

Reserves bolster city police patrols

By Casey Hans
staff writer



Reserve Officer Gregory Glowacki jots down notes during a monthly training session.

WHEN POLICE, fire or medical help is given in Farmington, many times a resident can't tell a volunteer reserve from a regular officer.

And that's how Farmington Department of Public Safety (FDPS) officials want it.

Reserve officers wear the same uniforms as regular officers, take a 100-hour law enforcement course at Schoolcraft College, receive 66 hours of advanced fire training, as do professionals, and learn medical emergency techniques.

"We want to be selective (in the reserve program) because they represent our department," said Commander Chuck Lee, director of the program since May. Hiring standards used in the FDPS reserve program "were here long before we were."

Sixteen area residents who live within six miles of the Farmington city limits currently don FDPS uniforms as volunteer reserve officers, giving them "an opportunity to go beyond their own job," according to one member.

"THEY LIKE the idea of community

involvement," said Gayle Haenke, reserve member for the past nine years and a dispatcher with the FDPS. "It gives you a sense of recognition in the community; you can take pride in what you do."

Haenke joined because of her interest in police work. "This satisfied my desire to be a full-time officer," she said. She first worked with the Northville auxiliary police, a paid reserve program which recently disbanded, before joining Farmington.

"I've been pleasantly surprised with the respect the reserves show for the regulars," she added. "We're 100 percent behind them."

Although police and fire reserve programs are fairly common, the Farmington Public Safety Department's incorporation of police, fire and medical emergency training is special, according to Lee.

Reserves receive an annual check for firefighting and training sessions, but police work is strictly volunteer, Lee said.

THE 30-MEMBER FDPS team has depended on reserves since the department began, Lee said. He calls the present reserve staff of 18 "slightly undermanned," preferring to keep at least 20 reserves active in the program.

On an average, reserves serve "about three times per month," Lee said. They're expected to respond to any fire, ride with an officer at least four hours per month, and attend fire training and a regular meeting once per month, Lee added.

The four platoons formed by FDPS members and reserves respond to fires and emergencies based on areas of coverage.

Lee is aiming for more extensive, interesting training sessions and encouraging reserves to spend more time riding with officers.

He started an incentive program, providing special law enforcement equipment — including special flashlights, shoes and foul weather gear — for extra riding time. He also compiled a six-month training plan with their input.

ACTIVITIES BETWEEN the reserves and regulars are important, Lee added.

Haenke believes reserve "rapport with the regulars has been at an all-time high during the last few years."

About half the reserves began in the program during the past 10 years, and 25 percent have been active in excess of 10 years, Lee added.

Farmington's program is special not only because of the incorporation of



photos by Randy Bortz/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Reserve Officer Gayle Haenke takes aim with her .357 service revolver on the police firing range on the grounds of the Farmington Department of Public Works facility. The monthly training sessions give reserve officers a chance to sharpen their skills with police weapons.

public safety, but because of the confidence given to a Farmington reserve, Haenke said. "It's a continuation of excellence the city requires overall. And it's reflected in every area of the community."

Reserves serve as additional public

safety manpower at annual parades and activities in the city, where crowd control and extra safety measures are needed, Lee said.

"It gives me more personal satisfaction to say I'm a Farmington reserve," Haenke added.

short takes

If you recently opened a shop, captured an award, earned a promotion or are planning a new venture or project — and there's a Farmington-area business angle — we'd like to hear from you so we can share your news item with other Farmington Observer readers. Send items to: Short takes, Farmington Observer, 33203 Grand River, Farmington 49024.

LEAVING HILLS

CBS/Fox Video has reached an agreement in principle to sell its Farmington Hills-based management products division to Video Publishing House Inc. (VPHI), a new entity headed by Von Polk.

Polk, VPHI president and chief executive officer, has been division vice president and general manager of the CBS/Fox management products division for three years.

The sale announcement was made Dec. 30 by Fred Fehlauer, CBS/Fox senior vice president, commercial products division.

In operation for seven years, the management products division markets video-based programs, such as "The One Minute Manager," "Megatrends" and "A Passion For Excellence." VPHI will remain in Farmington Hills during the transitional period and move to Chicago later in 1988.

"The agreement that has been reached to sell this division is part of a strategic consolidation to accommodate the explosive growth of the consumer products division as reflected by the company's move to an expanded facility on an 84-acre site in Livonia," Fehlauer said.

CBS/Fox Video is a worldwide producer and marketer of prerecorded videocassettes.

NEW IN TOWN

The Rocking Horse-Designs in Cross Stitch has opened a retail store at 33245 Grand River in Downtown Farmington.

The store specializes in counted cross-stitch supplies, custom matting and framing, custom designs and ready-made frames. It also offers classes.

Co-proprietors Kathie Markiewicz and Sara Beckman, both of Farmington Hills, can be reached at 474-3113.

Store hours are Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday, 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Thursday, 9:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.; and Saturday, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

MAJOR ORDER

Daimler-Benz, manufacturer of Mercedes-Benz automobiles and trucks, placed a \$250,000 order for a machine vision system with Percepton, The Machine Vision Co., Farmington Hills.

This represents the first major machine vision system to be installed in a European automotive plant. It is also the first order for Percepton's recently launched European operations in Munich, West Germany.

The order is for a MV-300 multisensor system, which will provide quality control and process management. The system will perform 100-percent on-line dimensional measurements on the "body-in-white" for the Mercedes-Benz 190 series.

"The order is the result of a successful on-line demonstration at a Daimler-Benz facility in Stuttgart, West Germany," said Percepton's director of marketing, Greg Knudson.

Founded in 1981, Percepton specializes in the design, integration and marketing of machine vision systems, which provide solutions for manufacturing process management in the durable goods industry.

Percepton is a leading supplier of machine vision systems in the stamping and assembly market, with nearly 100 MV-300 and MV-600 systems operating in the United States, Canada and Europe.

"Michigan is the machine vision capital of the world," Gov. James Blanchard said. "Percepton's sale of machine vision systems to a manufacturer of European luxury cars is evidence that carmakers all over the world are looking to Michigan for the systems necessary for state of the art manufacturing."

Announcement of the order came three months after the decision by General Electric Co. to invest \$1 million in Percepton as part of a cooperative effort to work on large automation projects.

PR FIRM CHOSEN

Centrum Development Co., a subsidiary of First Centrum Corp. of East Lansing, has selected Bunnell & Co. of Farmington Hills as its public relations and marketing communications firm for its latest project, the Heatherwood.

The Heatherwood, a 162-unit senior citizen community under construction on Civic Center Drive in Southfield, offers two meals a day in a formal dining room atmosphere, weekly mail and linen service, transportation, full-time security, and a variety of recreational and social activities.

Scheduled to open July, the Heatherwood is privately financed.

NEW POST

Huron Valley Hospital (HVH) has appointed Diane Johnson of Farmington Hills to a management position at its new community hospital in Commerce Township.

Johnson was appointed director, medical records, of the new 153-bed hospital. She most recently served as assistant director, medical records, at Harper-Grace Hospital, Detroit.

She is a member of the American Medical Record Association, the Michigan Medical Record Association and the Southeastern Michigan Medical Record Association.

Huron Valley Hospital is a non-profit community hospital.

CHANGING LOCATIONS

JB Communications, formerly in Farmington Hills, has moved to 30800 Telegraph, Suite 2394, Birmingham 48010.

JB Communications provides services in advertising, public relations and publications editing. Work produced by the agency has received such honors as the 1985 Grand Gold Medal Award from the national Council for Advancement and Support of Education (CASE) for the Cranbrook Journal, produced for the Cranbrook Educational Community, Bloomfield Hills.

The new telephone number is 353-1111.

HANAE MORI

INTRODUCING THE HANAE MORI SPRING

COLLECTION. MONDAY, JANUARY 27, IN THE NORTHLAND OVAL ROOM AND

TUESDAY, JANUARY 28, IN THE EASTLAND OVAL ROOM. INFORMAL MODELING FROM 12 TO 6.



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