

Dealers win in bid to change law on mopeds

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The legislation which led to the new law, House Bill 4318, was sponsored by

state Rep. Richard Fitzpatrick, D-Battle Creek. The reason he supported the legislation was to eliminate the pedal requirement.

Dealers were having a hard time finding manufacturers who produced mopeds with pedals, and there was confusion in differentiating between

mopeds and motorcycles, according to Fitzpatrick.

"The law brought Michigan in compliance with national standards of what a moped is," he said. "Michigan isn't an island and other states didn't have the pedal requirements. So you can't have manufacturers produce vehicles espe-

cially designed for us."

FARMINGTON HILLS Police Chief also saw problems with the old law which caused what he called "a real gray area."

"The law defines it a lot more clearly and a lot will depend on how the police department enforces the law," he said.

The helmet requirement will provide safer conditions for the operators also, he said.

"Even though the law only requires helmets for operators under 19, all moped riders should wear helmets for their own protection and the protection of their immediate family," said Secretary of State Richard Austin in a recent statement.

City council wrestles with downsized houses

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"No one is raping this city. You just have one or two isolated incidences of

building smaller houses," Whitten added. Instead of adopting an ordinance controlling the size and architecture of

homes allowable in certain subdivisions, Whitten said, downsizing problems could be dealt with more satisfactorily between developer and neighbor-

hood residents.

"There are ways to do these things without creating a monster," he said. But homeowners and council mem-

bers did not appear convinced by Whitten's optimism that an ordinance is unnecessary.

"I THINK it would be a good idea to speed it (drafting a revised ordinance) up as much as possible," said Councilman Charles Williams, pointing out that building permits for new homes are on the increase. The ordinance, he added, could stop the building permits for smaller houses.

Firefighters battle Salem belfry blaze

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Lauffoff indicated that the fire was out by about 4:45 p.m. but fire fighters

worked for more than another hour sawing and removing the burned top of the church tower.

"Because of the weather, we thought it was the safest way to take it down," he said, referring to fire fighters' pulling the burned section away.

Manned by both Farmington and the Hills fire fighters, the aerial basket was edged to the steeple, where fire fighters first knocked out a vent into the tower "to be sure there were no (hot) embers up inside."

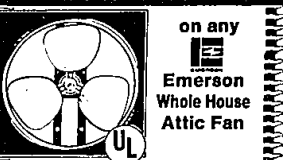
Lawrence Tech honors students

Lawrence Institute of Technology announces students from the Farmington and Farmington Hills area who are on the dean's list.

The students from Farmington are: John Burns, Chris Enright, Fred Jagenberg, Mary McSweeney, David Mielock, Joseph Murphy and Leslie Nuler.

The students from Farmington Hills are: Bruce Barnard, Richard Bartlett, Larry Bemis, Michael Chokal, Hubert Cole, Holly Helms, Stephen Hodges, Lisa Hovey, Thomas Hurst, Michael Kaiser, Laurie Larson, Linda Lindhardt, Michael Pacheco, Maura Ragini, Mark Terrell, Dennis Thompson and Denis Weber.

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