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SEVENTY-FIVE CENTS

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IN THE PAPER

TODAY

They're honored: A Farmington Public Safety officer who saved a life was recognized recently, as were civilians who helped police. /2A

Cable confab: Farmington area MetroVision subscribers will not bear the brunt of a \$6 million upgrade to the system. /3A

Crash aftermath: A woman recovering from a deadly auto crash in Farmington Hills is likely to face charges. /4A

Victim critical: A Farmington Hills woman, seriously burned in an April 11 fire in her home sauna, was still in critical condition Friday. /5A

Find the walking shoes: The March of Dimes is asking Farmington-area residents to help celebrate 25 years on the road to healthier babies. /5A

MALLS & MAINSTREETS



Selling spirit: Two Troy couples pool their finances to open a chain of motivational materials stores in southeast Michigan. /6A

TASTE

Food allergies: Foods that nourish some people, make others sick. /1B

SPORTS

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Diamond gem: Farmington High won a Western Lakes Activities Association makeup game last week. /2C

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Students: No mandatory service



A proposed requirement mandating high school seniors to perform community service is being protested by North Farmington senior Dan Pierce and some of his classmates.

BY LARRY O'CONNOR
STAFF WRITER

What was supposed to be a service learning proposal has turned into a civics lesson.

North Farmington High senior Dan Pierce and his classmates have spear-

headed a petition drive to protest a proposed graduation requirement that would have students work in the community.

So far, they have netted 600 signatures. They plan to present the petition to the Farmington School Board

of Education once all signatures are collected and verified.

"Some kids were signing 'Michael Jordan,'" Pierce said. "So we had to cross those out."

Trustees tabled the proposal March 23 for further review. Several board members were concerned about the plan, which would have required students to work 30 hours in the community starting in 1996-97.

The requirement would increase to 40 hours in ensuing years. Service learning will give students

a chance to apply knowledge in real-world situations, backers said. Detractors contended the graduation requirement amounts to involuntary servitude.

Those who backed the idea were considering ways to modify the proposal, North Principal Deborah Clarke said two weeks ago.

"We will withdraw our petition if they withdraw their proposal," Pierce said.

See PROTEST, 2A

Reflecting on a police career



SHARON LEMMON/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Honored officer: "I've seen a lot of stuff in 21 years, especially for this being a small department," says Farmington's Jim Madigan.

City's top cop Madigan cool under fire

BY LARRY O'CONNOR
STAFF WRITER

Last year, Jim Madigan had to deliver a baby in the same breath, he remembers how another child he was trying to save died in his arms.

Some 12 months later, Madigan is being honored as Farmington's Public Safety Officer of the Year. If you're looking for two separate events illustrating the full of emotions that can be known, the extreme of

being a patrol officer.

Madigan fondly recalls how he once helped deliver a baby in the same breath, he remembers how another child he was trying to save died in his arms.

"Tragedies have a way of putting perspective on triumphs. There have been both in his career. "I've seen a lot of stuff in 21 years," Madigan said, "especially for this being a small department."

Madigan has been one of the first on the scene for Farmington's only two murders in the last 15 years. His actions — along with those of other officers — were cited in both cases.

Madigan sifted through 600 tips in the 1978 slaying of a Grand Rapids supermarket employee. The murder went unsolved, but Madigan and his colleagues received a unit commendation for their work.

He also arrested and recorded Raymond Pouta's confession at the Farmington dental office which helped lead to a first-degree conviction in the brutal murder of Jackie Pouta last year.

He's been cited for helping remove an unconscious person from a burning apartment in May 1989. He was also one of several officers —

See MADIGAN, 2A

Hills' Dornan named state's top city clerk

BY BILL COUTANT
STAFF WRITER

Farmington Hills City Clerk Kathy Dornan is in a league of her own. Dornan, 42, who was honored in January for her induction into the International Institute of Municipal Clerks, was named by her fellow clerks throughout Michigan as the City Clerk of the Year and was recognized in ceremonies at Michigan State University April 19.

"We are very proud of Ms. Dornan's accomplishments here in Farmington Hills and pleased that her work is being recognized by her colleagues from across the state," said Hills City Manager Bill Costick. "She is very articulate, she's a real professional, and we all think the world of her."

Dornan, a mother of three and wife to Wisom City Manager Mike Dor-



Kathy Dornan

nan, was elected City Clerk of the Year in statewide balloting.

Mayor Joanne Smith said she was "proud, but not a bit surprised."

"We've always felt that Kathy is the best in the state," Smith said. "People don't know how hard she works to make sure elections go

See CLERK, 2A

Future is looking bright for Grand River corridor

BY BILL COUTANT
STAFF WRITER

The Grand River corridor will be brightened up as part of a redevelopment plan.

A lighting project, which will include 90 lights along the corridor between Eight Mile and Middlebelt in Farmington Hills, will consume a large chunk of the budget for improvements for 1995/96.

The Grand River Improvement Committee's proposed budget will include \$50,000 of 1994/95 Community Development Block Grant money, \$222,000 in 1995/96 CDBG funds, \$100,000 in Farmington Hills money from its capital improvement fund, \$7,000 from the Economic Development Corporation, and \$20,000 from the Michigan Department of Transportation. The city has also applied for an additional \$22,000 in federal grant money.

"There's no question, this is an important step," said John Anbut,

chairman of the Grand River Corridor Study Group, and until its sale last year, a 43-year owner of the Botsard Inn. "I think we've got to inspire more businesses to become interested in bringing the area up."

The lighting and landscaping plan for phase one, which will go before the City Council tonight for approval, includes street lighting, landscaping, sidewalks, screening, handicap ramps, driveway access, removal of telephone poles, sign improvements, curb repair and construction.

"It's something our city administration is excited about," said City Manager Bill Costick. "This is just the first phase (from Eight Mile to Middlebelt). But we hope to extend this to Orchard Lake eventually."

Costick said he hopes the project will begin a turnaround to one of the older parts of the city, and praised

See CORRIDOR, 2A