

Facial salon marks its 25th year, 1B



Basketball all-stars, 1D

Barrier debate ignited by grass fire, 8A

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B EING a prosecuting attorney in a big city isn't at all like TV portrays it.

So says former Wayne County assistant prosecutor Tim Kenny, now with the Farmington Hills law firm of Larson, Harms & Wright.

"What the job is, is high drama," said the Farmington Hills resident, guest speaker at the Farmington/Farmington Hills Chamber of Commerce membership luncheon June 16 at the Botsford Inn.

"It's about life and death issues. It's coming to grips with justice."

An assistant prosecutor for 14 years and chief trial attorney for seven years, Kenny says he was most encouraged by "individual acts of courage and integrity — people willing to stick their neck out and do something to make the system work and make life a little bit better."

He cited witnesses frightened, confused or intimidated, but who were "willing to come forward and help us."

"You don't have to be a senator, a governor or a judge to make a difference," he said. "All of us have power to one degree or another."

Quote of the week

I won't turn tall and run.

— Ida Ranesbottom, a 14-year Waldron Street resident, in the wake of continued problems involving rowdy teens and young adults at nearby Waldron Park (see story this page).

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Reminders

Your Observer Carrier will be stopping by this week to collect for the month. Please have the money ready and be sure to get your receipt. It's worth a \$2.00 discount on the next classified advertisement you place in your hometown newspaper.

Botsford reports drop in rerouting

By Joanne Maliszewski staff writer

The numbers may vary, but Botsford General Hospital officials maintain fewer ambulances are being rerouted to other hospital emergency rooms.

In a four-month period, from January to April this year, the Farmington Hills osteopathic hospital rerouted ambulances to other emergency rooms 70 times for a total of 676 1/4 hours, according to unofficial reports from the Oakland County Council for Emergency Medical Services.

But Botsford officials maintain their records "don't jibe" with those

diverted-ambulance hours are listed, 4A

compiled by Oakland EMS. Dr. Ronald Lagerfeld, Botsford's emergency medicine director, is working with the county organization to "make them jibe," said William Scheuber, Botsford's administrator of professional and support services. "Ours is somewhat lower than theirs," Scheuber said. "I'm not saying it's a wide discrepancy. But we are continuing to address the problem."

According to Botsford's data, the hospital closed its emergency room to incoming ambulances 16 percent

of the time from January to the end of May. That's compared to 20 percent during the same period in 1987, Scheuber said.

Each month since last December has shown marked improvement over the prior month. April, however, was the exception when the emergency room was closed 21 percent of the time.

"WE WERE having staffing problems and rerouting went up," Scheuber said. May shows the greatest improvement with the emergency room closed only 7 percent of the time. "We were back on top of it. We are recruiting new nurses," he added.

Scheuber said there's not a lot of concern about the difference in Oakland EMS and Botsford's figures. "The number of times (closed) doesn't necessarily tell the story. Which is worse? To be closed more times for fewer hours or closed fewer times for more hours?"

William Beaumont-Royal Oak continues to head the list of 11 hospitals in the Oakland County system in the amount of time its emergency center rerouted ambulances in the first four months of the year. But Oakland EMS officials say the problem with rerouting is improving. Public and private EMS ambulance providers, such as Novi-based Community EMS, Novi, which

serves Farmington and Farmington Hills, finding emergency room doors closed to many patients, sounded a public alarm last January.

"I think there's been an improvement. The hospitals have been conscientious and on top of it," said Greg Beauchemin, CEMS operations vice president. "A lot of administrators became aware of the problems and internal policies were established to help reduce it (rerouting)."

To reduce rerouting, Botsford has made some changes, including recruitment of more nurses, plans to expand the emergency facilities and replacement of older monitoring

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Noises at park disturb homes

By Joanne Maliszewski staff writer

Ida Ranesbottom isn't easily intimidated.

"I won't turn tall and run," said the 14-year Waldron street resident.

For some time, she has waged a virtual one-woman battle to keep trouble, in the form of rowdy teens and young adults, out of Waldron Park in Farmington Hills' south end. But she wants some help, especially from the city, which owns and maintains the park featuring two basketball nets, tennis courts, play equipment and an ice rink.

Ranesbottom makes no excuses. She lives directly across the street from the five-acre park, at Waldron and Independence, north of Grand River.

She is tired of hearing noise and obscenities from the park and being awakened in the middle of the night to pavement-pounding basketballs.

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Ida Ranesbottom in Waldron Park. In the background are the basketball hoop she would like moved to the center of the park and one of the trash cans she claims kids empty all over the parking lot. Her house is at right, under the basketball hoop.

Pastor resigns after calls to woman

By Tom Henderson staff writer

According to church officials at Temple Baptist Church in Redford Township, the Rev. Truman Dollar resigned as pastor after it was discovered he had made sexually related phone calls to a woman in Kansas City.

The woman is reported to be a member Dollar's former church, Kansas City Baptist Temple. Dollar has been unavailable for comment. There is a "for sale" sign in front of his Farmington Hills house.

Dollar, 50, moved to Temple Baptist in 1984 and helped overturn a controversial church ban on black members. He also oversaw

the purchase of 64 acres of land in Northville Township, where construction of a church and parochial school is scheduled to begin in 1992.

DOLLAR STUNNED church members Sunday when he announced from the pulpit that he had resigned because of a "verbal indiscretion" over the phone with a woman from "out of state."

The announcement came after the regular service and after visitors and guests were asked to leave.

"It was a family meeting," said one member, referring to a meeting for church members only. She guessed the number in attendance at between 2,000 and 3,000. There

are 9,500 members of the church.

"It was a shock. I was dumbfounded," said the longtime member. "He was very well liked and respected. So sincere, and a tremendous scholar."

According to the member, Dollar made the announcement of his resignation with his wife and four grown children up with him for support.

The member said Dollar admitted to making "indiscreet phone conversations" but denied a sexual involvement with the woman. "He said there was never, ever anything sexual and that it had ended two years ago."

"Then one man stood up and said that was all there was to it, the board had no right accepting his

resignation, that it should be put to a membership vote. Everybody stood and applauded."

According to other reports, though, church telephone records show that Dollar continued to call the woman recently after promising church officials that he would stop.

THE MEMBER said church members got word that something big was up during the week before the service. She said her Sunday school teacher called her at home and told her there would be an important meeting Sunday and that was all he could say.

Others got similar messages.



Larry Freedman now center president

Center's new chief at home (again)

Community fund-raiser continuing, 6A

By Joanne Maliszewski staff writer

When it comes to the Farmington Community Center, Larry Freedman has made the full circle.

He has served in an advisory position, and he has run the center. Now

Counting on contacts Dolan's involvement key in House race

This is the fourth in a series profiling each of the six candidates running for the 69th district state House seat. Their positions on specific campaign issues will be detailed in upcoming coverage.

By Casey Hans staff writer

Jan Dolan believes a lifetime of experiences — both personal and professional — will translate into political success in Lansing.

The 59-year-old Republican is a candidate for the 69th state House



District seat. A former Farmington Hills mayor and current councilwoman, she is counting on many years of community contacts and friendships to see her through. She is the only woman in the race.

"I believe this is something I've really been ready for all of my life," the self-proclaimed moderate

said. "I get better with age. I don't get intimidated. I have a wealth of knowledge at my fingertips."

"I've lived it — to me it's a great advantage."

Dolan points out that she is the "only parent and only former teacher" among the slate of candidates. She has a background as a church elder and has championed senior care through private adult day-care programs and on city issues. A widow, Dolan comes from a family of two brothers and two sisters, and has four sons of her own.

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