

They're on board



SHARON LEMIEUX/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Swearing In: Four new Farmington Public Safety reserve officers took the oath Aug. 18 in City Council Chambers. They include Kevin Rzetelny (left), Tracy Respondek and John Boufford. Michael Laird is not pictured. All four are certified after completing courses at the Oakland Fire Training Institute and Basic Police Reserve Academy at Schoolcraft College, which included 100 hours of training.

Imam from page 1A

Karoub uses the title "reverend" as a convenience. The Arabic word imam means he is a religious leader. His religious duties take him throughout the Detroit area and to Ontario, Ohio, and Indiana, including ministering to prisoners who follow Islam.

Reassures his followers

Despite his small stature, his strong voice and engaging handshake reassure his followers. He knows that recent events — including the arrest of Muslim cleric Sheikh Omar Abdel-Rahman and 14 others in connection with the bombing of the World Trade Center in New York — give many Americans a jaded picture of Islam.

"There is a deep-seated mistrust," he said. "But followers of Islam cannot be terrorists. Islam forbids it. But these people are called religious fundamentalists."

That mistrust has added to the misunderstanding of Islamic customs, and sometimes to the isolation of Muslims and other Arab-Americans, including Chaldean Christians, in the area, he said.

The Detroit area has the largest concentration of Arab-Americans in America, and Dearborn has the third largest Arab-American population, said Kurt Metzger of the Wayne State University Center for Urban Studies.

"But the census does not measure the Arab population as it does race," Metzger said. "Some people don't understand what the question about ancestry means. And some consider themselves American, so they don't show up as Arabs."

That leaves estimates of the Arab population in the Detroit area somewhere between 61,000 and 250,000, he said.

Karoub knows Egyptians, Palestinians, Jordanians, Yemeni, Saudis, Moroccans, Libyans and Algerians who practice Islam, but are distinct in their backgrounds and customs — hardly a unified ethnic group.

Many face prejudice

The young are hardest hit by the prejudice against Arabs and Islam, Karoub said.

"I grew up playing with other children and going to public schools," he said. "I was made

aware of the difference. And the prohibitions against eating ham and pork was something that set me apart. But for young people now, it's much more severe to be associated with terrorists."

Judy White, assistant superintendent for curriculum and staff development for the Farmington Public School District, said the bilingual education program has identified Arab-American students and made the district aware of cultural differences.

The schools have found ways to accommodate those differences, such as not requiring females to wear bathing suits — considered immodest by Islamic custom.

"We've also introduced ethnic studies into our social studies programs," White said. "It's been a success."

But Karoub, who has a program on WCAR radio (1090-AM) Sunday mornings, said above all, he emphasizes the idea in Christianity, Judaism and Islam that God is central.

"We should be unifying behind one God," he said, "not emphasizing our differences."

Muirwood from page 1A

Anderson said there are lock systems that have keys that cannot be duplicated, but if apartment complexes use key deposits and tight controls on access, that will eliminate much of the problem.

With maintenance crews, painting crews, cleaning crews, appliance repairmen and other services coming in when residents are at work or out, accountability is important, he said. There have been 28 reported break-ins at Muirwood this year, Anderson

added. Comini said some residents consider a gatehouse real security, which they shouldn't. "People can walk into the complex," he said. "Maybe they're (residents) thinking that they're safe because of the gatehouse."

Anderson said keeping tenants advised on problems and proposed solutions is a key to stopping the thefts.

"What was needed was a little push," he said. "He (Williams) has been very cooperative."

Amber from page 1A

"I figured I have the dress, why not," Arbuckle said. She was up against 50 contestants from around the state, who were judged on evening gown, swimsuit and intensive interviews. There was no talent portion. The interview portion counted for 40 percent of the contest.

Arbuckle could not showcase her vocal talents. A busy year awaits.

Along with the duties of her crown, Arbuckle is starting medical school this fall and is getting married in July.

"It's been a good year," Arbuckle said.

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Manhattan Model Search Finalist

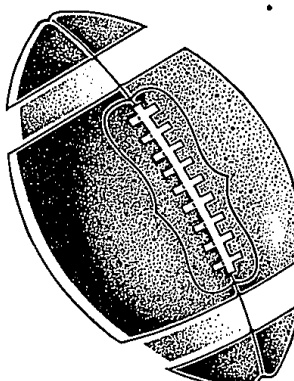
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KICK THE FALL OFF RIGHT!!

Farmington YMCA Fall Registration

September 7 - Full YMCA Members

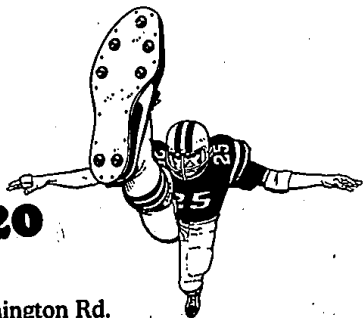
September 8 - Community Members

- Swimming
- Fitness
- Gymnastics
- Racquetball

553-4020



28100 Farmington Rd.
Farmington Hills



WONDERS NEVER CEASE

SEPTEMBER events

BACK TO SCHOOL TRAIN RIDES

Through September 6th
Monday - Saturday, 11 AM - 8 PM
Sunday, Noon - 5 PM

LABOR DAY

Monday, September 6th
Mall Hours: 10 AM - 5 PM

"WONDER WALKER" MEETING

Wednesday, September 8th
9 AM at "Eaton Place" Food Court

20% OFF SALE

At Participating Stores
Thursday - Sunday, September 9th - 12th

B. COOL BOOKWORM SHOW

Saturday, September 11th
11 AM, 2, 5 & 7 PM, Center Court

AMERICAN HEART ASSOCIATION

FREE BLOOD PRESSURE SCREENING
Saturday, September 11th @ 25th,
11 AM - 2 PM

ST. MARY FREE BLOOD PRESSURE SCREENING

Monday, September 13th, 8 AM - 10 AM

ARTS & CRAFTS SHOW

Thursday - Sunday, September 16th - 19th



Fashions courtesy of Casual Corner
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