

Just a doggone way
to get around, 1D



Gymnastic
results, 1C

Hillside fall opening
looks like a go, 3A

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EASY does it

During a city council discussion last week about the Oakland County Road Commission's planned 10-year road improvement program, which includes many Farmington Hills projects, Mayor Jean Fox, knowing the county's tight road budget, cautioned, "We shouldn't count our road tax monies until we get them."

STUDYING up. Farmington Hills City Council is planning joint meetings with the Southfield City Council and the Farmington school board to discuss areas of mutual concern.

CATCHY motto. The slogan for Accidental Auto Body and Refinishing, 33300 Nine Mile, in Farmington is "We meet by accident."

Memory lane

50 years ago:

• A modern, new way of teaching is being employed at Farmington Grade School under the supervision of principal Robert Stewart. Called visual education, it allows students to actually see what they are learning by use of motion and sound pictures.

• State Sen. George McCallum will be featured speaker at the next meeting of the Exchange Club. His topic, taxation, is expected to draw many visitors.

— Farmington Enterprise, Feb. 29, 1940

This week

THE Farmington City Council will hold a public hearing 8 p.m. Tuesday on its planned \$12-million sewer separation and improvement project.

what's inside

- Around Farmington . . . 5D
- Building scene . . . Sec. F
- Classifieds . . . Sec. C, E, F
- Index 8E
- Auto Sec. C, F
- Real estate Sec. E
- Employment Sec. E, F
- Creative living Sec. E
- Crossword puzzle 3E
- Entertainment 5D
- Opinion 5A
- Police/fire calls 3A
- Sports Sec. C
- Street Scene Sec. D
- Taste Sec. B

**Quick, Easy
Winner Dinner
Recipes
Every Monday
Inside TASTE!**

Hills senior complex eyes tax break

By Joanno Maliszewski
staff writer

After less than a year in business, partners in Carrington Place Apartments are seeking a tax break from Farmington Hills to make it possible to provide housing for low- and moderate-income senior adults.

Despite some reservations and questions from the Farmington Hills City Council, the way looks clear for the partners to be exempt from paying property taxes.

"Carrington Place is not a particularly profitable development as it

turns out," said partner Sam Yaker of Liberty Construction, Southfield. "Carrington right now, to be honest, is a potential catastrophe."

Carrington Place Apartments for Seniors, on the northeast corner of Drake and Freedom Roads, was restricted to senior adult housing when built.

Taplola Apartments-Phase 2, on Eight Mile, between Gill and Halsted, is another senior housing development that has received tax-exempt status to provide low-income housing.

The tax-exemption is possible be-

'The idea is that it provides an avenue where they can provide low-income housing.'

— Dean Babb

more than 40 percent of their income for housing.

"The idea is that it provides an avenue where they can provide low-income housing. With expenses and taxes, they can't do that," city assessor Dean Babb said.

Farmington Hills City Council introduced an ordinance 4-2 Feb. 26 that would grant Carrington tax exemption. If enacted in March, the ordinance would allow the partners to make an annual payment to the city

Please turn to Page 4



Some of the Faulkner clan enjoy an afternoon (left), 18, Amy, 13, mother Donna, Jonathan, 6, together at home in Farmington Hills: Ilisha and Christopher, 9.

DOUGLAS SUSALLA/staff photographer

Award winners Foster parents 'too good to be true'

By Noreen Flack
staff writer

His bright smile and rambunctious behavior would lead you to believe Michael is a healthy, normal child.

But 14 months ago, Michael was born with a cocaine and alcohol addiction, labeled "developmentally delayed" and taken from his mother to be placed in a foster home.

But with the help of Jim and Donna Faulkner of Farmington Hills, Michael's future looks bright.

He is one of 48 children who, over the past 20 years, have been placed with the Faulkners, foster parents with the St. Vincent and Sarah Fisher Center in Farmington Hills.

people

Five of the 48 foster children have been legally adopted by the Faulkners, who have four children of their own.

The couple will be honored May 9 in Lansing as one of three Michigan couples to receive the Foster Parents of the Year award by the Michigan Federation of Private Child and Family Agencies.

"SOMETIMES, WE think the

Faulkners are too good to be true," said Kathie Spratt, foster care director for the St. Vincent and Sarah Fisher Center.

"I really appreciate the award," Donna Faulkner said. "But the biggest reward is seeing the kids develop and blossom."

Although Michael has made considerable progress in the last 10 months, he still has trouble with speech, responding to sound and lifting his head, said JoAnne Schwartz, Michael's early intervention teacher.

"Donna is fabulous," Schwartz said. "She never misses a therapy session, and she is always cheerful."

Please turn to Page 2

Hills manager's pact extended

By Joanno Maliszewski
staff writer

City Manager William Costick will continue at the helm of Farmington Hills for another three years.

"I feel very fortunate at being the city manager for Farmington Hills. If you take a broad look, it's a beautiful community," Costick said.

"Farmington Hills is my home now. This is more than a job. It gets in your blood. A good part of my life is devoted to the city."

To a round of applause, the Farmington Hills City Council Feb. 26 approved a new three-year contract for Costick, city manager since July 1981.



William Costick
city manager

"I think that speaks well for the community that endorses the city manager," Mayor Jean Fox said, referring to the applause.

Costick came to the city in 1981 after a stint in Troy. He was Farmington Hills' first assistant city manager. He also was city manager in Flushing in Genesee County.

COSTICK'S CONTRACT calls for him to "devote all of his time and energy and give his best attention exclusively to the business of the city, and carry out his responsibilities as city manager under the city charter to the best of his ability."

In addition to a salary that will be reviewed by the city council at budget time in spring, Costick, according

to contract, will receive a new car, paid for by the city. His current salary is \$72,460.

Costick's contract also requires the city council to give him a 120-day notice of termination.

Known for his time and dedication to the city, Costick was hailed for his leadership.

He is a member of the Michigan Municipal League transportation committee, chairman of the Oakland County City Managers Association

Please turn to Page 4

Inch to run for new school board term

By Casey Hens
staff writer

Twelve-year veteran trustee Jack Inch said he plans to run for a fourth term on the Farmington Board of Education.

Fellow trustee Janice Rolnick, who has also served for three terms, said last week she will not run again

for a seat on the seven-member panel.

The four-year terms of Rolnick, 47, and Inch, 58, both expire in June.

Petitions for those seeking to vie for one of the two opening seats during the annual school election on Monday, June 11, can be picked up

Please turn to Page 5

Dwyer testifies at Detroit police probe

Called as a
facts witness

By Casey Hens
staff writer

Farmington Hills Police Chief William Dwyer testified as a witness before a federal grand jury last week, which was seated as part of an investigation of the Detroit Police Department secret service fund.

Dwyer, formerly head of the narcotics section for the Detroit Police Department and staff commander for Police Chief William Hart before coming to Farmington Hills in 1985, appeared before the grand jury Thursday. He offered facts relating to policies and procedures of the police department during his tenure in Detroit.

Hal Heltterhoff, special agent in charge of the FBI for the state of Michigan, said that grand jury witnesses are no different than those called in other investigations.

"I'm saying no adverse inference should be drawn because a person has been called to a

'I'm saying no adverse inference should be drawn because a person has been called to a federal grand jury, nor should it affect their position of good standing.'

— Hal Heltterhoff
FBI special agent

federal grand jury," he said, "nor should it affect their position of good standing."

DWYER SAID it was his first time being called as a grand jury witness. He is expected to complete his testimony when the jury reconvenes in about a month.

"Obviously, because of my previous employment and being in charge of the narcotics section, I have been subpoenaed as a fact witness," said Dwyer, who served in Detroit as narcotics section head from 1975 to 1981 and as staff commander in the police chief's office from 1981-84.

Please turn to Page 3



DOUGLAS SUSALLA/staff photographer

With the TV cameras rolling, Farmington Hills Police Chief William Dwyer (right) shares a chuckle with the door guard as he enters the Federal Building in downtown Detroit to testify as a witness before a grand jury in the

probe of the Detroit Police Department secret service fund. Dwyer, former top commander for Police Chief William Hart, was called to recount department policy during his tenure in Detroit.