



# Farmington Observer

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## Farmington FOCUS

**MAYOR** Joe Aikateeb has proclaimed Friday a day of mourning and reflection in Farmington Hills in memory of the seven-member space shuttle crew who died when Challenger blew apart over the Atlantic Tuesday morning.

The local observance will coincide with national memorial services scheduled the same day in Houston.

Flags will fly at half-staff at each municipal building in Farmington Hills until Monday.

Farmington Hills will send a letter and a proclamation expressing the city's feelings to each of the surviving families. Lt. Col. Robert Springer of Seabrook, Texas, will hand-deliver each, Aikateeb said.

"Farmington Hills started with a pioneer spirit in the 1800s, and the shuttle crew had a similar spirit. Friday will be a day to reflect on the sacrifices these people made. They've touched us all."

**INTERESTED** in setting up a Neighborhood Watch, but don't have time to attend a night-time orientation?

The Farmington Hills Police Department will host a 30-minute session at 10:30 a.m. Tuesday, Feb. 11, in the Farmington Hills Municipal Building, 31555 11 Mile.

**TOP** achievers

Paul Polus of Farmington earned a perfect 4.0 average at Michigan State University. East Lansing for the fall term. The junior is majoring in accounting.

Deborah Houser of Farmington Hills earned a perfect 4.0 average at the University of South Alabama, Mobile, Ala., for the fall quarter. The senior is majoring in physical therapy.

**ON** the dean's list

Farmington-area students have made the dean's list at Lawrence Institute of Technology, Southfield.

From Farmington Hills are: Jane Bailey, Mark Bailey, Susan Bailey, Mary Brown, Mark Contard, Loren Dunn, Ined Habouch, Brian McDonald, Michelle Munnings, Kurt Nuler, Nikola Tomkow, Laura Wontrobaki and Dennis Morgan.

From Farmington are: Lynn Gutowski, Fred Jagenberg, Mary Marcum, Robert Noch and Michael Wetngarden.

The dean's list at Albion College includes Farmington-area residents Karen Fulton, James Funkhouser, Steven Timmis, Matthew Kramer and David Walsworth.

**MOVING** on

Airman Dennis Meldrum of Farmington Hills was assigned to Chamute Air Force Base, Ill., after completing Air Force basic training.

During six weeks at Lackland Air Force Base, Texas, the airman studied the Air Force mission, organization and customs. He will be instructed in the aircraft maintenance field.

**REMEMBER:** The Farmington Observer's office hours are 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. weekdays. We're at 33203 Grand River, in the back of the Metro Bank, in Downtown Farmington.

**FOOTNOTES:** From a hamlet to a suburb — that's the historical progression of the original Farmington Township.

In 1832, eight years after its founding, the township boasted 606 residents.

Today, Farmington and Farmington Hills, which fill the original township boundaries, together have more than 77,000 residents.

## Additional interchange is in limbo

See Page 16A for a related editorial opinion.

By Joanne Maliszowski  
staff writer

Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) officials have made it clear an additional interchange from I-696 will not be built in Farmington Hills if 12 Mile Road is not widened, City Manager William Costick said.

"The state has told us it will not approve an interchange to a two-lane road (12 Mile)," Costick told the Farmington Hills City Council Monday.

Yet, city officials maintain that without a Tax Increment Financing Authority (TIFA) plan to help finance improvements, 12 Mile won't be widened.

Council Monday unanimously adopted a resolution endorsing an MDOT 1-696 access study. The study calls for widening of the Interstate highway, as well as the addition of an interchange in the Drake Road area and another near Haggerty.

MDOT officials plan to present the study to the federal highway commission for endorsement and approval to continue with proposed improvements, said Thomas Blaisell, the city's director of public services.



William Costick

## Tragedy prompts reaction

By Joanne Maliszowski  
staff writer

Kathy McAdaragh — one of two Farmington Public Schools teachers who hoped to be chosen as the first Teacher in Space participant — never expected tragedy to strike the space shuttle Challenger.

"It never really entered my mind as a possibility," said McAdaragh, a district science consultant.

Like 11,400 other teachers across the country, McAdaragh and Martie Ports, a Power Middle School teacher, wanted to represent their profession in the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) Teacher in Space Project.

Both Farmington teachers were in school Tuesday morning when they learned of the space shuttle explosion that killed the seven-member Challenger crew — including Concord (New Hampshire) High School teacher Christina McAuliffe.

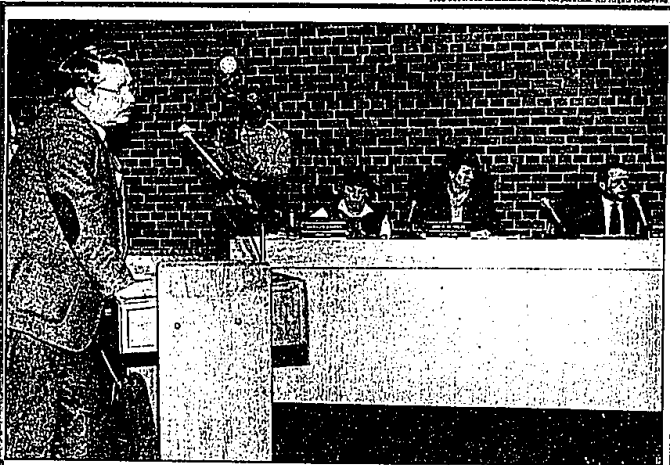
"I've got a lot of reaction," McAdaragh said Tuesday afternoon. "I'm just real sad and shocked."

Ports first learned of the tragedy when another staff member at Power Middle School told her to watch the television. "When I was first told, I just

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IN THE MDOT's West I-696 access study, one of the recommendations calls for the Oakland County Road Commission, and cities of Farmington Hills and Novi, to coordinate improvement projects to coincide with additional interchanges on I-696.

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Farmington Hills Deputy Police Chief Miri Spencer addresses city staff and council members regarding the proposed massage regulation ordinance Monday night.

## Focal point: massages

A plea of no contest accepted

By Casey Hens  
staff writer

Three women each received one year's probation and a \$500 fine on reduced charges relating to soliciting at a Farmington Hills Oriental spa.

Defense attorney Robert Hollander and the prosecuting attorney for Farmington Hills, Derk Beckerleg, brought reduced charges before District Judge Margaret Schaeffer Wednesday, following testimony from two prosecution witnesses in 47th District Court in Farmington.

Hollander called his clients "victims of circumstance," explaining their bolles "differ greatly from what we're accustomed to in this country."

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"I'm sure it wasn't the intent of this council to outlaw massages."

— Jan Dolan, councilwoman

Ordinance debate is adjourned

By Joanne Maliszowski  
staff writer

Faced with objections from licensed and certified employees and owners of area health spas and beauty institutes, Farmington Hills officials this week put the adoption of a proposed massage regulation ordinance on hold until mid-February.

In a 6-1 vote Monday, Farmington Hills City Council tabled adoption of the ordinance until Feb. 17 to review the proposed regulations in light of objections expressed this week by council members and certified or licensed masseuses and masseurs.

Councilman Terry Sever, who supports the ordinance in its current form, opposed council's action.

Officials of the state's two massage associations — the Michigan

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Randy Borst/staff photographer

Yong Ui Choo (left) and Myong Hui Oatium were among the three Keiko Oriental Health Spa employees on trial in 47th District Court.

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## Drawing on experience

### Hard work helps invigorate state appointee

**people**

By Joanne Maliszowski  
staff writer

As far as William Ellmann is concerned, famed author Studs Terkel hit the nail on the head:

"Most people are dissatisfied with what they do. That seems to be the problem of the 1980s."

"The question is, How can people be more satisfied with their jobs? People are not briefed. They don't know about what they are going into," Ellmann, Michigan Employment Relations Commission chairman and a Farmington Hills resident since 1968, is a man who approaches work with the same passion as others plan their vacations. He is not consumed with dissatisfaction over his work.

"Hard work is an outlet for me," said Ellmann, who until recently simultaneously balanced the chairmanships of the Mackinac Island State Park Commission and the Michigan Employment Relations Commission while maintaining his law practice in Detroit.



Randy Borst/staff photographer

"Labor relations is public relations," says Farmington Hills resident William Ellmann, chairman of the Michigan Employment Relations Commission.

A former journalist and builder and currently a political appointee and an attorney, Ellmann didn't step blindly into his legal and political career without knowing of other professional options.

WHEN ELLMANN returned home



Randy Borst/staff photographer

building industry following the war, Ellmann tried his hand at construction. Although he worked in the industry for about two years, it didn't quite bring the satisfaction Ellmann was seeking. But he definitely learned about hard work.

"It was a good experience. I learned about the school of hard knocks," said Ellmann, 64. "We learn a lot more from adversity than from victory."

Coming from a literary family — a mother journalist, an author brother and an attorney father — Ellmann tried his hand at journalism while in the Pacific.

"I did rewrite for the strategic air forces," Ellmann said. "I went to Hawaii and an opportunity arose for me to associate with the journalistic profession. I enjoyed that work. It gave me the feeling, vicariously, that I was participating in the invasions of Iwo (Jima)."

AFTER 13 months of reporting, "I found that journalism can become routine too," Ellmann said. But his years in the Army — "the toughest experience in my life" — prepared him for life and his future in law.

"I learned how to get along with

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