

When parking the car calls for a valet, 1D



Farmington wins title, 1C

Sewer vote Tuesday in Farmington, 2A

Farmington Observer

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farmington FOCUS

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GOING UP. Office Max, Perry Drugs and Michigan National Bank will make up the new 14-Orchard Plaza at 14 Mile and Orchard Lake Road in Farmington Hills. Sherr Development Corp. is developing the 3.6-acre site. The existing bank branch will be torn down.

SHE'S honored. Farmington Public Schools teacher Judy Goldis was one of seven Oakland County teachers to receive a medal grant for innovative programs to increase environmental awareness among school children and their communities. Awards averaged \$250.

Memory lane

25 years ago:

- Farmington Masonic Lodge No. 151 will celebrate its 100th birthday anniversary with a gala affair.
- A petition was filed with the Farmington City Council calling for action to correct a section traffic and pedestrian safety problem at Shiswassee and Prospect.
- Four candidates are vying for five seats on the Farmington school board; incumbent Herbert Neal and challengers John Cojane, Joe Collier and Sylvia Schwartz.

— Farmington Enterprise, May 19, 1965

This week

THE Farmington Area Democratic Club will host the nine Farmington school board candidates at a community forum 7:30 p.m. Wednesday in the Bolsford Inn, 2600 Grand River.

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Reminder

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.

Report seeks facts on tree removal

□ Council comments, 4A

By Joanne Maliszewski staff writer

City Manager William Costick will provide the Farmington Hills City Council with a report documenting ordinance compliance in the removal of what critics say are too many trees for a retention pond and entrance at the 73-cluster-home Oxford Place development on Drake, south of I-96.

"I feel the need to provide them with a

brief report. The question is, 'What is the situation?'" Costick said.

Drake Road area residents and some council members, including Mayor Jean Fox, are still skeptical whether the tree ordinance was violated with the removal of trees at the 40-acre development.

"I think it's ironic the city planted, I guess, hundreds of trees on Drake Road after they paved it to maintain the natural beauty, and then the planning commission, via a site plan, decides to approve this defoliation — clear cutting on that area," said Old Homestead subdivision resident George Notarianni.

The resident contradicts developers and city administrators that trees as large as 12-15 inches in diameter were cut.

But Farmington Hills administrators stand by their earlier contention that Selective Group developers did not violate the tree ordinance or approved site plan with the removal of 30 trees.

"THE REMOVAL of trees was in accordance with plans that were approved. We had complete knowledge in the area," said Dale Countegan, Farmington Hills community development director.

Administrators acknowledge that certain procedures, such as securing a tree

permit for the retention pond area, and establishing a \$50,000 escrow account, were not followed.

Developers conducted a tree survey and secured a tree permit to remove trees for the development's entrance drive. Developers began work before a grading permit was issued — and before planners checked that the proposed work was in conformance with plans — though the engineering department approved the permit. A site inventory analysis was completed depicting the site's trees and topography.

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FYA honorees are (from left) Becky Hoyt, Miesl Surma, Brian Blidde, Chris Umlah, Sarah McIntosh, Tom Faro (seated in front), Lauren Weary, Karl Harder and Jennifer Seymour.

Kids cited for going extra mile

By Susan Buck staff writer

Farmington Youth Assistance (FYA) honored nine Farmington-area students for going the extra mile of volunteerism during the past year.

The event was May 17 at San Marino Golf Club's Top of the Tee Restaurant in Farmington Hills.

The students are:

- Brian Blidde, Farmington High Junior, nominated by Robert E. Lekovish, Students Against Driving Drunk (SADD) advisor.

As president of the Farmington High SADD chapter, Blidde worked to achieve the goal of having no alcohol-related fatalities at the school in 1989-90. He has worked throughout the school year organizing campaigns and activities to promote safe driving among his peers.

"I feel the problem with drunk driving is really tragic and should be eliminated and can be," Blidde said.

- Thomas Faro, Farmington High senior, nominated by Linda Siggia, a business teacher.

Faro combined his fondness for children and sports by spending several hundred hours over the past year organizing and coaching young people in team sports. He is volunteer head coach and coaching coordinator for an under-12 boys soccer team and an assistant head coach for an under-14 team, both part of the Farmington Soccer Club. Faro was recently named club activity director. During the past year, Faro also coached intramural basketball at Our Lady of Sorrows and parks and recreation soccer for children in grades K-3.

"I like working with youth, coaching them and watching them develop and improve every week," Faro said.

- Karl Beth Harder, Harrison High Junior, nominated by Pierrette Orlich, a French teacher.

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Chief lauds student volunteers

By Susan Buck staff writer

"The be-all and end-all of life is not to get rich but to enrich the world."

So quoted Michael Flanagan, Farmington Public Schools superintendent, of his grandmother's philosophy while he was growing up.

Flanagan was keynote speaker at the fifth annual Farmington Youth Assistance (FYA) recognition breakfast May 17 at San Marino Golf Club's Top of the Tee Restaurant in Farmington Hills.

"It's my pleasure to do this for a kid-oriented event," Flanagan said.

"There are students in this district who

do not get nearly the kind of public visibility they deserve. Our main job is to help students to achieve their potential and to help them become more than they ever dreamed they could be. The examples here can bring tears to your eyes."

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Hills keeps moratorium

By Joanne Maliszewski staff writer

The nine-month-old moratorium on industrial-research-office development will remain in effect at least until review of the just-released, toxic-hazardous materials report is complete.

Farmington Hills city councilman Lawrence Lichtman stood alone May 14 in his bid to lift the moratorium.

IRO projects stay on hold

"My problem is that I think it's irresponsible to have this issue hanging in limbo," said Lichtman, the council's liaison to the ad hoc citizens committee on toxic and hazardous materials. "Those developments cannot occur because the moratorium is in effect."

um is in effect."

The city council imposed the moratorium in September after residents opposed an IRO rezoning of 14.5 acres in the Drake-Grand River area from office service (OS-1) to industrial research office district (IRO). Residents are concerned about toxic threats from businesses allowed in an IRO district.

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Masked gunman robs man in his garage

A masked gunman robbed a homeowner getting into his car parked in the garage early Friday. The robber left with the man's watch, wallet, keys and garage door opener.

The victim, a man in his 30s who lives on the 23000 block of Frederick in the Slocum-Farmington Road area, was not hurt.

Gary Goss, Farmington Department of Public Safety deputy director, gave this account:

ment of Public Safety deputy director, gave this account:

At 6:30 a.m. the homeowner opened the garage door from inside his house, then walked to his car.

He entered the car but before he could close the door, a man wearing a dark ski mask and holding a long-barreled revolver appeared.

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'90 Corvette awaits big festival winner

A \$100 investment in a Farmington/Farmington Hills Founders Festival raffle ticket could be your ticket to ride away with a red, \$29,850 1990 Corvette. But to have that opportunity, you'll need a ticket.

The drawing will be at 5:30 p.m. June 7 at the Farmington/Farmington Hills Community Center, 24705 Farmington Road, just north of 10 Mile.

Along with the grand prize Corvette, nine other prizes — shopping sprees at chamber member businesses ranging from \$100 to \$1,000 and totaling \$4,800 — will also be awarded. Tickets may be purchased at the Farmington/Farmington Hills Chamber of Commerce for \$100 per ticket.

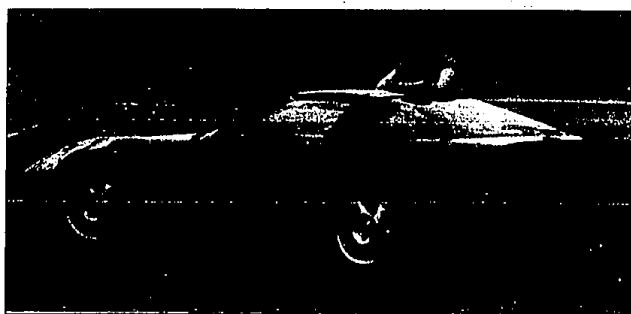
'The odds were too good to pass up. Sure, it cost more money to get into the raffle, but the way I look at it, the odds are a lot better than playing the daily lotto.'

— Jeff Brownlee last year's winner

ing for the 1990 Founders Festival, which will be held July 7-14.

"We rely on the raffite to support the costs associated with the festival."

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Chamber of Commerce president Mary Bush poses with the Founders Festival Fantasy Car Raffle first prize, a 1990 Corvette.

RANDY BORST/staff photographer