

Glasnost continues
on a high note, 1D



Harrison
football, 1C

Natural foods
are in the bag, 1B

Farmington Observer

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Farmington, Michigan

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Fifty Cents

Man talked about rape — Co-worker

The man charged with breaking into a Farmington apartment and raping a woman told a former co-worker about the incident shortly after it occurred, according to court testimony Friday. The 29-year-old victim also testified she had been having flashbacks of the assault since the night of Sept. 26, when it occurred. "It's human nature to try and forget something like this," she testified. "I've been trying to remember. I've been having flashbacks, remembering his face, his upper body, all the details about him."

BRAWDY was ordered Friday to stand trial in Oakland County Circuit Court on one count of first-degree criminal sexual conduct, which involves penetration, and one count of breaking and entering an occupied dwelling. He faces up to life in prison if convicted on the two counts. Brawdy has been held in the Oakland County Jail since his arraignment on a \$50,000 surety bond that bond was continued by District Judge Fred Harris at Friday's preliminary exam.

The defense noted that Brawdy had one previous conviction for disorderly conduct, and had asked that the bond be lowered. A police investigation headed by Detective Dan DeWitt of the Farmington Department of Public Safety and many tips from the community led to Brawdy's arrest on Oct. 24 at his Dearborn home. Harvath testified Friday that he reported Brawdy's comments about the rape to the Gateway Apartments management, who, in turn, called the police.

The victim was raped between 11:30 p.m. and midnight in her apartment at Drake and Grand River. As she was walking from her bedroom to the bathroom, a man confronted her. "The first thing he said to me is, 'Don't worry, I'm maintenance,'" the victim testified Friday. "That's absurd. What would maintenance be doing in my apartment at that hour?" The victim said she screamed and fought the man, who eventually began strangling her to keep her quiet. "I knew my life was in danger," she said. "I just felt he would kill me if I didn't stop fighting."

ACCORDING TO police accounts and court tes-

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farmington FOCUS

To write the Observer: 33203 Grand River, Farmington 48024. To call news line, 477-5450; sports line, 591-2312; home delivery, 591-0500; classified ads, 591-0900; display ads, 591-2300; fax line, 477-5722.

TURNING the tables.

As the Farmington Board of Education considers ways of praising the district's 1,200 employees, the employees planned a surprise of their own Oct. 24.

Each trustee received certificates of appreciation from acting superintendent Michael Flanagan on behalf of the employees.

TOP citizen.

Richard Headlee, chairman of the Farmington Hills-based Alexander Hamilton Life Insurance Co., will be honored as the Boy Scouts of America Clinton Valley Council Oakland County Citizen of the Year on Nov. 29 at the Pontiac Silverdome.

He'll be honored for "his many contributions to the business community these past 20 years," said George Romney, dinner chairman.

Memory lane

50 years ago:

The plight of needy families in Farmington Township and other local communities will be discussed at a meeting of the Oakland County Board of Supervisors. Relief offices in Pontiac were closed when welfare gave out.

Several growers and farmers in the Farmington area are plaintiffs in a suit questioning the legality of the new Michigan State Apple Commission. — Farmington Enterprise, Nov. 16, 1939

This week

LOOK for complete results of Tuesday's city council elections in Farmington and Farmington Hills in Thursday's Observer.

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Voters to miss Marks spending report

city clerks
will file turnout,
Hills improves
vote tabulating, 3A

By Joanne Molliszewski
staff writer

Farmington Hills voters won't know the details of city councilman Ben Marks' minimum \$7,000 in campaign spending until after Tuesday's election. "It will be all documented, with names and addresses. Nothing will be hidden," Marks promised Thursday.

But with only a day to the election, the chance that voters will know who contributed how much to his campaign seems unlikely.

Marks' estimated pre-election expenses put him neck-in-neck with challenger Lawrence Lichtman with \$7,000 raised and more than \$4,000 spent, according to Lichtman's pre-

election campaign finance report filed with the Oakland County Elections Division. Marks acknowledged Thursday that he will file his state-required, pre-election campaign finance report late and pay the mandatory \$10-per-day, \$500 maximum fine. The county's deadline for the campaign finance statements was Oct. 27.

IN A misinterpretation, the Observer reported Nov. 2 that Marks filed a waiver, indicating he would raise and spend less than \$1,000 to seek re-election.

But a county elections clerk clarified that Marks filed nothing since January 1988, when he filed an annual spending waiver. Officeholders must continue to file annual campaign spending reports, showing whether they have spent any remaining money in their election committee's war chest, the clerk said.

Marks said he began this year's campaign with about \$2,800, including interest, left over from his 1985 council election.

After the Nov. 2 Observer story, Marks maintained he had not signed a waiver this year for his campaign. "I can't recall signing anything," he said.

Campaign treasurer Bill McNish has been out of town and unable to prepare the required 1989 spending report by the deadline, Marks added.

BUT MARKS said he has spent at least \$7,000 so far and expects to spend at least several thousand more in his bid for another term. In addition to unsolicited contributions, Marks said some of his support has come from the same builders-developers as in past years.

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Ballot at a glance

Election Day — Tuesday, Nov. 7
Polls open — 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.
Farmington Hills City Council — (regular term, vote for not more than 4) incumbents Philip Arnold, Ben Marks, Aldo Vagnozzi, challengers Jonathan Grant, Vernon Kielplinski, Larry Lichtman, Ronald Oliverio, Albert Rosen, George Sarkisian, Bettie Sines. (Top three finishers win 4-year terms, next highest finisher earns a 2-year term)

Farmington Hills City Council — (special term, vote for not more than 1) incumbent, Paul Sowerby, challengers Nancy Bates, Herbert Liner. (Winner fills the last 2 years of former councilman Joe Alkateb's four-year term)

Farmington City Council — (regular term, vote for not more than 3) incumbents Arnold Campbell, Shirley Richardson, Richard Tupper; challengers Joanne Feilenberg, John Kenny, JoAnne McShane, Robert Walker. (Top two finishers earn 4-year terms, next highest finisher wins 2-year term)

Farmington Community Library — 1) \$14.5-million bond issue, 2) 1.5-mill operating levy.

State Proposal A — increase the sales/use tax from 4 to 4.5 cents per dollar and constitutionally dedicate funds for local schools. State Proposal B — increase the sales/use tax from 4 to 6 cents per dollar, reduce school property taxes, set permanent school operating millages not subject to voter renewal and constitutionally dedicate funds for local schools.



Kay Blakeney is the 1988 Farmington-Farmington Hills Citizen of the Year. She's shown in her home with many of the souvenirs collected from her world travels.

Getting involved gives her a thrill

After years of community service, Kay Blakeney has been recognized as Citizen of the Year. Her contributions include the well-crafted arrangements in the Warner Gardens at the Farmington Historical Museum. "I'm just very flattered," she said. "It came as a complete surprise. I just couldn't believe it."

"I have always been interested in being involved with the administration of things like playing bridge," she said. "I always want to be involved, not just to participate."

Blakeney, 75, was honored Saturday at the 27th annual Farmington-Farmington Hills Chamber of Commerce awards banquet in the Holiday Inn of Farmington Hills.

She "has consistently given of her time, energy and expertise to our community," wrote Geraldine Tobin, Farmington Garden Club president, in nominating the past club president.

The award, sponsored by the chamber, honors a person who has worked to improve or uplift some aspect of the community.

people

VICE CHAIR of the Farmington Hills Beautification Commission, activated four years ago, Blakeney and her husband, Bill, were responsible for the first breakfast-awards program, now an annual fall event. "Her foresight and efforts have been encouraging to corporate and local businesses as well as multiple-home structures," Tobin wrote. "This elegant new landscaping we now enjoy has made life more pleasant and richer for all of us."

Both Keep Michigan Beautiful and the Beautification Council of Southeastern Michigan have honored her for caring so deeply about the community's visual appearance.

Blakeney has contributed greatly to the Farmington Historical Museum. Five years ago, she co-

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No toxic threat—builder

By Joanne Molliszewski
staff writer

Developer Melvin Kafan says residents concerned about toxic materials are overreacting to his request to rezone 14½ acres to the controversial industrial-research-office district.

"Apparently, our effort to rezone a parcel of land on Drake Road from office to IRO has triggered an over-reaction based upon the threat of toxic chemicals that is not justified by the facts," Kafan said Friday in a prepared statement.

Kafan's rebuttal to protests of the IRO district and his rezoning request comes on the heels of the pre-election distribution of 18,000 fliers endorsing five Farmington Hills City Council candidates. The five candidates are expected to "restrict the spread of IRO zoning," according to Citizens Against IRO Zoning, which fears a toxic threat to residents, despite city regulatory controls. If Kafan's zoning request is approved.

BRENDA KANDT, spokeswoman for Citizens Against IRO Zoning, called the IRO district a "citywide problem."

In his statement, Kafan said the five candidates Kandt's group is supporting should "rethink their positions in the best interest of the city."

Kafan is seeking to rezone 14.5 acres in the Drake-Grand River area from office services (OS-1) to industrial-research-office (IRO). Up to 100 businesses could locate in Kafan's complex. The acreage is immediately south of the 98-unit Hillside Estates Condominiums, north of Indeplex Circle, and southeast of Independence Hills subdivision, where many IRO opponents live, including group leader Kandt.

THE CITY'S IRO land use zone is allowed next to multiple-family, but not single-family, zones. In his rebuttal, Kafan listed four major arguments in favor of his zoning request:

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Chain effect seen if A, B both lose

By Casey Hens
staff writer

Flanagan said he will support Proposal A, personally, because putting more money into education statewide is an investment in everyone's future.

A drastic, negative impact to the bottom line of Farmington schools would be likely if two statewide proposals fall in Tuesday's election, acting superintendent Michael Flanagan said last week.

It's not the direct financial impact of either Proposal A or B, he said, but what action the state might take if both lose.

The state has set the stage to force local school districts to pay for their own Social Security benefits, and may also force them to pay retirement benefits if both the sales tax increases fail. The expenses represent some \$6 million per year for Farmington alone. The state has always paid for both Social Security and pension benefits.

"That's exactly what they'll do," Flanagan said. "They're (the state) showing the expense (on district categorical aid statements). Once they ask it, the same way they can cut back on transportation, they'll capture Social Security. It means retirement funding too, eventually."

Such a move by the state would eat up much of the district's 10-percent fund equity, its nest egg for emergencies. The district's 1988-89 op-

erating budget is \$65.5 million.

FLANAGAN BELIEVES the money would be taken by the state, through a phase-in program beginning this year, during the next 2-3 years.

After the phase-in period, the district would have to find a way to pay the \$8 million expense every year.

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Michael Flanagan