

2 a.m. Sunday, October 28th

Fall back to Standard Time



Don't forget to turn your clock back one hour at 2 a.m. on Sunday, October 28, (or before you go to bed on Saturday, October 27.)

IN THE WORLD TODAY

Charity: With so much aid going to relief efforts in New York, local charities hope they're not forgotten as the holidays approach and their needs increase. See *HomeTown Life* / C1.

No treats: The Livonia Mall has canceled a Halloween event, due to the terrorist attacks on September 11 and public safety concerns. Other malls are pushing forward anyway. / A4

OPINION

Hills Council: We've made our recommendations for the three open council seats / A6

Anthrax fears: It's time to balance caution with common sense / A7

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Shah neighbors 'not going away'



BY KEVIN BROWN
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Residents in Oxford Estates say they won't stop fighting to get the city to clean up a home that has been under construction for three years. The homeowner has threatened to file a civil rights suit, alleging racial harassment.

A determined dozen Farmington Hills homeowners angered that a neighbor's house and yard remain unfinished after three years told city council Oct. 15, "We're not going away."

But while they vented disgust with the situation to city officials, council responded that an Oakland County circuit judge has prevailing authority to decide the case Nov. 30.

At issue is the home of Betty and Ajay Shah, on Winchester Court. Several Oxford Estates homeowners stepped up to the podium to describe

the property as unsightly, and to prod the city administration to action.

City Attorney John Donahue told the homeowners that under an Oakland Circuit Court order, porch columns and steps must be complete and the lot graded, by the November hearing date.

"If they do not comply they are in a position to be held in contempt of court," Donahue said. "We are stepping forward and attempting to enforce the ordinances. We are trying to do what you are asking us to do."

Ajay Shah said the yard has been graded, as the city asked. His wife

Betty said the hay bales are also there at the city's request, to control erosion. She charged neighbors are trying to force the family from the "so-called upscale neighborhood" because the Shahas are Indian.

"If you don't let them play god, this is how they harass you," she said, adding the family "is having a civil rights lawyer look into it."

Ajay Shah said porch columns have been ordered from India. He said there are some delays in the shipment, "because of the war."

Please see SHAH, A2

'New' Blue Circle plans events

■ The volunteers who put together 'Cafe on the Porch' at the Warner Mansion have the same name, but a different purpose.

BY JONI HUBRED
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"We were just this group of people," That's how Denise Tawyea describes the Blue Circle, a small committee of volunteers who organized this summer's Cafe on the Porch at the Governor Warner Mansion on Grand River in Farmington. The Cafe drew as many as 50 people at its zenith and ended in August, amid a flurry of controversy.

But Blue Circle members have moved on.

"Once we left the mansion and realized how much we'd touched the community, we realized we needed a more formal entity," Tawyea said. The newly re-formulated group's purpose,

Please see BLUE, A5

Sober October



HEAVY PHOTO BY BILL HERSHLEDER

Pass it on: Warner students pass a spinning Frisbee at a Sober October performance by the Flying Aces. Below, Brian Hayes is laying down on the job as Greg Nelson leaps over.

Warner welcomes Frisbee fanatics

■ Among the Sober October activities designed to encourage students to maintain a healthy lifestyle was a demonstration by the Flying Aces Pro Frisbee Team at Warner Middle School.

BY SUE BUCK
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Brian Hayes, a member of the Flying Aces Pro Frisbee Team admitted he was surprised.

Having given two nearly flawless performances in the gymnasium, he was handing out mini Frisbees at Warner Middle School in Farmington Hills when he heard student Valon Dedvukaj's comment to a reporter.

"I liked it, it was fun," Dedvukaj

said of the show. "But, they should have done more talking about alcohol and drugs."

"I found that interesting that he would say we should mention this more," Hayes said. "That's good, actually. The majority of kids we see are good kids, even in the inner city schools I only see them for an hour at a time, but most of them seem to be good kids."

The annual message delivered

Please see SOBER, A2



Cornucopia Ball set November 3

■ Organizers were set back a little by the September 11 national tragedy, but plans for the fund-raiser at Bosch are still on track.

BY JONI HUBRED
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One of the area's premiere fund-raisers, the Farmington Hills/Farmington Community Foundation's Cornucopia Ball has a new home and a renewed commitment in the wake of national events, organizers say.

Traditionally held at Glen Oaks Country Club, the ball has been moved to Robert Bosch Corporation, which completed a \$53 million expansion last fall. Dinner will be served through the company's new cafeteria, which boasts a carpeted dining area with tall win-

Please see BALL, A3

Downtown Farmington Halloween Fun Fest



What big eyes you have! Little Red Riding Hood (Katie McManus) will be ready for trick or treaters at the Farmington Observer during Saturday's downtown Halloween Fun Fest. Kids can trick or treat from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. and enjoy a petting zoo, pony rides, butterfly house, reptile exhibit and a fun tent open from 1 p.m.-4 p.m. The Civic Theatre will host a "Spooky Monster Magic Show" at 1:30 p.m. The event is sponsored by the Downtown Development Authority.

STAFF PHOTO BY BILL HERSHLEDER

Local postal workers more vigilant

BY KEVIN BROWN
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Local postal workers are becoming more vigilant following the anthrax deaths of fellow mail handlers in Washington.

"You have to make sure to try and pay attention about what's going on, which is what we should be doing anyway," said Neil Oliver, a clerk at the post office in the Downtown Farmington Center.

Downtown post office staff say some mail carriers have taken to wearing latex gloves, and some mail sorters are also using gloves. None are wearing masks on the job.

"I feel really bad," Oliver said, of the two postal workers who died from

Please see USFS, A3

CONSTRUCTION SUPPLY company in Auburn Hills has an immediate opening for an experienced detail/designer

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