

Farmington Observer

MONDAY, JUNE 13, 1994 • FARMINGTON, MICHIGAN • 48 PAGES

FIFTY CENTS

© 1994 Observer & Executive Newspapers, Inc.

VOLUME 105 NUMBER 74



Call the Observer vote hot line for your local election results, starting 9:00 a.m. Tuesday, June 14.
Dial 953-2037

Not a city or state election
Polling day may be used

IN THE PAPER

TODAY

Power to the Hills: What look like football goal posts for giants are actually part of a new Detroit Edison substation at Freedom and Drake roads. /3A

In reserve: Mike Laird, a reserve officer on Farmington's Department of Public Safety, can make a call from a squad car or a ball field. /3A

MALLS & MAINSTREETS

Shopping goals: By hosting special events, area malls hope to cash in when World Cup mania hits metro Detroit June 18-28. /6A

Birmingham boost: Meet Bob Kirching, new general manager of the Jacobson's complex in downtown Birmingham. /6A

STREET SCENE

Toxic free: Don't expect gangsta rap or gut-wrenchingly violent lyrics from Biohazard. In "State of the World Address" they just tell it like they've seen it. /8A

TASTE

Super Supper: Peter Kreher does all the cooking and food shopping for his family. /1B
Father's Day: Find out what Chef Larry Janes learned about cooking from his father, Joe Janes. /1B

SPORTS

Regional report: Farmington Harrison faced a major challenge Saturday against state-ranked Rochester Adams in a regional softball tournament. /1C

Baseball tourney: Farmington Harrison hoped to use the role of underdog to its advantage again Saturday in a regional baseball tournament. /1C

INDEX

Classifieds . . . B-D Malls 6A
Auto D Personal Scene . . . 3A
Index 4B, 5C Police, fire calls . . 2A
Employment . . . B, C, D Sports 1C
Real Estate B Street Scene . . . 1C
Crossword 5B Taste 8A

HERE'S HOW TO REACH US

Newsroom: 477-5450
Newsroom Fax: 477-9722
Sports: 953-2141
Reader Comment Line: 953-2042
Classified Advertising: 591-0900
Display Advertising: 591-2300
Home Delivery: 591-0900
Cable/TV Weekly: 953-2182

Charges pending in escape try



By BILL COUTANT

STAFF WRITER

A veteran Farmington Hills police officer is back on the job, and the man accused of trying to take his gun in an escape attempt has been released into Oakland County Sheriff's Department custody.

Detective Dave Loe, a veteran of nearly 20 years with the Hills police, was back on the job Friday, Wednesday, a prisoner he was transporting from the 47th District Court to the jail in the Hills Police Station jumped him and tried to escape, police said.

Loe shot the man in the leg as he fled.

"He (Loe) is back to work in administration," said inspector Tom Godwin. "That's standard procedure while there's an investigation going on."

Godwin said charges against the prisoner, which could include some type of felonious assault and attempted escape, would be determined by the prosecutor's office after the department finished its internal investigation of the incident early this week.

Loe had been transporting a prisoner from the court on 10 Mile Road at about 4:15 p.m. Wednesday. The prisoner had just been bound over to circuit court on a charge of assault with intent to rob while unarmed, a four-year felony.

According to reports, the man pushed him against the door and grabbed the steering wheel, causing the car to swerve across Power Road heading north onto the west shoulder.

"I was driving down Power when I

See SHOOTING, 4A

Steeped in Farmington-area history



JOHN STORME/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Pool winners: Winners of the Lee S. Peel Historical Research Contest were honored recently. They are (from left) Lauren Fleming, Kellee Fournier, Alyssa Hillman, Paul Beer, Justin Hawkins, Nicole Martin, James Trenkle, Amanda Beuckelaere, Stephanie Unger, Megan Douglass, Daren Lee, Rachel Pawlah, Ricky Gundlach, Kari Berkesch and Matt Wayne. For a story on the contest, please see Page 6A.

Condominium owner says sewer charge stinks

By LARRY O'CONNOR

STAFF WRITER

The city of Farmington doesn't think it's wise to bill separately for water and sewerage usage. A condominium owner thinks the decision is all wet.

Frank Milo, president of Longacre West Condominiums, asked council in April to let him be billed for water only.

He installed a separate meter at the complex near Arundel to measure water used for sprinkling the lawn. Residents at the complex are billed for water and sewer use.

But, Milo argued, the water for the

lawn doesn't use Farmington sewer lines; the property stretches into Farmington Hills. Excess from watering the lawn likely goes into that city's storm sewers.

City council referred the matter to John Donohue, who gave his opinion at the June 6 meeting.

Council doesn't have the authority to relieve Milo of his sewer bill, Donohue said. City code also doesn't allow a special sewer rate for those who have property crossing into both cities.

If it did, money lost would have to be made up by customers.

"The balance of the population

would end up having to pay more," Donohue said.

Milo doesn't plan to let the matter rest. He's paid the water bill — including \$772 for sewerage — despite the dispute.

"I don't want to sue the city," Milo said. "I'm here downtown, and I know these people. I don't want to create a major dispute. I just think it's unfair."

Milo said he also didn't agree with council's reasoning that charging for water only would be unfair to people who couldn't afford to buy a separate meter.

"That person who can buy a separate meter is the same person who

can afford a sprinkling system," Milo said. "A separate meter, I think, is \$150. That's not a very practical response or a good reason why they shouldn't allow that."

Farmington, like a majority of communities, bills for water and sewerage. Sewage is not measured separately, and thus the charge is based on water usage.

Farmington Hills allows for separate water only charges.

"Here's another thing that doesn't make sense: What he's saying is the people in Farmington cannot afford to buy another meter, but the people in Farmington Hills can?" Milo said.

Lack of rain prompts Hills to rein in on sprinkling

An emergency water restriction ordinance, on the books since March in Farmington Hills, has been put into effect because of the lack of rain.

The Michigan Department of Public Health has declared a lawn and landscaping sprinkling restriction for all Farmington Hills properties connected to the municipal water system.

The health department has determined that adequate water pressure and supply can no longer be maintained to the area from the current

supply mains from the city of Detroit. Farmington Hills adopted an ordinance in March that requires compliance. Several other area communities, including Farmington, are asking for voluntary compliance. But in Farmington Hills violators can be fined.

"We made it mandatory," said Tom Biasell, director of public services. "It's for the benefit of all of the customers so there will be an adequate supply."

The emergency restrictions include:

- Sprinkling of lawns and landscaping is allowed only between 8 a.m. and 3 p.m. and 8 p.m. to 11 p.m.
- Sprinkling shall only be allowed for properties with even numbered addresses on even numbered dates, and addresses with odd numbered dates.

In addition, if the restrictions aren't enough to restore adequate flow and pressure, the health department could order a total sprinkling ban.

"They've pulled the plug," Biasell said.

Violators can be fined \$100. Residents will be informed through radio, TV or newspapers of any additional restrictions or a return to normal conditions. Information will be continually updated on cable Channel 8 and is available from the city's department of public services at 473-9521.

The restrictions do not apply to hand-held hose sprinkling.

What's under that tent?

The Summer Fun Series for youngsters starts Wednesday, June 15, under the big green-and-white tent in the Downtown Center at Farmington Road and Grand River. The first program — "Adventures At Camp Reed" — offers songs, puppets, stories, and an introduction to the Farmington Community Library's popular summer reading club for kids. Program times are 10:30 a.m., noon, and 1:30 p.m. On the following Wednesday, June 22, a puppet show about disability awareness will be staged at the Civic Theatre on Grand River at the same three times. Sidewalk sales for adults will be held

FARMINGTON FOCUS

during most Summer Fun Series Wednesdays. The programs are co-sponsored by Farmington's Downtown Development Authority and local businesses.

Here's to Alberta!

Let's hear it for Alberta Caldwell, winner of Botsford Continuing Health Center's "Applause! Applause!" award for June. Caldwell, a housekeeping assistant with BCHC for five years, cleans rooms for current residents

and prepares places for new ones. She also provides personal assistance to residents.

"Alberta lends a hand any way she can," said Easle White, director of environmental services for the Farmington Hills nursing facility. "The residents think she is very helpful."

Caldwell, a Detroit resident, was nominated for the award by her co-workers and supervisors.

The "Applause! Applause!" award is given monthly to a BCHC employee who has provided "exceptional care and service to the residents." Items for Farmington Focus may be mailed to the Farmington Observer, 21899 Farmington Road, Farmington 48335, faxed to 477-9722, or dropped off at the newspaper office.