

# Farmington Observer

Volume 92 Number 72

Monday, June 22, 1981

Farmington, Michigan

36 Pages

Twenty-five cents

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## Hospital merger plan stalled by Redford

By Lynn Orr  
staff writer

The plan to merge Botsford General Hospital in Farmington Hills with Redford Community Hospital has been temporarily shelved.

The merger originally hinged on Botsford's purchase of the Redford Medical Center, a group practice providing 90 percent of Redford Community's patients.

But that plan folded after several physicians recently acquired the practice, according to Robert Laible, Redford Community Hospital director.

"This does not necessarily mean we are not going to continue dialogue with Botsford or any other area hospitals," said Laible. Long-range plans for the hospital include examination of future affiliations, he added.

"Area providers (hospitals) are going to be examined as to what makes the most sense," he said.

BOTSFORD spokesmen confirmed

that the center's purchase actually removes one of the impediments to some sort of affiliation between the hospitals.

Although the facilities for the center are owned by Redford hospital, the group practice was owned primarily by Dr. Raymond Stoller who wanted to solicit interest in the practice.

Earlier this year, Botsford had offered to buy the practice and affiliate with Redford Community. Redford hospital's board of trustees had postponed a decision on Botsford's offer in order to allow hospital physicians to have the opportunity to buy the group practice.

Under the group practice purchase by the physicians, Stoller intends to retain his role of chief of staff of the hospital and remain at the medical center on a consulting basis, according to Laible.

THUS FAR, however, Botsford has not heard from Redford officials regarding further discussion on the sub-

ject of affiliation, according to Gerson Cooper, Botsford administrator.

"Botsford is as interested today as ever, and we're prepared to talk," Cooper said. He emphasized that some sort of affiliation to avoid duplication of services is important for both hospitals and the communities.

"We can't have two providers within two miles of one another that have no dialogue," Cooper said.

Both hospitals are appealing profiles by the Comprehensive Health Planning Council of Southeastern Michigan (CHPC-SEM). The profiles, drawn from surveys submitted by area hospitals, will be used to determine bed reductions and possible hospital closings in a plan to be submitted in July to the state Health Coordinating Council and state Department of Public Health.

The two hospitals are in a sub-area slated to reduce beds by 253, either through simple bed reductions or hospital closings.

## Attorney general's office probes mortgage practices

By Mary Rodrigue  
staff writer

At least 25 consumers could be called to testify against a Farmington Hills mortgage firm that had its real estate broker's license suspended last Monday, according to the state Attorney General's office.

Group Ten Mortgage, 22821 Orchard Lake Road, faces further action if an agreement with the attorney general isn't reached. A hearing is tentatively scheduled for July 9 before the state Department of Licensing and Regulation.

"Whether or not an agreement can be reached before then, we don't know," said Luis Fernandez, assistant attorney general.

In its complaint against Group Ten, the attorney general's office has charged the firm with not fulfilling promises to pay off existing first mortgages when offering a second "wrap-around" mortgage, failing to disclose

large brokerage fees (as high as \$9,000) and rushing borrowers through closing.

"Interest rates disclosed went from 14 to 25 percent," Fernandez said. "Our contention is that even at 14 percent, it violates Michigan's usury law, which limits interest on a second mortgage to 7 percent."

"We do have a point of contention here, I admit. It may have to be resolved through the judicial process."

If payments on the original mortgage aren't paid, consumers are still liable to the financial institution for the debt and could lose their home. Already in about five cases, homes have been lost through foreclosure, Fernandez said.

GROUP TEN and its subsidiaries also have offices in Midland and Grand Rapids. The related companies include Emil Coolidge Mortgage, Remvest Securities and Remvest Mutual Investment. Two associate broker's licenses were suspended as well.

Most of the consumer complaints, which have been filtering in since last December, have come from the Midland, Saginaw and Flint area.

A class-action suit, a \$25,000 fine for the corporation and each broker and restitution are possible action that will be taken against Group Ten.

"Conceptually, they could be in very hot water," Fernandez said.

Casper Connolly, attorney for Group Ten, and officer Francis LeBlanc were not available for comment.

## Cowboy robs bank

A man wearing sunglasses and a cowboy hat robbed a Farmington Hills bank Thursday afternoon of \$900.

He carried the small bills out of City National Bank of Detroit, 31500 10 Mile, in a McDonald's bag. The man walked up to a teller at 12:30 and handed her the bag with a note attached announcing the holdup. The note also said the man had a gun.

The teller, a 32-year-old Novi woman, gave him just small bills, nothing over a 10.

The man was last seen running west down 10 Mile. No one at the bank saw the gun.

A witness employed at a nearby gas station told police she saw the man and a male companion walking down the street before the robbery occurred.

The suspect is a white male, 30-35 years old, 170 pounds, five feet seven, with brown wavy hair and a mustache. He wore a cream color cowboy hat and a blue shirt.

His companion also wore a hat and was described as a few years younger and shorter.

Anyone with information should call the Farmington Hills police at 474-6181.

## Knack for satire

## Skill leads to national recognition

By Mary Rodrigue  
staff writer

When Al Jean left Harrison High School for Harvard, he didn't anticipate a job as a staff writer for the National Lampoon upon graduation from the Ivy League school.

Especially since Jean majored in math and graduated with honors.

But on July 1, he will join the magazine staff that brought America such goodies as "Animal House," the movie that made cafeteria food fights famous. Jean, 20, was vice president of the irreverent Harvard Lampoon, predecessor to the magazine that went national with its absurd brand of satire. Editors at the National Lampoon liked some of Jean's work at Harvard and asked him to join the staff.

"I never envisioned working for them," Jean said. "It came out of the blue. I can't really say I expected it." When Jean was a Harvard freshman,

he worked on staff of the Crimson, the student newspaper.

"I was a double agent because the Crimson and the Lampoon are sworn enemies," he says.

After writing boring feature stories — like trying to expose corruption in the Harvard divinity school, which proved to be a fruitless task — Jean jumped ship and joined the Lampoon. "My roommate was on staff first. It seemed like a nice place," he said. Jean spent 2 1/2 years as a member of the unpaid staff.

THE HARVARD LAMPON publishes five editions a year, plus a special edition, usually a parody of a national magazine. Jean produced his satirical columns by "reading newspapers to get ideas of things to make fun of."

With both Lampoons (the National Lampoon was created in 1970 as a spinoff by Harvard staffers), nothing is sacred. Jean doesn't find his math training



Al Jean with the Lampoon

incongruent with creative writing. He majored in math because he had at math in high school.

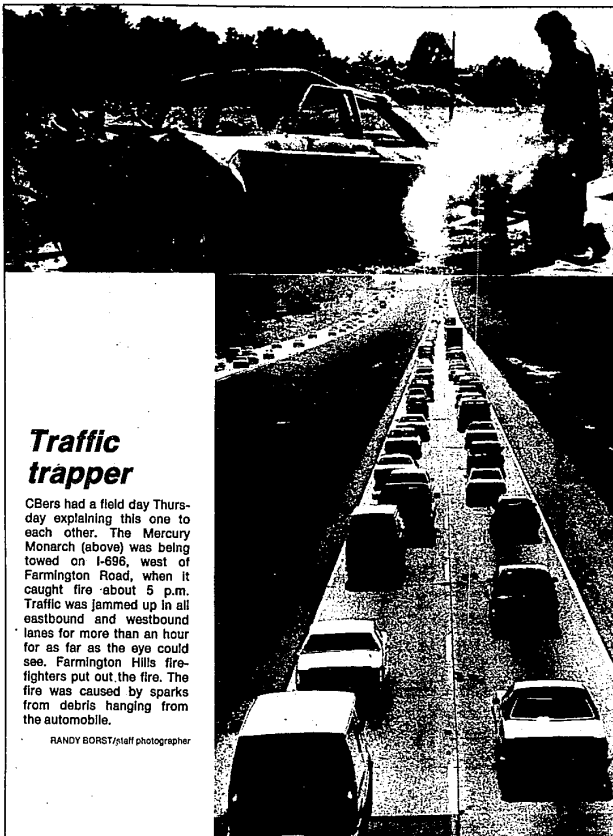
"Math is a humor-related subject," he says with a dry wit that he displays frequently in conversation.

What of his parents' aspirations for him (his father owns Jean's Hardware in Farmington Hills)? "They're glad I'm earning a living," he says.

"I didn't know I would join the Lampoon. It might be fun for the next year or two," he added. "I don't imagine it will be much different than any other writing job. I'll find what the audience likes and write to that."

Jean's college roommate will be joining the National Lampoon staff, too, and the two have already secured a Manhattan apartment.

Jean believes in putting as many irons into the fire as possible. He would like to write for television or the movies someday. For now, he'll be content to roll with the punches.



## Traffic trapper

CBERS had a field day Thursday explaining this one to each other. The Mercury Monarch (above) was being towed on I-696, west of Farmington Road, when it caught fire about 5 p.m. Traffic was jammed up in all eastbound and westbound lanes for more than an hour for as far as the eye could see. Farmington Hills firefighters put out the fire. The fire was caused by sparks from debris hanging from the automobile.

RANDY BORST/staff photographer

## Students, police disagree on warning to disperse

By Craig Piechura  
staff writer

A clear consensus emerges after talking to more than a dozen of the 43 young adults arrested for disorderly conduct at an outdoor graduation party.

Yes, students were drinking beer. Yes, some of the students were smoking marijuana.

Yes, some set off bottle rockets and threw three to a dozen beer bottles at police.

And, yes, students chanted a barnyard obscenity at the advancing ranks of police outfitted in riot gear.

Students admit participating in only witnessing the preceding. Illegals and indiscretions. They are all scheduled to appear today in 47th District Court on the charge.

However, none of those arrested confirms the police contention that arrests were made only after party-goers ignored a police order to disperse issued over a squad car loudspeaker.

ABOUT 400 young people, mostly high school students, gathered the evening of June 10 in a field south of Nine Mile and east of Haggerty. Police from four departments ended the party about 10:30 p.m. and arrested 43 young people. Nearly all were charged with disorderly conduct.

Arrested students told the Farmington Observer that officers shined lights on the crowd before the mass arrest but never warned them they would be arrested if they didn't leave the vacant lot. When students tried to leave after bottles were thrown at police, they found the couldn't get out because police had blocked the exits.

"We always have parties, and they know we do," said Stacie Kinjorski, 18, of Farmington, one of the young people arrested.

"The two places we always go are 12 Mile and Haggerty and Meadowbrook (near Nine Mile and Haggerty). We don't mean to cause trouble. It's just some place to go. Both places are in the middle of nowhere, where no one's around."

MISS KINJORSKI and other students say the graduation party wasn't the first time Farmington Hills police officers encountered a large group of students gathered in a vacant lot for a party. She described a previous get-together in the field at 12 Mile and Haggerty attended by 100 young persons.

"We were having a bonfire, and a police officer came by and told us we could stay till 10:30 (p.m.)," she said.

Miss Kinjorski's mother doesn't blame students for congregating in a vacant field because, she said, there are no other after-school activities in the city for young adults.

"They were run out of the school earlier that evening when they were decorating their cars," said Joann Kinjorski.

"After football games, they lock up the McDonald's. At one time, we sponsored dances for young people at the K of C.

"Nobody's interested in that any more. You can't get parents involved. Too many of them are interested in doing their own thing."

Students say the ground rules for the gatherings were changed the night of the mass arrest. More persons were arrested that night than in any other incident in Farmington Hills history.

"We were waiting to see what they were going to do," said Darren Yanke, 17, of Farmington Hills. "They could've told us to leave. We would've left if someone said we might be getting a ticket. Nobody wants to get busted."

David DeLorey, 18, of Farmington, gives a similar account.

"I DIDN'T hear any warnings. I just saw them drive by. They didn't say anything like 'Everybody go home, it's over.' Personally, I didn't hear it."

But DeLorey, unlike most of the other students arrested, said students were to blame for the arrests by allowing some in the group to throw bottles at police.

"Some of the stories you hear from people who were there said police got violent," DeLorey said.

"I think the students got a little too violent by throwing beer bottles. It was

a small few out of all those who were crowd, but not the crowd.

there. You know, the ones in every

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