

Farmington Observer & Eccentric

Volume 87 Number 80

Monday, July 26, 1976

Farmington, Michigan

24 Pages

Twenty Five Cents



New view on Main Street

Gereard Potthoff, manager of Vintner Wine of Farmington, stands before his recently completed downtown mural. The painting depicts a California winery, circa 1851, and includes nearly 40 life-size figures. Potthoff, an art major at Wayne State University, used 10 gallons of latex paint on the project, spending

18 days, and working in temperatures often more than 90 degrees. He hopes his endeavor will enhance the downtown area, as well as show others what can be done with a blank wall by an imaginative artist. (Staff photo by Harry Mauthe)

SADDLE UP

Old time rodeo streaks into town

By STEVE BARABY
Farmington editor

Festival insert in today's paper

In a cloud of sawdust, the rodeo is on its way.

Kids and adults alike will once again be thrilled by the American breed sport owing to the Farmington Rodeo Festival on July 30-31.

Sponsored by the International Rodeo Association and sponsored by the Farmington Area Jaycees, the rodeo will be at Twelve Mile and Farmington Road. The

formers will be 6 p.m. on Friday and 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. on Saturday. Tickets available at the gate will be \$10 for adults and \$2.50 for children.

Included in the events are barrel racing, riding, bull riding, all rodeo events, barrel racing, saddle horse riding and steer wrestling.

Also entertaining the crowd will be several specialty acts and of course, the rodeo clowns.

Wearing grease paint funny hats (top hats and oversized hats) the clowns will act to entertain the audience and protect the cowboys.

The rodeo clown, according to rodeo

sparemen have one of the most dangerous jobs in the world of professional rodeo. But he makes the danger take on a humorous glow.

Many a clown has been called upon to run alongside a bucking, twisting 2,000 pound bull in an attempt to free a rider whose hand became hung in the bull rope.

Of special interest to Farmington area residents will be the appearance of Tom Decker, a professional rodeo cowboy, who lives in Farmington.

Decker joined the rodeo circuit in 1950 at

(Continued on page 8A)

Oak Hill chief denies report of violations

By CORINNE ABATT

Although the state no longer has any quarrels with the 16-bed Oak Hill Nursing Home, 2600 Gill Road, the home was on a list of those denied a license to operate published in a metropolitan Detroit daily paper.

Dr. Edwin Blumberg, president of the corporation which owns both the annex and the larger Oak Hill Nursing Home on the corner of Gill and Grand River, says it is a bum rap.

He states the evaluation from the state which he received after a June 29 inspection of the facility was made.

All deficiencies but one have been corrected or substantially improved.

One item of contention between the doctor and state licensing officials is an office for director of nurses. Dr. Blumberg has maintained all along and through litigation that there is an office for the director of nurses in the larger building and that neither isn't needed in the small annex.

THE DOCTOR ALSO FEELS that both facilities, since they are operated as one unit with shared staff and services, should be under one license.

Paul Phelps of the Michigan Department of Standards and Licensing has disagreed because he apparently fears the ramifications of such a precedent in other nursing homes.

However Phelps said in an interview this week, "There is nothing to worry about concerning Oak Hill Annex."

He continued: "We have had many meetings with Dr. Blumberg and the administrator and we have agreed upon a plan of action. They have been renovating the physical plant and that should be done by the middle of August."

Dr. Blumberg verified the target date with the contractor and said it would be August as anticipated.

The main building and the annex have a combined 150 patients and 16 of these ambulatory females are housed in the annex. When the \$60,000 worth of structural changes are completed there will still be only 16 patients, Dr. Blumberg said.

He was quick to point out that there has never been a fire hazard in the building. It is a completely sprinklered building.

The state evaluation also stated, "The

patients were up and about clean and well groomed."

Dr. Blumberg like Phelps says the licensing problem has been resolved and the question of patient care has no other structural changes to comply with governmental standards. Dr. Blumberg gives an example of one on which the government had later relaxed its requirements.

They wanted separate rest rooms for male and female visitors. We demonstrated the number of visitors to the area over a year and the average was five a week.

He goes on to say that the expense of more bathrooms for the few visitors is not like an unnecessary expense that contributed little if anything to patient welfare and quality of care.

Dr. Blumberg said some of the medical care standards set by the Michigan Department of Education and Welfare (DEW) are out of date and out of touch with reality.

Phelps said in his interview that he trusts that there are no litigation suits from Dr. Blumberg and the Oak Hill Nursing Home Corporation. But he has issued that point and have reached a settlement of the matter. Patient care is the top priority.

While others in Detroit, such as the independent organizations in Detroit, are not permitted to operate nursing homes, conditions in the annex are as good as in the Oak Hill main building.

THE COMPLAINTS ON FILE from last year which were submitted to the state, Phelps said, are mostly about the physical plant and that should be done by the middle of August.

Although CB has the right to deny the annex license on its own, no reason is listed. The spokesperson said that sometimes there are constraints about a license in the supplemental information which is not given to the public but state said.

There is nothing on the supplemental information that is a cause for concern.

CB doesn't recommend a nursing home. They do however give information on complaints. In the case of the Oak Hill Annex, there was no complaint on the record.

Dr. Blumberg said that there has always been a waiting list for both buildings. He works it off by offering an admission to the daily program at the Oak Hill Annex.

State eyes crackdown on health center ban

By YVONNE DEVLIN

Local municipalities will have a harder time shutting out community living centers for former mental patients if a series of bills now being studied by state lawmakers are passed.

The Farmington area has four such centers. They are available to former residents of mental institutions and those who are on the threshold of institutionalization.

The basic purpose of these bills is to prevent a ghetto or a cluster of these homes to exist together, says State Rep. Wilbur Broderick, R-Farmington.

A study on Michigan's community placement system by a joint committee of state representatives and senators alleges that the system has suffered grave and continuing deficiencies in most if not all areas of its operation.

As a result of the study, a series of five bills are now being considered by state lawmakers.

THE BILLS WOULD REQUIRE standards in licensing community living centers and prevent the local governments from arbitrarily excluding these homes from the community by seeking restrictive zoning procedures, according to Broderick.

"Such persons still like to work and if they all live together, there may not be enough jobs available for everyone," he says.

The legislation was prompted by the State Department of Social Services, which was being accused by some cities of taking older buildings in the undesirable sections of town, he says.

There were objections from the neighbors that they were running down the neighborhood, he says.

Three of the bills would allow licensed facilities to serve as private homes, as long as no more than six unrelated adults lived there, according to State Rep. Philip Martin (D-Hazel Park).

The reason for these three bills is to amend the municipal township and zoning acts, many of which have been in existence since the 1920s, he says.

The remaining two bills protect the local governments, says Martin.

The homes could not exist less than 1,000 feet from each other, which is approximately three blocks. This will avoid the ghettoization that occurred in such states as New York and California, he says.

The bill would also provide that no adult foster care home need be accepted by a community unless it is licensed and certain standards are met, he says.

Presently there is no way for a local government to appeal if there is disagreement in licensing or location, and the bill would allow an appeal procedure.

We're not going to allow the Department of Social Services to dictate, he says.

AN INCREASE IN THE NUMBER of former mental patients getting into commu-

nity placement, and no standards for the foster homes have made this a difficult problem for local units of government, according to Martin.

There are two types of homes which are available: the contract and the adult foster home, he says.

The vast majority of the adult foster homes are found and licensed by the Department of Social Services and all they provide is room and board, says Martin.

A program may be available in the community but there is either a long waiting list or a problem of transportation where the patient cannot get to the program, he says.

In the contract home, services, as well as room and board are provided and the Department of Mental Health must pay extra for these services, he says.

"Appropriate housing should be available or they (the Dept. of Social Services) end up dumping these patients in boarding homes. Or at least that's what they've been doing for the last eight years, and we hope to put a stop to this procedure," says Martin.

"If a person requires continuous treatment and therapy, we want to make sure that these services are available in the community for this particular person," he says.

No one should be able to leave the hospital until the housing and program is available, says Martin.

"If the recommendations of the report are incorporated into law then our system will become humane and decent," he says.



Brahma bulls will be doing their best to rid themselves of cowboys at this weekend's Jaycee Rodeo.

Heart attack crusade contemplated

By YVONNE B. DEVLIN

Fifteen heart attacks were reported in the City of Farmington in the six month period from January 1 to June 30, 1976. This category was newly designated in the Farmington's semi-annual report to determine how useful an EMS unit would be in the area, says Farmington police chief, Dan Byrnes.

The report was presented to the Farmington City Council Monday.

"This is quite a few heart attacks, it's something else we can do," says (Councilman Bill Haglund, Seattle, Washington was recently the sub-

ject of a CBS Sixty Minutes interview because of the advanced medical training and instruments that the city uses in training its policemen and ambulance drivers.

According to the interview, a heart attack victim has the best chances of survival in Seattle.

Hartsock asks if Farmington can learn from Seattle and have a program similar to theirs.

The vast majority of the runs aren't life and death situations, says Byrnes, and usually just first aid or cardiopulmonary resuscitation. (CPR) is all that's needed.

"Most clinics in the area aren't equipped with the sophisticated equipment that we're talking about," says Councilman Alton Bennett.

Most heart attack victims are taken to Borgford Hospital if minutes count, says Byrnes. But if there is time, the victim may choose the hospital of his preference.

"The city of Seattle trained one in five residents in CPR which really isn't that hard. It's time-consuming but a good program," says Byrnes.

Farmington police will give CPR training to anyone who asks — homeowners, teachers, schools, according to Byrnes.

"We are more than happy to cooperate with any group in teaching this program," he says.

But Farmington no longer has a Resusc-Aid, which is the dummy used in teaching proper mouth-to-mouth resuscitation and external heart massage techniques. It was worn out from the constant use and will cost \$200 to replace, says Byrnes.

Hartsock suggested investigation into the possibility of purchasing another Resusc-Aid.

inside

New Section A
Sports
Cricketbarrel
Around the edges
Letters
Section B
Biblical Life
Community Calendar
Classifieds
Section B/C

A SPECIAL TREAT

Be sure to save your carrier receipt this month. You can save \$1.00 off the regular price of your next medium or large pizza by presenting it at participating Little Caesars in Wayne and Oakland counties.