



Farmington Observer

Volume 97 Number 13 Thursday, November 21, 1985 Farmington, Michigan 84 Pages Twenty-five cents

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.

HE'S retiring.
An open house honoring retiring Farmington Superintendent of Schools Lewis Schulman is scheduled for 2:30-5 p.m. Monday, Dec. 16, in the Farmington Community Center, 24705 Farmington, Farmington Hills.

KUDOS are in order.
Oral surgeon James Kelly of Farmington Hills has received the prestigious American Association of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons Research Recognition Award.
Kelly is director of Sinal Hospital of Detroit's Research Institute. He was honored for his contribution to the understanding of bone physiology and treatment of trauma.

TO HELP bone up on police discipline and labor matters, Farmington Hills Police Chief William Dwyer attended an educational workshop Nov. 11-13 in San Francisco.

The workshop was hosted by the Americans for Effective Law Enforcement (ALEE). About 200 police chiefs, city attorneys, personnel administrators and union officials attended.

Discussion topics included the First Amendment, disciplinary interrogations and investigations, personnel records, shooting hearings and labor relations.
ALEE is a non-profit public interest group that provides training, legal research assistance and professional consultation to the law enforcement community.

THEY'RE scholarship winners.

Freshman international relations major Matthew Dowd of Farmington Hills was awarded a Gar Foundation Scholarship at Hillsdale College.

Hillsdale senior Roger Bleschop of Farmington Hills received a Ralph C. Rosecrance Scholarship. He's majoring in business administration.

At Olivet College, Lori Winkel and Anna-Marie Chelcut earned presidential scholarships.

Winkel of Farmington Hills is a senior business major. Chelcut of Northville, a 1984 Farmington Hills Marian High School graduate, is a sophomore business major.

AMONG the latest degree winners at the University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh was Ronald Wilson of Farmington Hills. He majored in finance.

ORCHARD Lake Schools Alumni Association will induct 25 members as honorary alumni, including Robert Kowalkowski of Farmington Hills.

ON display.
Kristine Furman of Farmington Hills will present a contemporary artists exhibit Nov. 27 through Dec. 13 at Northern Michigan University, Marquette. Her works include illustrations.

The senior art and design major plans to receive a bachelor's degree in fine arts this December.

FOOTNOTES: During the Civil War, Farmington was on the northern branch of the Underground Railroad.
This page was used only when direct postage to Detroit was blocked by the watchful eye of slave hunters.
The chief operators were Quakers who were closely related by marriage: Nathan Brown, Ira Power, Eliza Lapland, George Wilber, Eliza Roberts and Abraham Moore.

Opposition to spas' alleged role growing

By Joanne Mallezewski staff writer

While wheels of justice turn for 17 Oriental men and women arrested for suspected prostitution, Citizens for a Decent Community plan to reinforce their opposition to five health spas being part of an organized prostitution ring.

The group's opposition is targeted against five Oriental health spas — suspected of offering illegal sexual activity — that Farmington Hills police raided Oct. 7-8.

Group members plan to picket one of the five spas beginning at noon Saturday, Dec. 14, said Sharon Chilson, head of Citizens for a Decent Community. The name of the spa to be picketed will not be disclosed until the time of the demonstration, Chilson said.

"We hope to cut into their business. If it is not economically feasible for them to stay in our community, then they'll leave. That's the only way you could think of to put the bite on them," she said.

GROUP MEMBERS also plan to contact other Farmington Hills residents and merchants to join in picketing. "We would really like to have a couple hundred (picketers)," Chilson said.

Police Chief William Dwyer confirmed the group's plans to picket one of the spas. Although the group does not need a permit to picket, Dwyer said he informed Chilson of state statutes and local ordinances regarding picketing.

"They cannot obstruct or interfere with the entrances or exits of the business," Dwyer said. Picketers are also prohibited from threatening other persons or from obstructing public roads, he said.

Group members will picket one of the five spas raided by police: Sun Spa, 39402 Orchard Lake; Keiko Spa, 29513 Nine Mile; Kim's Spa, 30322 Nine Mile; Tokyo Oriental Health Spa, 28841 Orchard Lake; and Osaka Oriental Health Spa, 34499 10 Mile.

The five spas also will be "put under 24-hour surveillance," Chilson said. Group members will be posted near the five spas to take photographs of customers and write down their license-plate numbers.

"WE ARE going to be at each spa 24 hours a day," Chilson said. Although group members acknowledge they won't be able to do much with the photographs or license plate numbers, the idea "is to just kind of scare people (customers) off."

Aware of the group's plans to watch the spas around the clock, Dwyer said, he "appreciates their efforts" but doesn't feel "they need to exhaust their opportunities to the point of 24-hour surveillance. But it's their constitutional right."

Citizens for a Decent Community was formed in October, about two weeks after 16 Oriental women and one man were charged with illegal sexual activity following the police raids on the health spas.

The raids were the result of a six-week police investigation stemming

Meeting rights of victims

By Alice Collins staff writer

A political storm is building toward a full-size legal hurricane in Oakland County over implementation of Michigan's new Crime Victim's Rights Act.

The act, which went into effect Oct. 9, designates specific rights to the victims of felonies and serious misdemeanors and assigns responsibilities to police, prosecutors, courts and the department of correction.
The Oakland County Prosecutor's Office Friday threatened to sue County Executive Daniel Murphy and the County Board of Commissioners if it isn't allocated the space it says it needs to carry out the mandates of the law.

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RANDY SORONEN/staff photographer

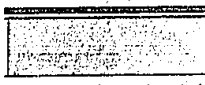
"It (Farmington/Farmington Hills Chamber of Commerce executive directorship) was ideal for me. I know both communities so well, I

could answer any questions they put to me about my homo turf. We fit like a pair of Naturalizer shoes," says JoAnn Soronen.

Fast track Doer a spirited civic booster

By Loraine McClish staff writer

JOANN SORONEN, with a background of work in city and county government and years of community involvement, got her job as executive director of the Farmington-Farmington Hills Chamber of Commerce by answering a newspaper ad.



JOANN SORONEN/staff photographer

At the time, there was a gap of 19 years between the job she left to start raising her two sons with husband Kenneth, and going for that interview. The Detroit native admits to anxiety concerning what kind of a job she would qualify for and how she would measure up to a job description.

"It was ideal for me," she said, reflecting on that time three years ago. "I knew both communities so well. I could answer any questions

they put to me about my home turf. We fit like a pair of Naturalizer shoes."

Soronen's community involvement started with homeowners and beautification groups and with beautification and watershed councils. That commitment grew to active roles in county and regional government.

She was the highest vote-getter the first time she ran for a Farmington Hills City Council seat in 1978, "probably because I had my nose in everything and everyone knew who I was."

IN 1980, Soronen was elected

Farmington Hills mayor by the council. Nov. 5, she was re-elected to a third four-year council term.

In 1983, she was named "Woman of the Year" by the Farmington Business & Professional Women.

In her job for the chamber, Soronen answers to a 19-member board of directors that she refers to as her "19 bosses."

The bulk of her time spent in the downtown Farmington office is given to answering questions from residents, "the likes of which were not listed as part of my job description," she said.

And more often than not, her calendar lists meetings for from two to five nights out of any given week.

RESIDENTS HAVE called her asking where they could find a stud

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At the helm Hartsock elected as Farmington's mayor

By Casey Hans staff writer

William Hartsock, a 13-year Farmington City Council veteran, was unanimously elected mayor Monday night.

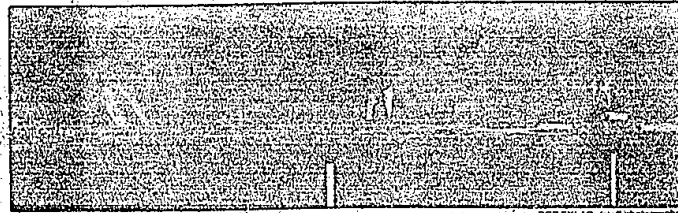
Allan Bennett, a 10-year veteran, was elected mayor pro tempore.

This broke a council tradition, as members usually elect the councilperson receiving the majority vote in the previous city election, according to city clerk Josephine Bisbey. Bennett was re-elected with the most votes earlier this month, but was not nominated for the mayoral post.

A mayor is elected every odd calendar year by fellow council members, and holds a largely ceremonial position. Much like a chairman of the board, the mayor is empowered to lead council meetings and represent the city at community events.

There is no limit on the number of years a person can serve as mayor, according to Bisbey.

Farmington's charter provides for a professional city manager to head the city administration. The city council serves as a legislative board.



DOB EKLAN/staff photographer

Mayor William Hartsock (left), and Councilmen Richard Tupper and Arnold Campbell, all newly

elected, listen to an explanation by City Manager Robert Deadman Monday night.

ACCEPTING THE two-year post, Hartsock said he was "pleased to be serving as mayor for a second time." He congratulated the new council members. His election followed the swearing in of Bennett, Arnold Campbell and Richard Tupper. The three paced the Nov. 5 city council election.

Bennett and Campbell, an Economic Development Corporation member, each won four-year terms. Tupper, a former 10-year councilman who served as mayor in 1977, won a two-year term.

Hartsock, 44, previously served as mayor from 1979-81. He follows 20-year council veteran Ralph Yoder into

the mayor's seat. Yoder remains a councilman.
Re-elected to a four-year term in 1983, the new mayor has been active in many city affairs — including formation of Farmington's Economic Development Corporation, and support for downtown redevelopment, the dial-a-side system and computerization of city functions.

HARTSOCK WAS originally elected to the city council in 1973 at the age of 33, the youngest member ever.
In 1978, Hartsock — concerned about lack of clear-cut selection guidelines — advocated change in the way

the mayor was chosen. He suggested the mayor's selection be based on merit and finish in the previous council election, which, technically, would have required a city charter change. Council members serve staggered terms with elections held in odd years.

Hartsock also involved in 1982 with an Open Meetings Act controversy involving the appointment of Bayard Tupper to a council seat by secret ballot. The ballot was subsequently erased and replaced by a public vote following a ruling by the state Attorney General. Bayard replaced his son, Richard, who resigned because of business reasons.

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