

Moving those dogs
in Tigertown, 6D

All Area
Soccer, 1C

Fish facts
on hotline, 1B

Farmington Observer

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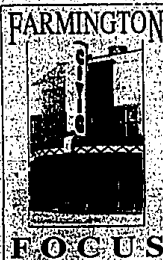
Monday, June 24, 1991

Farmington, Michigan

50 Pages

Fifty Cents

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THE SOUNDS of Dixieland music will float through downtown Farmington Wednesday, June 26, thanks to the Helen Fostlein Trio and the Downtown Development Authority.

IF THIS IS late June, can the Farmington Founders Festival be far away? No sir, the 17th-annual Founders Festival is coming. It will be Saturday, July 6, to Sunday, July 14, in downtown Farmington and environs.

One of the most popular festival events — the Pet Show — is scheduled as part of Kids Day at 1 p.m. Tuesday, July 9, on the stage of the showmobile at the Farmington City Park. Showcases are Power roads.

The pet show will include the following categories: largest pet with smallest owner, best trained pet (30 seconds to perform), pet with longest tail, most articulate pet, best dressed pet and owner, oldest pet, best presentation of a caged pet, most unusual pet.

Trophies will be awarded to the top three winners in each category. Entry forms may be obtained at the parks and recreation department's playgrounds, in the children's sections of both libraries, the chamber of commerce office on Grand River, the YMCA on Farmington Road and at selected restaurants and businesses in the area.

The co-sponsors — Plaza Veterinary Hospital and Pets 'N' Particulars will provide a float in the Founders Festival Parade on Saturday, July 13, to give some of the entrants a chance to display their pets to the community.

SPEAKING OF the Founders Festival, the Farmington High School Music Patrons will have a fundraiser during the event.

The Music Patrons will sponsor the Festival Bingo tent on Grand River east of Farmington Road. Hours will be 4-10 p.m. Thursday, 4-11 p.m. Friday and noon to 11 p.m. Saturday. The final game each night will be a "winner take all."

MEMORY LANE — From the June 28, 1991 Farmington Enterprise: From the Around the Block column: "The announcement of the conversion of the Warner Farm to residential property is good news for the Farmington community. The addition of 250 houses substantially what the Enterprise has said for a long time — Farmington is growing and will continue to grow. The addition of this many houses is good news."

Items for Farmington Focus may be mailed to the Farmington Observer, 21898 Farmington Road, Farmington 48336, or dropped off at the newspaper office.



SHARON LAHEUX/staff photographer

Southfield beekeeper Charles Compton rebother them, they don't bother you," he said. He leases a swarm of bees which had attached it- Public safety officers guided the driver, Peter said to a truck parked in Farmington. Compton Argenta of Redford Township, to the city park said bees commonly swarm this way in the where they kept the public away and awaited spring and summer. "As long as you don't the beekeeper.

A sting operation

Bees swarm over truck in Farmington

By Casey Hans
staff writer

Redford Township resident Peter Argenta has a honey of a story to tell after a Friday morning experience in Farmington.

The 54-year-old cement contractor had unloaded some boards from his open-back truck and stopped in Farmington for coffee. Someone came into the restaurant and pointed to his truck.

"He said there were millions of

"On my mother's grave, I swear to you, I've never seen anything like it."

— Peter Argenta

bees hanging from the rack," said Argenta, who said he used to watch the bees making honey in his native Italy.

"I couldn't believe it — when I went in to get coffee, there was nothing there. It couldn't have been five minutes.

"On my mother's grave, I swear to you, I've never seen anything like it."

UPON HEARING of the problem, Farmington public safety officers directed Argenta to Drake Park where they blocked off the

Please turn to Page 4

2 cities set for recycling launch July 1

Curbside program to be financed with user fees

Editor's note: The Observer will publish information about curbside recycling to help ease residents into the new program that begins July 1 in Farmington and Farmington Hills. As of today residents will begin receiving their 18-gallon plastic recycling bins. A hotline, 473-7779, also opens today for any questions on the program. It's available through Aug. 2.

By Joanne Maliszewski
staff writer

In mid-July Farmington and Farmington Hills single-family homeowners and some Farmington condominium owners will get their first bill for the new curbside recycling program.

"People think recycling is free. But we still need a collection truck going up and down the street. There is the processing of it. And then there's the question of what can they (recyclables) be sold for. At the present time, markets are down," said Tom Blasell, Farmington Hills public services director.

Farmington Hills homeowners will pay a \$13.50 quarterly fee, which is \$54 annually. Farmington single family residents will pay \$66 annually, which will be paid in two \$33 payments in July and January, said Farmington city manager Robert Deadman.

Condominium owners who are already served by the city of Farmington — 161 units, to be exact — on an



"Individual stop basis," will pay a bit less. They will pay \$52 annually or two \$26 payments.

Farmington Hills will give condominiums a year to jump into the program. City officials are working with individual complexes. When condominium owners participate they will be charged \$10 a quarter or \$40 annually. Their fees are lower because they won't participate in the yard waste or composting facet of the curbside program, Blasell said.

APARTMENTS ARE not involved in the recycling program. But the community's two recycling centers will remain open.

Farmington's is at the Department of Public Works yard on Nine Mile, west of Farmington Road. Farmington Hills' is at the Department of Public Works facility on Hatfield, just south of Enterprise Court.

The recycling fee will be charged by the eight-community member Resource Recovery and Recycling Au-

Please turn to Page 4

Freeze not what it's cracked up to be — Hills assessor

By Joanne Maliszewski
staff writer

Farmington Hills assessor Dean Babb says some homeowners may find themselves disappointed with the state Legislature's property tax assessment freeze.

"It's not all the bed of roses every-

body says it is," Babb said.

The new legislation, according to Babb:

• Will freeze property tax assessments on all real property for one year as of Dec. 31, 1991 for the 1992 tax roll.

Please turn to Page 2

Middle school blueprint for future is recommended

By Casey Hans
staff writer

A set of recommendations has been offered to encourage — but not mandate — change in the Farmington Public School District's four middle schools.

The middle school report mirrors a high school study completed earl-

ier in the year. Both were part of an overall study of secondary education in the Farmington Public Schools.

The studies took two years to complete, and are meant to be blueprints for future change in secondary education.

But school officials want any

Please turn to Page 2

Party like 'Animal House'; 20 arrested, police injured

By Loraine McClish
and Todd Schneider
staff writers

A rowdy party on Tulane involving area teenagers got out of hand about 10 p.m. Saturday night.

One witness described the party as being "just exactly like the movie 'Animal House.'"

After it was over 20 were arrested and two Farmington Hills Police officers were sent for emergency treatment to Botsford Hospital.

In an effort to quell the commotion caused by between 150-200 partygoers at 22801 Tulane, Farmington Hills Police were forced to call for assistance from the Farmington, Livonia and Michigan State police.

"Multiple-count warrants were issued for all kinds of violations — assault on police officers, abusive-ness, disturbing the peace, resisting arrest," said police Lt. Marty Bledsoe.

"They were throwing bottles and rocks. Many officers left bruised. One officer had his hand broken, another had head injuries," Bledsoe added, but refused to release the

names of the officers who were hurt.

Many witnesses confirmed that among those arrested was a man who identified himself as a Livonia police cadet. He was credited as being one of the "leaders of all of the disruption," by one witness.

Another said he resisted the officer trying to arrest him and when he got into the police car, he kicked out the back window.

Witnesses who talked to the Observer and are not identified by name have either asked to remain anonymous, or have their names withheld because they have agreed to testify on the matter in court.

"I COULD NOT get into my own street," said Cathy Vadek, who lives next door to where the party was taking place and attempted to get to her home at about 11 p.m.

"It was filled with hundreds of teenagers and police cars. I think there must have been 200 kids there and a dozen police cars. I went over to a friend's house and came back an hour or two later."

She described the scene as rowdy, with a lot of yelling, a lot of loud music, a lot of vulgarity, and a lot of loud verbal confrontation be-

tween the partygoers and the police.

Meanwhile, her husband, Jeff, was babysitting for the couple's two children and was one of many neighbors who called the police.

"Many of the party guests were under age. I know it. I'd swear to it," he said. "This was a party where one kid told a friend to come and he told another friend to come. It was out of control pretty fast, and this was not the first party of this kind that has taken place next door."

"It was so loud both my 4-year-old and 9-year-old woke up crying."

Another neighbor said of the partygoers, "They were getting very loud and very vulgar. When five guys started urinating at the curb, I said 'that's it,' and called the police."

MILES COOK is one of four people who must have been renting the house for about a month, neighbors said. Cook was at work while the party was taking place.

Farmington Police stated that so far as their investigation has taken them, the use of drugs was not involved.

what's inside

Classifieds	Sec. E, F
Index	2E
Auto	Sec. E
Real estate	Sec. E
Employment	Sec. F
Creative living	1E
Crossword puzzle	3E
Entertainment	5D
Obituaries	4C
On the agenda	4C
Police, fire calls	3A
Sports	Sec. C
Street Scene	Sec. D
Taste	5C-B
Travel	5C-6C

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