



Farmington Observer

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Farmington FOCUS

CITY OFFICIALS in Farmington Hills are gearing up for the November 5th election by sending out new registration cards to some residents. They indicate a change in precinct number or location. Residents receiving these new cards should note the change. A detailed map with the explanation of the precinct changes and designation of all election precinct locations will be published prior to the Nov. 5th election. If anyone has any questions, call the city clerk's office at city hall at 473-9510 or 474-6115, Ext. 295.

STEPHEN J. ELLIS, a Farmington Hills resident, is now owner and general manager of Hydronic Corp., manufacturer of hydraulic remote control systems. Before coming to Hydronic Corp., he was owner and general manager of the manufacturing firm Lincoln Technologies.

SANDRA M. HERMANOFF of Farmington Hills has opened Hermanoff & Associates Inc., a full-service public relations firm at 31500 W. 13 Mile Road.

STEVEN FINDLAY of Farmington Hills placed third in the Freshman Boys Figure Division of the National Roller Skating Championships held at Lincoln, Neb. In order to compete in the championship, Steve had to qualify by receiving a placement at both the Michigan State and the Regional Championships. He will be a sophomore at Farmington High School this fall. His pro is Bud Patton.

GARY NOVAK, a resident of Farmington Hills, has joined Oakland Management Services, a software consulting firm in Troy.

ART-ON-THE-GREEN, one of the highlights of Franklin Village's annual Labor Day Round-Up, features the works of 63 artists who will bring art of all media to the annual festival this year. Artists from the Farmington area participating are Jeweler, Frank Yanke; potter, Barbara Dalton; Demery wood carver, Andy Striewski; and jewelry designer, Ted Striewski. Art-On-The-Green runs from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

TOD ROSHAK of Farmington Hills was one of 94 high school students selected to attend the 1985 Summer Arts and Sciences Institute at Central Michigan University. "The 12th Century Renaissance and Its Impact on Contemporary Society" was the theme selected for this summer's course, which ran from July 28 to Aug. 10.

RAYMOND L. JENSEN of Farmington Hills was one of 74 students who graduated from State Technical Institute and Rehabilitation Center, The State Technical Institute, which was established by the Michigan Legislature in 1944, offers vocational and technical training for handicapped adults.

FARMINGTON TRAINING CENTER students raised approximately \$570 throughout the school year to help the starving in Ethiopia.

LOUISE DANIEL of Farmington Hills, an independent beauty consultant for Mary Kay cosmetics, has just returned home from three days of intensive sales and product training in Dallas as a participant in Mary Kay's 1985 national seminar.

Know someone doing something notable? Let us know. Write: Farmington Focus, Farmington Observer, 33333 Grand River, Farmington 48024. Please include a daytime telephone number.

Thefts drive crime stats up

By Lisa Simon
staff writer

Crime and arrests are up in Farmington and the Hills.

But the increase in crime is primarily due to an epidemic of larcenies rather than more serious offenses.

For example, Farmington Hills hasn't had a homicide for seven years, Farmington since 1980. A Farmington Hills police officer shot and killed an armed robber in the line of duty in February.

Hills police crime statistics compiled for the completed portion of 1985 show 1,763 major crimes compared with 1,530 for the same period a year ago. Farmington statistics are 507 compared with 451.

At the same time, Farmington arrests jumped from 233 to 271 and arrests in the Hills are up from 1,144 in 1984 to 1,272 so far this year.

Farmington Hills reports 1,056 larcenies compared with 743 for the same period a year ago. Reports from Farmington police list 160 incidents so far this year compared to 133 a year ago.

In both communities, larceny from motor vehicles was the major jump, with radar detectors the most frequently stolen item.

FARMINGTON RECORDS show 41 incidents, three times last year's 14. The hike is mainly attributed to stolen radar detectors, according to Farmington police chief Frank Lauhoff. Radar detectors are easy to steal, in high demand, expensive and easy to sell, Lauhoff said.

Farmington police recovered about 29 percent of stolen property — mostly the detectors, he said.

Larcenies of autoparts and accessories doubled in Farmington Hills with 481 incidents compared with 231 last year. But radar detectors were also the most frequently stolen item in Farmington Hills.

Radar detectors sit on a car's dashboard. The car's side window is easily smashed and the radar, valued at \$250-\$300, is taken, Farmington Hills police

chief William Dwyer explained. "Thieves get \$80-\$100 when they fence it," he added.

Backing the national trend, auto theft was down slightly in the Hills, with 95 incidents this year compared with 99 last year.

"I BELIEVE we'll see a significant decrease overall this year," Dwyer stressed. "Car theft is a national problem. There is one vehicle stolen every 30 seconds."

'I would predict by the end of 1985, we'll see a decline in Farmington Hills in terms of robberies.'

— William Dwyer
Hills police chief

Changes will result from automobile manufacturers employing better safety equipment and new court policies, Dwyer said.

"Courts are treating auto theft more seriously," Dwyer said. Auto theft used to be a crime against property, with no jail sentence. A new policy, adopted recently by Wayne and Oakland counties, doesn't allow plea bargaining and calls for jail sentences.

These changes concur with state and federal legislation adopted in the last four months dictating stronger action against chop shops or warehouses where stolen cars are dismantled and parts are sold, Dwyer said. It only takes a total of twelve minutes to dismantle a car, he added.

In Farmington, commercial break-ins rose sharply with 31 incidents compared to 11 last year. However, 20 offenses have been traced to a single offender, Lauhoff said.

FARMINGTON HILLS reported a 15.5 percent decrease in commercial

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Yeah team!

Harrison High School's varsity cheerleaders row (left to right), Diane Bisgaler, Ruta Sepetya, took two first-place awards at Michigan State Barbie Blackmer, Claudia Osowski, Lisa Jean University's summer cheerleading camp, Aug. and Sara Elizen; second row, Natalie Newton, 4-9. Pictured in foreground, Ann Turner; first Tracy Smith and Rachel Lichtman.

RANDY DORST/staff photographer

Hills' taxes due Saturday

Farmington Hills taxpayers who are rushing to pay their summer tax bills before the Saturday, Aug. 31, deadline can avoid long lines at city hall by paying at several banks in the area.

"We felt that since many people have to go to the bank to deposit funds in their checking accounts or withdraw money from their savings accounts, it would be convenient for them if they could also pay their tax bill right there at the bank while they are there," said Charles Rosch, city treasurer and finance director.

Tax payments may be made at: National Bank of Detroit (a 15 cent fee per tax bill will be charged), Michigan National Bank of Detroit, Michigan National Bank of Farmington, Michigan

National Bank of Novi and Manufacturers National Bank of Detroit.

Branch offices will accept payments until the close of business on Friday.

"Payments made at the banks this summer will be of extra convenience due to the temporary limitation of parking caused by construction of a new police facility at the city hall site," Rosch said.

Another way of avoiding the lines and parking problems at city hall is by dropping off payment in a drop box on the east wall by the front courtyard of the administrative building at 31555 11 Mile Road, Rosch said. Taxpayers may use the drop box during and after business hours. The drop box will be emptied at midnight Saturday.

Payments received on and after Sept. 1 will be returned and charged a penalty, Rosch said. A 4 percent penalty will be charged on the unpaid balance plus a 1/4 percent per month interest penalty.

Farmington Hills taxpayers' property taxes are divided almost equally into a summer and winter payment. The summer tax bill includes payment of 8.8 mills for Farmington Hills, 1.75 mills for Oakland Intermediate Schools, 1.4 mills for Oakland Community College and 17 mills (half of the total 34 mills) for Farmington Public Schools.

Winter taxes, due Feb. 14, include the remainder of school taxes and a tax by Oakland County.

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RECRUITMENT HELP WANTED
Classified Advertising Begins in SECTION C of today's paper.

Concert hopefuls line up for Bruce



By Judith Doner Berne
staff writer

Hours after the last ticket had been sold, the debris in the parking lot at the Orchard-13 Plaza was still being cleaned up.

But Les Keywell, owner of the Record Outlet in Farmington Hills, said in general the all-night vigil and sale of tickets for Bruce Springsteen's Wednesday, Sept. 4, Pontiac Silverdome concert went pretty smoothly.

An estimated 250 people — mainly teen-agers — camped out in front of the store from Wednesday afternoon through Thursday morning, mirroring scenes at the Silverdome and other ticket outlets around metropolitan Detroit.

"We didn't have any fights, any altercations — just the mess," said Farmington Hills police chief William Dwyer.

An estimated 250 people — mostly teen-agers — camped out in front of the Record Outlet in Farmington Hills Wednesday night waiting to buy tickets for the Wednesday, Sept. 4, Bruce Springsteen concert.

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