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THE WEEK AHEAD

MONDAY

Meet: The Farmington Hills City Council will meet at 7:30 p.m. in council chambers, 31555 11 Mile.

WEDNESDAY

Attend: First United Methodist Church of Farmington will hold a Community Interfaith Thanksgiving service at 7:30 p.m. The service is sponsored by the Farmington Area Interfaith Association. The church is located at 33112 Grand River in Farmington.

THURSDAY

Relax: It's Thanksgiving Day. Enjoy! All municipal offices are closed. Trash will not be picked up today.

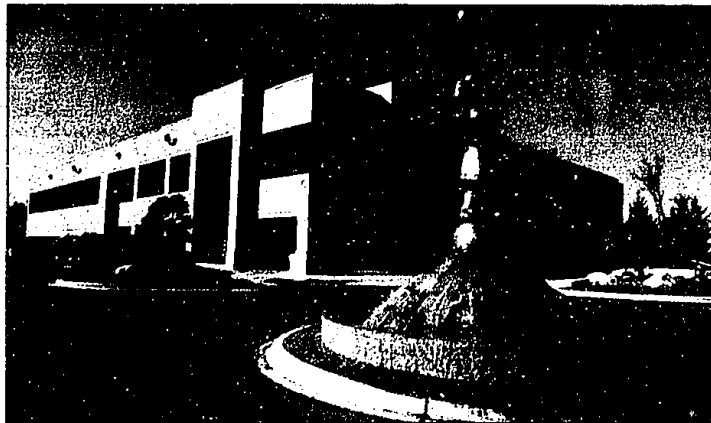
WEEKEND

Perform: Now through Nov. 27, the Farmington Players are presenting "The Women" at 8 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays. The theater is located at 32332 W. 12 Mile in Farmington Hills. For ticket information, call the box office at 553-2955.

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Award winners



On top: A&W headquarters was chosen to receive the chamber's top beautification award.

STAFF PHOTO BY BILL BRZDZALA

A&W floats to the top

BY LARRY O'CONNOR
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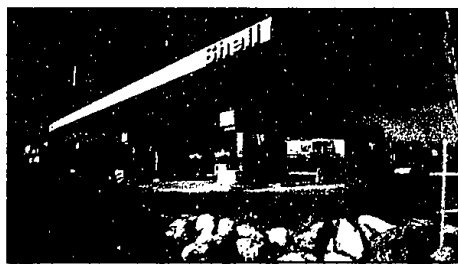
A Farmington Hills company that prides itself on a product having a rich and foamy head made beautification officials float with praise.

A&W headquarters on Halsted so dazzled Farmington Hills Beautification Commission members that the plaudits nearly outweighed the tributes.

The restaurant specializing in root beer received the chamber of commerce's top beautification award. A&W and several others were honored during the commission's annual award breakfast Oct. 28.

The company built its two-story, 37,000-square-foot headquarters on Halsted near 12 Mile last year.

Hills-based Cunningham-Limp Co. designed the structure, which houses 100 A&W corporate employees as well as a research and design kitchen for the national chain.



Award: The Shell gas station at 12 Mile and Halsted also received honors.

For a list of winners, please turn to page A7

"They went way over and above on the landscaping," said Sue Grissim, a landscape architect and Beautification Commissioner. "They just exceeded any of the office complexes in Farmington Hills in terms of landscaping."

The site features lush flowered gardens and evergreen hedges, which are visible from Halsted. "So you're not looking at a parking lot," Grissim said.

Instead of a new corporate citizen detracting from the area with a cold, asphalt exterior, A&W is credited with enhancing what is already a natural beauty spot, Grissim said.

Please see BEAUTY, A3

Tyndale turned down

■ Residents made their feelings known about a proposed expansion of William Tyndale College on 12 Mile, which was turned down by the Farmington Hills Planning Commission.

BY HEATHER NEEDHAM
STAFF WRITER

It's just too much in too little space.

That was the consensus of the Farmington Hills Planning Commission Thursday as it voted unanimously against a request from William Tyndale College to expand its campus in a 20-year, four-phase plan.

"Unfortunately, I feel the intensity of this plan is just overwhelming," said Sharon Garms, planning commission chair.

Tyndale's proposal was for a \$100 million, 20-year plan finished in four phases on a 26-acre parcel. The college has been in Farmington Hills since 1978.

William Tyndale President James McHann said the college has a lot to be proud of.

Please see TYNDALE, A6

College wants to expand

William Tyndale College in Farmington Hills



Density, dollars are key

BY LARRY O'CONNOR
STAFF WRITER
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After plenty of dancing, Farmington Hills city officials have finally chosen a partner to build a golf course and residential development at 11 Mile and Halsted.

City officials agreed to negotiate with CED/Selective group to expand San Marino golf course on 110 acres.

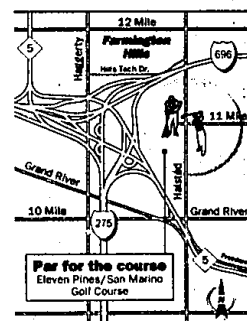
During a recent study session, CED/Selective's \$8.91 million proposal was picked ahead of bids submitted by Bestak/Kaftan and Crosswinds Communities.

If negotiations fail, the city will start talks with Bestak/Kaftan or Crosswinds respectively.

Density and dollars are seen as key negotiation points.

The city would like to get a handle on number of units in CED/Selective's

Please see ELEVEN, A6



Par for the course: Eleven Pines/San Marino Golf Course

Dwyer applauds county's 911 effort

BY HEATHER NEEDHAM
STAFF WRITER

Beginning next year, Oakland County phone customers will begin paying a charge on their bills — amounting to an average of 57 cents per month, or \$7 per year.

The Oakland County Board of Commissioners voted 19-3 to approve the 4 percent surcharge, which will cover improvements to the county's 911 system. The surcharge is expected to generate \$6 million annually countywide and is expected to expire in 2006.

Voting against the surcharge were commissioners Tim Melton, Auburn

Hills; Brenda Causey-Mitchell, Pontiac and John Garfield, Rochester Hills.

Commissioner Terry Sever, who represents Farmington Hills, did not return phone calls by press time Friday.

Farmington Hills Police Chief Bill Dwyer helped spearhead the resolution, which was discussed for about two years before Thursday's vote. His biggest concerns about the current 911 system are its potential failings during emergencies — such as a fire that destroyed two Farmington businesses last year, and the Wixom Ford plant shootings in 1996.

In emergency situations, police and

fire departments using different radio frequencies can have potentially costly — or deadly — implications.

The Nov. 11, 1996, fire destroyed the Wash Hut coin laundry and the Hong Kong Chinese restaurant on Orchard Lake and Grand River. The Farmington Public Safety department requested mutual aid from Farmington Hills. Because of different frequencies, the two departments could not talk to each other via radio and the fire escalated more quickly than it should have, Dwyer said. An in-vehicle video camera actually captured the flames escalat-

Please see 111, A5

Fire causes \$25,000 in damage

Someone leaving French fries unattended while cooking apparently was the cause of a second floor apartment fire Thursday

MUIRWOOD

that caused an estimated \$25,000 damage. Farmington Hills firefighters responded to the blaze in the 24000 block of Highland Court at 6:30 p.m. Thursday, in the Muirwood apartment complex. The fire was confined to the second floor apartment, but the apartment underneath sustained water damage, according to fire officials.

Deputy Fire Chief Pete Baldwin said the

Please see FIRE, A4



STAFF PHOTO BY BRIGAN LEMERIE

Emotional: Gregory Chapman, assistant executive director of Boys and Girls Republic, recently met with families of victims of the EgyptAir 990 crash.

Counselor tackles emotions

BY HEATHER NEEDHAM
STAFF WRITER

Gregory Chapman, as assistant executive director of Boys and Girls Republic in Farmington Hills, has dealt with child abuse, neglect and mental problems afflicting children and adolescents for 20 years.

EGYPTAIR

But when Chapman was recently called out to the site of the Oct. 31 EgyptAir 990 crash site in Newport, R.I., he tackled problems —

Please see CRASH, A5

