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Peace activist draws jail term

By Diane Gale
staff writer

Marietta Jaeger of Farmington Hills sits in a jail cell because she protested the production of nuclear weapons. Jaeger is serving a 30-day sentence, along with three other protesters — a Catholic priest, a Protestant minister and a lawyer — for trespassing and violating a June court injunction against entering the grounds of Williams International Corp. in Walled Lake. The protesters say they object to the company building and testing engines for cruise missiles. "I think the real crime is that people who are protesting nuclear weapons are incarcerated, while people who are

making weapons continue to go free, and I think that is a poor statement," said Jaeger, 45, during a telephone interview from the Oakland County Jail. "I really protest that statement." Arrested for trespassing along with Jaeger were the Methodist minister, the Rev. Melvin Foster Hall, 30, of Detroit; the Catholic priest, the Rev. Gordon Judd, 42, of Detroit; and attorney Debra Choly, 29, of Detroit. All are members of the Detroit Peace Community, which Jaeger called a Christian-oriented group. The four were jailed for using a ladder to jump the fence of the defense supplier's plant on Aug. 9. They also are accused of throwing red dye and floating candles in a pond at the plant,

in commemoration of the destruction from the atomic bomb in Nagasaki 38 years ago. They also prayed at the site, according to police. Jaeger said they didn't expect "to have the book thrown at us", but were willing to accept the sentence given by Oakland County Circuit Court Judge James Theoburn. "I don't think we were treated wrongly, because that was the maximum for the offense, and we admitted that we committed that offense," she said. "I truly felt called in our prayer life and community to do a significant action on that particular date," she said. "We are all coming from the mind set of a Christian — to forgive our ene-

'I think the real crime is that . . . people who are making weapons continue to go free, and I think that is a poor statement.'

— Marietta Jaeger
peace activist

mies — and if we live in peace and justice, then God will be our defense and our justice." Oakland County Sheriff Lt. Henry Hansen said a Lansing-based group

called Covenant for Peace has picketed and protested around the company's grounds since January. Detroit Peace Community is considered a sister organization of Covenant for Peace.

"In May, five of them cut a hole in the fence and did property damage, and came into the plant and threw stuff on the walls and building," Hansen said. "Our officers were called, and they asked them to leave and they left, but there were no charges at that time. What they wanted was the publicity and the public support."

Following this occurrence, Williams filed a court injunction against any fur-

Please turn to Page 7



Marietta Jaeger
peace activist

Volunteers make a difference in nursing homes

By Diane Gale
staff writer

Volunteers at Oakhill nursing home fill a void in the residents' lives. Without their help, there would not be as many programs, said the home's activities directors.

"With only two activities directors conducting a full-scale program, we wouldn't be able to run as many programs," said activities director Sharon Karmanski.

"The volunteers are the life blood, they're the heart and soul of this place and they make it like a family here."

About 15 volunteers of all ages and both sexes help fill the days of the elderly patients at Oakhill, home for 150 people.

Sandy Williams, 37, of Wilson visits "her friends" in the home about five hours a week. She takes time away from her two children and husband because, she said, it's "rewarding."

Williams, a small-framed redhead who accentuates her conversation with a warm smile and quick, boisterous laugh, said the most important advice she could give to volunteers is to have a lot of patience. "They don't always understand and



Lynn Bulman: "They need friends to talk to because they don't have family."

you have to scream, and sometimes you have to repeat things three or four times, and you get a little hoarse," she said. "I like doing it, because I know I'm helping someone and at the end of the day you feel as if you've done something," she said.

Williams also likes the flexibility of being able to decide how much time she can spend with patients.

KARMANIAK AND Debbie Gallesero, the second activities director, provide a two-day orientation program for volunteers before they begin working at the home.

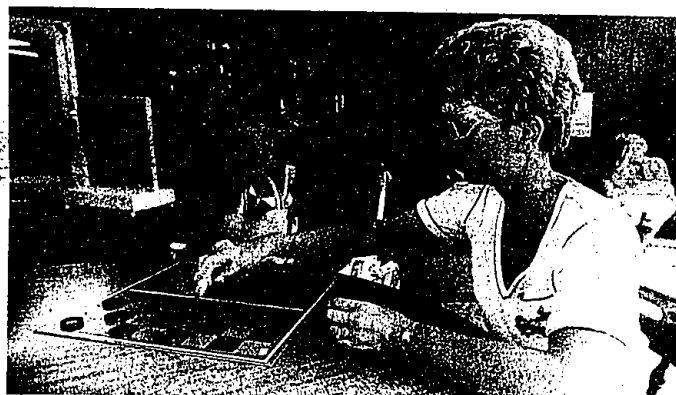
They interview the prospective volunteer, and suggest behavior guidelines, giving "do's and don'ts" on how to act with residents. Then the volunteer is given a tour of the home.

"Sometimes people have a different idea of what's in a nursing home, so we take them around to see the people in their rooms," Karmanski said. "Some are bedridden. Sometimes they (the volunteers) just can't handle it."

Karmanski and Gallesero show the volunteers a calendar of planned activities to determine when they can work.

"The more volunteers, the more programs we can have," Karmanski said. "We can always use more volunteers."

Please turn to Page 10



Volunteer Sandy Williams (right) enjoys a game of checkers with Anna Baker at Farmington's Oak Hill Nursing Home.

RANDY DORST/staff photographer

Federal policy due

Cities want changes in cable bill

By Joanne Maliszewski
staff writer

Farmington and Farmington Hills officials want some changes made in a federal bill setting up the first national cable television policy.

So City Council members in both cities recently adopted resolutions urging the U.S. House of Representatives, which is now debating the proposed Federal Cable Telecommunications Act of 1983, to include provisions protecting the cities' interests.

In June, the U.S. Senate passed the cable television deregulation bill in an 87-9 vote. The purpose of the bill is to replace piecemeal local regulations with a standard national framework for both communities and cable firms.

"This is the first law pertaining to the cable industry that has ever come out of the

U.S. Congress," said Farmington City Manager Robert Deadman, admitting he has mixed emotions about the proposed policy.

"The cable television franchise with MetroVision of Oakland County is working very well in our community without federal law," he said. "But I'm a realist. There will be a federal law."

Farmington, Farmington Hills and Novi — the three members of the Southwestern Oakland Cable Consortium (SWOCC) — have a 15-year cable-TV franchise with MetroVision.

TOM BJORKLUND, MetroVision's general manager, admits that "cable companies in general are extremely supportive of the bill." As a compromise between the National League of Cities and the cable industry, the bill is "intended to benefit all parties."

Currently, the cable industry is "strongly regulated by local government," Bjorklund said. So in some areas, he said, the legislation does weaken local control.

"The bill does not by any means strip the cities of their power or authority over the franchise," Bjorklund said.

During the debate in the U.S. Senate, some senators argued that the proposed deregulation would strengthen the cable industry's clout, allowing them greater profits and the ability to increase basic service rates.

On the other hand, some senators said the legislation would make cable firms more competitive with other television services such as ON-TV and MORE-TV, as well as direct satellite-to-rooftop systems.

A preliminary examination is scheduled for Aug. 23.

Please turn to Page 7



Betty Nicolay
FFIA President

Parents fight staggering statistics

By Diane Gale
staff writer

Teen-agers using alcohol and other drugs are becoming the norm instead of the exception, according to the Farmington Families in Action, a group formed to educate parents on the prevalence of the abuse.

"When people say they're going to have a party, that's synonymous with booze and drugs," Betty Nicolay, president of FFIA, said. "The goal of the organization is to get teen-agers and parents together and talk."

Alcohol is the number one drug abused in the

Please turn to Page 10

oral quarrel

Should parents take control of parties?

Farmington Families in Action is a group dedicated to educating parents on the prevalent abuse of alcohol, marijuana and other drugs. They want parents to have more control over the types of parties their children attend.

Today's Oral Quarrel question: How can parents deter their children

from abusing alcohol and other drugs?

To respond to this question, call the Farmington Observer at 477-5498. You will have until 1 p.m. Friday to answer. To learn your neighbors' opinions, read Monday's Farmington Observer.

Hills trailer park raided for drugs

By Diane Gale
staff writer

A 22-year-old Farmington Hills man accused of selling drugs to area high school students was arrested in the trailer park he manages Tuesday evening.

Livonia police raided the Wagon Woods Mobile Homes Village, 3000 Eight Mile Road, about 4:18 p.m. and arrested Lawrence Jordan Jr. and Kimberly Tavalsky, 22.

They were charged with possession with intent to deliver marijuana and arraigned Wednesday before Judge

James McCann in Livonia's 16th District Court. Tavalsky was also charged with possession of "a small amount" of cocaine. Police confiscated a pound of marijuana, \$444 in cash, weighing scales and a gun that police said belongs to Jordan.

Jordan was released Wednesday on 10 percent of a \$4,000 bond and Tavalsky was released on 10 percent of a \$7,500 bond.

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Please turn to Page 7

what's inside

- Amusements 10-14C
- Business 7-9C
- Classified . . . Sections D-E
- Community Calendar . . . 2B
- Club Circuit 4B
- Creative Living . . . Section E
- Crossword Puzzle 5E
- Editorials 12A
- Obituaries 2A
- Sports 1-5C
- Suburban Life 1-10B
- Travel 6C

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of the Classified Section