



Farmington Observer

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Farmington Focus

If you have a news item or an idea for a feature story or an action picture with a Farmington-area connection, send a note to our downtown office at 33203 Grand River, Farmington 48024. Please include a daytime telephone number.

IT'S UNSAFE for Farmington or Farmington Hills residents to burn leaves in the open. Violators are subject to a warning or a misdemeanor penalty of up to 90 days in jail and a \$500 fine. Hills Fire Chief Richard Marinucci suggests using a grass mulcher to minimize bulk, then bagging the leaves for trash collection. In Farmington, the Department of Public Services will make special neighborhood visits later in the fall to collect curbside leaves. A schedule will be published in the Observer.

TO HELP keep residents abreast of projects, proposals and special events supported by Farmington Hills, the Department of Special Services' video production division airs the cable TV program "Viewpoint City of Farmington Hills." The video is produced by Douglas Gaynor, special services director. The half-hour program is shown at 1:30 and 7:30 p.m. the second and fourth Thursday of each month on Channel 12. "Viewpoint" is hosted by Hills Mayor A. Janette Dolan and City Manager William Costick. The program also devotes time to question from viewers. To relate your question, call 476-3835.

THREE students from Farmington Hills had their scholarships renewed for the 1985-86 academic year at Alma College, Alma. They are senior Michael Thibodeau and sophomores Robert Smigelski and Lisa Ludington. The scholarships were to students showing intellectual promise and outstanding academic achievement.

ATTENTION, all needcrafters. Needcrafters are needed to complete items for baby layettes and clothing for the needy. Materials are waiting to be picked up from the reception desk at the Farmington Hills Senior Adult Center in the Mercy Center, 28609 11 Mile road, through Gate 4, east of Middlebelt Road.

RECENT bachelor's degree winners at Central Michigan University include Daniel Kolehmainen, son-in-law of Patricia and William Cernoni of Farmington. He majored in petroleum geology and computer science at CMU's Mount Pleasant campus.

FOOTNOTES: Arthur Power was the first to arrive in what's now Farmington. He, sons John and Jarrod and two hired men came from Farmington, N.Y., via Detroit on March 8, 1824.

Among the others who came in 1824 were Solomon Walker, George Tibbets and Robert Wilcox Sr. On Sept. 26, 1824, the same day the first white child, John Collins, was born, the first burial took place. Mrs. Sanford Utley died from the effects of a fall from a wagon two months earlier. The fall occurred as the Utley family neared the spot that was to be their home.

School chief is intending to step down

By Joanne Maliszewski
staff writer

Lewis Schulman has announced his intention to resign at the end of 1985 after nine years as Farmington Public Schools superintendent.

In a letter presented to the Farmington Board of Education Tuesday, Schulman asked that he be released from his

current three-year contract Dec. 31, 1985. His \$75,500-a-year contract runs to July 1, 1987.

Trustees will discuss Schulman's request at their next regular meeting at 8 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 1, in Farmington High School, 32000 Shilwassee, Farmington. "I have mixed feelings," said Schulman, superintendent since 1976. "But I have no questions in my mind."

Offering no specific reasons for his retirement, the 65-year-old West Bloomfield Township resident said, "I just feel somehow it's the right time." Yet, he added, "I do it reluctantly."

HIS DECISION to retire comes more than a year after he underwent triple coronary bypass surgery in July 1984.

Trustees seemed saddened by the news Tuesday, with President Susan Renneis saying "it is with regret" that the board would consider Schulman's request.

Trustee Helen Prutow, who came to the school board the same year Schulman was appointed superintendent, was not surprised by his letter. "We knew it was coming. Several of us tried to talk him out of it," she said.

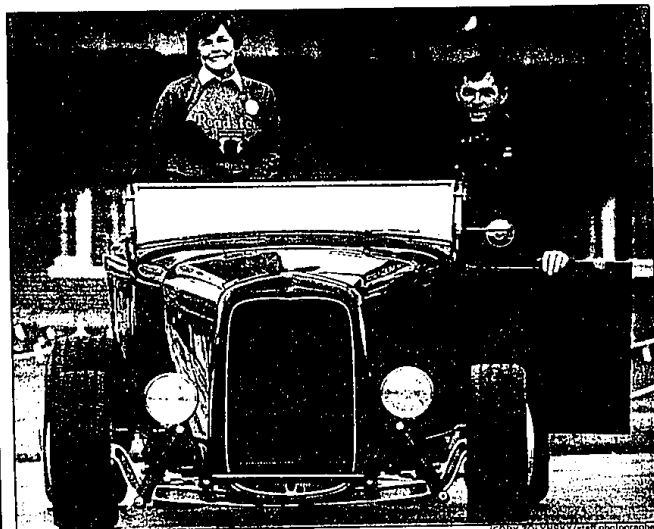
Recalling Schulman's years as superintendent, Prutow said she watched Schulman "turn the district around. The man is just incredible. He works very hard. He has vision and imagination for education. I can't tell you what else I like for that man."

Schulman came to the district in 1969 from Detroit's Cooley High School, where he was principal. His career in Farmington began when he was named Harrison High School's first principal. Three years later, he was appointed assistant superintendent, followed by his appointment as superintendent in 1976.

"My best years of my educational career have been spent here," Schulman said. "The board (of education) is very fine, able, astute and principled. It's been a pleasure working with them. My respect for the community is equal to my respect for the board."



Lewis Schulman



Patty and Clark Kibler of Farmington Hills, with their 1980 Roadster.

Souped up Hills couple display roadster

By Lisa Simon
staff writer

Hot rodding may be illegal on city streets, but that didn't stop a convention of street rod enthusiasts who gathered last weekend at the Michigan State Fairgrounds in Detroit.

The Street Rod Nationals North brought street rod enthusiasts from around the country to Michigan. Some brought restored hot rods, others brought enhanced antiques. Showing off their funky, often bizarre street machines is what brought the group together for the "anything goes" happening.

One family only had to travel from Farmington Hills to the fairgrounds for a piece of the action. Veteran roadsters Clark and Patty Kibler have nurtured their hobby for 15 years in southern California, Texas and now Michigan. Clark has built more than 20 street rods.

An automotive engineer with Nobil Oil, Clark is also Mobil's technical coordinator for racing. His advice and mechanical expertise has helped winners of the Indy 500 and other great races.

His current street rod, a 1930 Ford roadster, took him about 18 months to build. Clark works on his cars weekends and some nights — "and that's still staying married."

"I'VE ALWAYS had an old roadster of some sort," added Clark, 43.

A native of La Habra, Calif., and son of a Goodrich mechanic, Clark has worked on cars since he was a teen-ager. Patty is the daughter of a Florida car salesman. "I got into it (street rods) through osmosis," she said.

"Southern California is where roadsters really started being popular," Clark said. Sun, wind and boulevards racing inspired the original California roadsters, he added.

Low, chopped windshields and no fenders are the only two necessary roadster characteristics. "You don't have all the conveniences of a normal car," Clark said. Clark fashioned his 1930 roadster after the notorious California roadsters of the 1940s and the street rods that made the Bonneville Salt Flats in Utah famous. The Salt Flats are the longest, flattest natural raceway in the country.

"CLARK HAS done this (the roadster) from the basket case up," Patty said.

He built everything on the roadster himself, except the upholstery and some chrome-plating.

The roadster is turbo-charged, has a five-speed transmission, disc brakes and large sturdy wheels. Most roadsters have V-8 engines, but he put a four-cylinder engine in

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'I'm in shock' Murder suspect's father tells his feelings

By Marie Chestney
staff writer

A devastated and shocked father had a brief reunion with his son Monday in Livingston County Jail. The reunion, held inside the jail instead of a courtroom to ensure the safety of the prisoner, was at the arraignment of Ronald Lloyd Bailey on a charge of murder in the death of 15-year-old Shawn Moore of Brighton.

"I'm in shock — again," said Alfred Bailey, speaking from his Livonia home Tuesday, shortly before leaving for his first all-day meeting with his son since his capture and return Sunday from Florida. The "again" referred to the shock Alfred Bailey said he felt in May 1975, when he first learned his son, then 16, had been arrested for kidnaping, sexually assaulting and trying to strangle a Dearborn Heights youth in Livonia.

The same shock arose last week when the Bailey family learned Ronald Bailey was a prime suspect in the Aug. 31 kidnaping of Shawn.

Police found Shawn's body Friday morning in a wooded area near Gladwin, in north central Michigan. He had been missing since the Saturday afternoon when witnesses said they saw a man drag the youth off his bicycle less than two miles from his Green Oak Township home.

"I know absolutely nothing," Alfred Bailey continued. "I didn't know what the problem was — or is. I didn't know it was a problem again. I'm in the dark. There were no indications. We didn't recognize he had a problem. He corrected it from the family. I have not been able to sit down and put my thoughts into words. I'm dumbfounded. I can't sleep. I'm devastated. I go to bed with a pounding headache. Standing there yesterday (at the arraignment), all I could do was stand with my son and try to offer support."

Then he added: "Looking at the evidence scares me."

BAILEY, 26, is in the Livingston County Jail, awaiting transfer to the Ypsilanti. There, specialists will determine if he is mentally competent to stand trial. At Bailey's arraignment Monday, Howell District Judge Michael Merritt entered a plea of not guilty on Bailey's behalf. He is being

held without bond. With Bailey's arrest, local and Florida police agencies began digging into their unsolved kidnaping-sex crimes files to see if there are possible links to the suspect. Bailey is considered a suspect in the July 1984 kidnap-murder of a Ferrisdale boy, 12-year-old Kenneth Myers. Kenneth's body was found in Edward Hines Park in Westland. He had been strangled.

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Always be aware — police

By Bob Sklar
staff writer

Know where your children are at all times. Foster awareness, not hysteria. So says Sgt. Richard Murphy, who commands the Farmington Hills Police Department's crime prevention and juvenile units. In the wake of the murder of 15-year-old Shawn Moore of Livingston County — abducted while riding his bicycle on Old U.S. 28 — Murphy reiterated basic precautions every parent should heed.

"It's extremely important to know where your kids are," Murphy said. "Keep tabs on them. Know who their friends are, know what they're wearing, and know where they're going and when they're expected to arrive. Have them travel in pairs when practical."

Periodically, Murphy suggests sitting down with your children and emphasizing that they shouldn't go with strangers, accept anything from strangers or even talk with strangers. And define what a stranger is. "But do it on a casual basis. Don't create a state of paranoia," Murphy said.

During the Oakland County child killings of the mid 1970s, "we had many parents call and say their kids wanted to stay in jail, that they didn't want to go out and do the things that kids normally do," the sergeant said.

BASED ON what he knows of the Shawn Moore case, Murphy said the boy appeared to do "everything a youngster should do when attacked."

"He kicked, screamed, resisted, tried to run away. He did it all," Murphy said.

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