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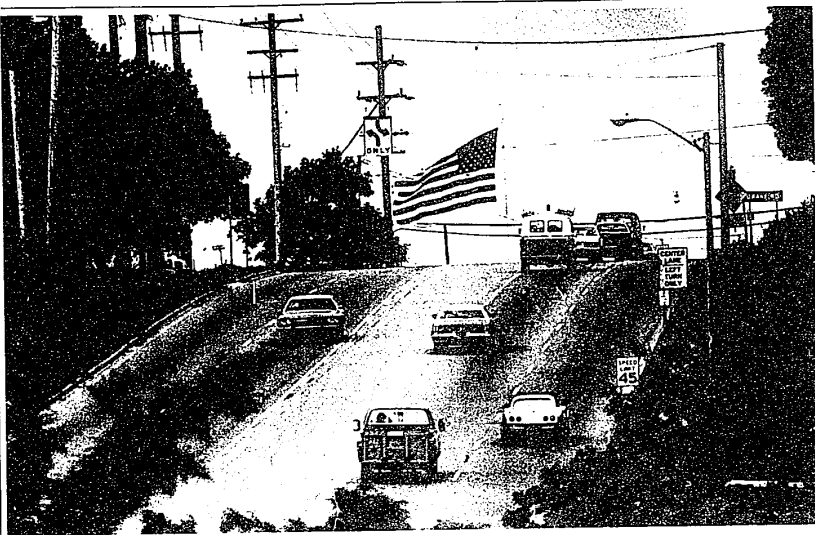
Thursday, July 3, 1980

Farmington, Michigan

52 Pages

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Oh, say can you see?

Motorists making their way down Grand River near Drake are greeted by this patriotic scene of the giant flag flying over Bob Sax

Oldsmobile dealership. Although the flag seems particularly appropriate for the Fourth of July, it is a regular fixture at the dealership.

(Staff photo by Randy Borst)

Siren rejection spurs drive for election

By STEVE BARNABY

Farmington editor

Farmington Hills residents could have a say on whether they want a tornado warning system.

A referendum petition drive has been launched by a group of Farmington Hills residents, disgruntled over the City Council's decision on June 23 to not spend \$60,000 to install a siren system.

Springbrook resident Michael Cohen, a civil defense volunteer, is leading the drive.

"Basically, this is for the welfare and safety of the residents of the community. Any warning system is better than no system," he said.

Cohen must collect 3,500 signatures by the first week in August to put the siren question before the voters.

Cohen labels the siren warning system as a "life saving" investment that was instrumental in saving many lives during the recent Kalamazoo tornado.

The siren proposal was rejected in a 4-3 vote, with those opposing the system pointing to lack of money. The city has \$450,000 in unappropriated surplus, money saved for emergencies.

But because of the uncertain eco-

nomic atmosphere and the possibility that the newest Tisch tax proposal could become reality, the council is hanging on to its money.

BUT COHEN hopes he can get the council majority to change its opinions. "I've met with a couple of council members who voted against the program," he said. "They seemed willing to cooperate."

Although reluctant to name those with whom he met, Cohen said they are discussing alternatives for a future warning system.

"If the idea is worthwhile, they'll get back to me. If not, we're right back where we started," he said.

While continuing to circulate his referendum petitions, Cohen has put off a contemplated recall drive of those who voted against the tornado system.

Voting against the system were Councilmen Joe Alkateeb, Jack Burwell, William Lange and Donn Wolf.

If negotiations fail, Cohen said a recall drive could very possibly be launched.

Under the plan presented to the

(Continued on Page 4A)

Neighbor chronicles suspect's lifestyle

By MARY GNIEWEK

At Gray's neighbors noticed things about him.

"Like the chauffeured limousine that would wait in front of his apartment building to take Gray, dressed in blue jeans, or his fashionably attired girlfriend places. Often the driver, a man about 40 dressed in a gray suit, spent half the day waiting.

"I know these apartments are expensive, but they're not that expensive," said Pam Wright, 20, who lived across the hall from Gray, an accused drug dealer, in the Gateways Apartments near Middlebelt and 12 Mile.

Wright and her roommate, Sue Kleck, 22, were cooking dinner last Thursday when Detroit narcotics officers used a battering-ram to open Gray's front door, resulting in four arrests and seizure of four kilos of cocaine valued at \$500,000.

The women watched as police escorted eight persons from the apartment and searched at least five cars

about him. Gray, Wright provided one officer with a coat hanger to break into Gray's black and silver Corvette.

"All his cars were loaded — really nice," she said.

Another neighbor, barbecuing on his patio during the bust, offered police grilled hot dogs.

"It was like a circus," Wright said. "I lived in Detroit and I never saw anything like it."

GRAY IS CHARGED with possession of 650 grams of cocaine, the white narcotic powder considered to be a chic drug among its middle and upper middle class users. It sells for \$100 a gram.

Two other men were charged with possession, Kenneth Pierce, 36, of Detroit and Thomas DiVozzo, 39, of Sterling Heights. Pierce is charged with possession of 225 to 600 grams, DiVozzo with possession of 50 grams. The fourth arrest that night was Brigida Vasilievich, a Peruvian citizen charged with possession of one ounce of marijuana.

Conviction would mean life imprisonment for Gray, a Polish citizen whose real name is Szymon Aleksander Gray. The 33-year-old Farmington Hills resident has an alien status "green card," entitling him to all rights of American citizens except voting.

Gray has lived in the U.S. for 16 years.

Simultaneous raids were conducted June 26 in Union Lake, Oak Park and Mount Clemens. Police believe all were part of the same operation, a South America/Detroit connection by way of Florida.

Provided with information from other police departments and informants, the Detroit narcotics squad reportedly had Gray under surveillance for a month. Gray was unemployed, according to police.

Held on \$100,000 bond, Gray awaits a pre-trial exam in the Oakland County jail. An attempt for bond reduction Monday was denied by the court.

WILE COURT ACTION proceeds, Gray's two-bedroom apartment remains padlocked by apartment management. He lived in the \$390 a month unit for nearly a year.

"No one in the building knew him much," said his neighbor, Kleck. "He didn't talk to anyone. He wasn't very friendly."

Neighbors commented about frequent late night parties and an unusual number of visitors to Gray's apartment. Wright saw three well-dressed businessmen enter the apartment an hour before the raid and has watched a progression of persons try to enter the apartment since it was padlocked.

Sgt. Lorin Budzinski, a Detroit police

(Continued on Page 16A)

Arraignment due for 3rd suspect in kidnap caper

By MARY GNIEWEK

The third suspect in a plot to kidnap a Farmington Hills businessman will be arraigned in 47th District Court in Farmington this weekend.

Insung Kim, 30, a Korean from Salt Lake City, Utah, is awaiting extradition from Denver, Colorado.

Kim was arrested by Denver authorities last Friday after he got off a Frontier Airlines jet from Detroit to make a connection to Salt Lake City.

Farmington Hills Police Sgt. Al Haver and Detective John Kohls left for Denver yesterday.

Kim will be charged with conspiracy to kidnap, possession of a firearm, kidnapping and assault with intent to kidnap.

Kim was identified by one of the other suspects, Gary Lee Kelley, 22, who was arrested last Friday in Farmington Hills.

Kelley and Rick Scogogan, 19, arrested Friday at Detroit Metropolitan Airport, were arraigned Saturday on charges of kidnapping. Both men are from Salt Lake City and are being held on \$500,000 bond in the Oakland County Jail.

According to police, the three are suspected of conspiring to kidnap Mr. and Mrs. Byung Park and hold the couple's two children for \$40,000 ransom.

Kelley was arrested by Farmington Hills police in the Middlebelt/11 Mile road area Friday morning after a skirmish with Mrs. Majin Park. Mrs. Park ran from the suspect and called police after Kelley tried to force her and her husband into a car parked in front of their home.

PARK, OWNER OF A Detroit shoe store, was with Kelley when the arrest was made just blocks from his home.

The Park family was taken into protective custody Friday while Kelley told Oakland County Prosecutor L. Brooks Patterson of a plot to kidnap the couple and named the other two suspects.

Police are investigating a possible link in the case. Park's brother, Song Sung Park, of Farmington Hills, once lived in Salt Lake City and knew Kim.

"I don't know if there's a link with the brother. We'd like to find out," Haver said.

Kelley told police the couple was to be driven to a nearby shopping center parking lot where a tape recorded message in Korean was to be played for them demanding the money and threatening to kill the two Park children if the demand wasn't met.

"There's a possibility there's more to this than meets the eye," Haver said. "There are many different aspects to this investigation."

Pre-exam conferences for Scogogan and Kelley were scheduled yesterday afternoon in district court.

Condo bill to help senior adult renters

Legislation originally aimed at guaranteeing life leases for elderly apartment renters whose units are being converted to condos was trimmed last week but it's still alive. The bill and the new amendments are now in the Senate awaiting consideration.

The State House of Representatives Friday passed two bills designed to keep senior citizen tenants age 65 or older from being forced out of converted apartment buildings. But the lifetime lease proposal was amended to a seven-year lease. The bills were changed to provide similar protection for the handicapped.

Part of a four-bill package, the measure was introduced by Sen. Doug Ross, D-Oak Park. State House Majority Floor Leader Joseph Forbes, D-Oak Park and Rep. John Bennett, D-Redford Township, co-sponsored the package.

"It's doubtful that a compromise will be reached on the bills before the legislature adjourns for the summer," said Neva Carter, Ross's administrative assistant. "But there's a remote chance that it will."

"There's one provision in the bill that's still up in the air. This would empower the Michigan State Housing and

Development Authority (MSHA) to make loans to condominium developers offering leases. We're not sure how the Senate will act on that."

A FORMULA written into the bill states that senior citizens in converted condominiums may qualify for the seven-year lease if they pay up to \$450 for a one-bedroom unit and up to \$500 for two bedrooms, Ms. Carter said. Elderly tenants paying higher rents are only eligible for two-year leases in converted units, she said.

The formula limits the raises in senior's rent to the rise in inflation to insure elderly tenants pay no more than fair market rates, according to Ms. Carter. One of the bills allows MSHA to make loans to senior citizens who want to buy their units.

Bennett proposed a bill calling for a three-year moratorium on condo conversions. Forbes and Ross, however, claim that's an unrealistic way to deal with the problem.

Elderly tenants, according to the three legislation, can't afford to buy their units or find similar apartments with rents they can afford.

Builders aren't starting new apartment projects because of high interest

rates, according to Bennett who claims there's a severe shortage of rentals.

Apartments built many years ago for \$15,000 a unit are now being sold as

condominiums for, at least \$50,000, Bennett said. Apartment owners say rental rates can't keep up with rising costs of operations and higher taxes.



Pam Wright, a Gateway resident, tells what it was like to witness the drug raid at her apartment complex recently. (Staff photo by Randy Borst)

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