on Thanksgiving Day, Nov. 25.

Farmington Postmaster Kenneth Harris said there will be no window delivery of residential or business mail delivery on that day. Special delivery and lock box

News	Section A
Sports	6A
Crakerbarrel Debate	10
Community Calendar	9
Suburban Life	Section B
Classifieds	Section B/C

Mail will be collected from one and two star U.S. mailboxes as late in the day as possible to meet first class mail service standards.

Normal mail service will resume Nov. 26.

Bruce Irey, son of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Irey, 31873 North Parklawn, Farmington Hills, has been elected president of the Residence Hall Association at Eastern Michigan University.

HIP TO PARADISE

Our brand Wagtails Week Enders is with fun on offer for every type of venture. This time that mid-20th century plan meets the suburban shop.

Just enter the Chickadee Wildlife's Hatch to see what it's all about. Turn to page 10A.