

# Farmington Observer

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## Beefup asked for Hills police

By Joanne Maliszewski  
staff writer

Farmington Hills police Chief William Dwyer would like four additional police officers — three for patrol and one for the detective bureau — in 1989-90 to keep pace with the city's growth.

"I wouldn't want this city to fall into what I've seen happen in other communities — running from one call to another with no time for preventive-type patrols or getting into the neighborhoods and shopping centers," Dwyer told the city council at Monday's budget study session.

City manager William Costick reduced Dwyer's original request for 10 additional employees — seven officers, one cadet, one sergeant

and one dispatch supervisor — to two officers. Dwyer also eliminated his original request for a school liaison officer.

Under Costick's proposed \$78.2 million budget, one new officer would work in patrol and traffic and the other in the detective bureau. At an estimated \$7.7 million budget for 1989-90, the police department is the largest operation in the city.

When Dwyer made his case Monday for at least a total of four more officers, some council members suggested that perhaps they would be willing to hire one in addition to the two proposed by Costick.

"I BELIEVE it is incumbent on this council not to react but to act before something happens," councilman Ben Marks said, referring

to the increasing number of requests for police help each year. In 1988, police calls exceeded 30,000 and on any given day, 500,000 cars are expected to travel through the city by the end of 1989.

The two additional officers proposed by Costick will cost \$70,000 (salary and fringe benefits) from August when they would be hired to the end of the 1989-90 fiscal year in June, finance director Charles Rosch said. Another officer would cost \$50,000 annually at the top pay level, which takes three years to attain.

"I am concerned we're standing still as far as the number of police officers per population," councilman Alvo Vagozzi said.

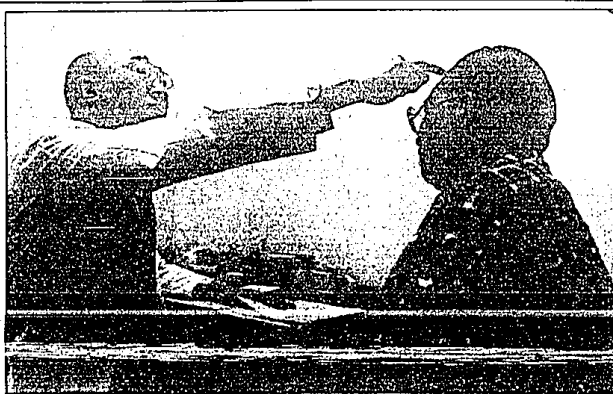
The department has 91 sworn officers, equal to 1.2 officers per 1,000 population. That's below the surrounding communities' average of

1.7 per 1,000 and the state average of 2.1 per 1,000.

According to the Federal Bureau of Investigation Uniform Crime Report, the ratio should be 1.8 officers per 1,000 population. Even if eight more officers were hired, the police-population ratio would only be at 1.36 officers per 1,000, Dwyer said.

SOME COUNCIL members agreed that efforts should be made to follow the department's 5-year plan, which calls for adding another five officers in the coming fiscal year. But the department is still running behind proposed hirings in the plan for the past couple years.

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Dr. Silas Cheuk, a Farmington Hills resident, at the Chinatown Medical Clinic, a free clinic in examines Szo Yim Lee, a Chinatown resident, Detroit's Cass Corridor.

## Free checkups Hills doctor helps Chinatown seniors

By Sue Buck  
staff writer

For the past 12 years, Dr. Silas Cheuk of Oakwood Hospital has provided free monthly medical checkups to elderly Chinatown residents who live in Detroit's Cass Corridor, north of the Temple-Cass Intersection.

Last month, Cheuk, a 74-year Farmington Hills resident, was inducted into the International Heritage Hall of Fame. He was chosen for this honor because of his outstanding contributions to Americans of Chinese descent.

Cheuk was the first person of Chinese descent to be inducted into the International Hall of Fame. The Hall of Fame is showcased in a permanent exhibit in the atrium adjacent to the Cobo Hall People Mover station.

"Each year they pick people from different countries," Cheuk said. "I didn't even know I was nominated."

Cheuk's nomination came from

### people

the Friends of the International Institute. He was inducted into the Hall of Fame with three other distinguished ethnic leaders. Their induction brings membership in the Hall to 28.

Cheuk, 52, who has a family practice in Dearborn, was born in Saigon, Vietnam, of Chinese parents. He came to the United States in 1955 and earned a medical degree from Wayne State.

THE SIGNS of poverty are everywhere along Cass Avenue. Destitute residents queue up at a nearby soup kitchen, and a beggar asks visitors for spare change. But inside the Chinatown Medical Clinic, there is a wealth of caring.

Approximately 100 Chinese Americans still reside in the Chinatown section, which once boasted

300 residents. With limited transportation, the Chinese-American residents who frequent the free clinic find the offering handy.

"We offer a very basic checkup," Cheuk said. "For most of these people there's nothing, no recreation, they just walk around."

Because many patients do not speak English, they experience social, cultural and language barriers.

The clinic operates from 2-4 p.m. the last Sunday of every month. It is set up in the Chinese Merchants Association Building, 415 Peterboro, next to Chung's Restaurant.

CHEUK IS assisted by a group of four volunteers who form the backbone of the clinic. All but one of these volunteers live in Redford Township.

"We just do preliminary screening, like blood pressure screening. For anything more serious, they are referred out," said Lin Poy, a

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## Resident riled by closed-door land dealings

By Joanne Maliszewski  
staff writer

At least one resident doesn't want Farmington Hills officials to continue negotiating and possibly swapping land, behind closed doors, for new parks and perhaps a new 18-hole golf course south of I-696.

"I think it should be out in the open to begin with. Property along the freeway would go up in price if people knew about it," resident Rosa Flum said.

The Stockton resident is critical of city council discussions in closed sessions about possible property purchases, negotiations and a potential land swap with developer Mike Horowitz and the Selective Group.

"I don't think there's any reason to go into closed session. They don't do it when they need a tax increase," Flum said.

The 1976 Michigan Open Meetings Act allows a city council to discuss land acquisition in closed session. It must be made public when a purchase option is made on property.

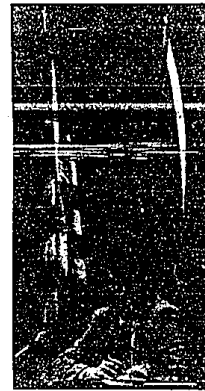
Mayor Terry Sever Thursday acknowledged efforts to acquire more acreage in the city for parks and recreation.

"I think it is public knowledge at this time," he said.

SEVER AND City Manager William Costick have been trying to buy or preferably swap the Selective Group's 40 acres, on the southwest corner of I-696 and Drake, for part of the city-owned San Marino Golf Course on Halsted, just north of 11 Mile.

City officials also have been eyeing property along Drake, south of I-696, owned by 47th District Judge Margaret Schaeffer. In both cases, the possibilities are bleak, primarily because of high costs, Sever said.

City officials are close to closing a deal on 27 acres for \$600,000 south of I-696, west of Farmington Road. The city expects to pay property owner Jack Felts \$21,420 an acre, with a \$100,000 down payment.



Mayor Terry Sever is a target of resident Rosa Flum's criticism over the handling of closed land negotiations.

City officials also have given up their desire for an I-696 interchange near Drake for 44 Michigan Department of Transportation-owned acres immediately west of the Pelts property.

Property for new parks or a golf course would be bought with revenue from the voter-approved, five-year, .05-mill levy for parks and recreation. A \$25 million Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund grant also has been applied for to buy property.

Ideally, the swath of land south of I-696 — owned by Pelts, MDOT and Selective Group and possibly

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### Observer & Eccentric Classifieds Work!

"I was very pleased with the "huge" response. People came from many areas to look at this car."

S. Weinreich of Livonia

One call does it all  
WAYNE COUNTY  
591-0900

## Digital puts hold on new building

Office in Livonia would have been 'coup,' 7A

By Tom Henderson  
staff writer

Digital Equipment Corp. has put on hold plans to build a regional headquarters on 27.4 acres of land at the north end of the Victor Corporate Park along the I-775 corridor in Livonia. Digital workers in Farmington Hills would have moved to the site.

When the proposed plan was announced a year ago April, it was bal-

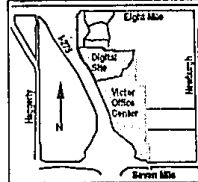
looned as one of the largest office projects in metropolitan Detroit in recent years.

Digital officials said then that construction on the 350,000-square-foot building would begin late in 1988 or early in '89 and that it would be ready for occupancy in 1990.

Elizabeth Reinhardt, a spokesman from Digital headquarters in Maynard, Mass., now said the company is "evaluating our needs for that area." She said that plans for the Livonia site "are undecided. There are a couple of possible alternatives for the site, but no specific time frame."

She wouldn't disclose possible al-

### Digital on hold



ternatives. "We're hoping to see a decision in the near future," she said. Digital currently leases space at six sites — four in Novi, one in Farmington Hills and one in Madison Heights. All except the Madison Heights facility were to be merged into the Livonia site, involving the transfer of about 800 employees as the leases — totaling 160,000 square feet — run out.

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## Schools won't require union shop contracts

By Casey Hene  
staff writer

In bidding major construction projects for Farmington schools, the union status of contracting companies will not be a mandatory issue.

The district will not change its policy to reflect this, but continues to review each contract on its individual merits.

The issue was raised in April at a Farmington school board meeting, as trustees considered bid awards for ongoing renovation projects at Farmington High School. Officials are also going out to bid this month for the building of a new elementary school on the district's west side.

It was agreed the issue would be discussed and the board's policy re-

considered at a future meeting. After the Farmington High electrical contract was awarded to the low bidder, McNulty & Associates of Ypsilanti, a non-union shop.

At a previous meeting, McNulty could not garner the votes needed to win the project.

THE SCHOOL board voted 6-1 on May 4 to continue the district's policy of considering "all qualified bidders" for major building projects. Jack Inch dissented.

The union contract issue was a philosophical one, Inch said Friday. "My feeling is that southeast Michigan is a union area," Inch said. "The staff is represented by unions."

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