



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 connection, send a note to our downtown office at 32303 Grand River, Farmington 48024.

LENDING assistance. Peninsular Machinery hosted 20 Farmington Public Schools vocational education students on a tour of the Farmington plant.

Twenty students from Harrison and North Farmington high schools toured the plant, at 29500 Grand River, May 21.

"We showed them the process they'll be confronted with when they graduate and go into a machine shop," Peninsular president Robert Bloch said.

Students viewed grinding, milling and turning — all processes of controlled machinery. They also viewed machining and drafting computers. And they asked questions of the operators and programmers.

Bloch has conducted tours twice a year for three years. And the students seem pleased. "We have a hard time getting them to leave," Bloch said. "They could stay all day. They don't have time to see these things in school. They certainly seem to enjoy it."

BANDING together. Springbrook Homeowners Association will host a meeting of Farmington Hills subdivision associations in an effort to gauge interest in reactivating the Council of Homeowners Associations.

The meeting will be held at 7:30 p.m. Monday, June 23, in the Farmington Community Library Conference Room, 32737 12 Mile.

"This meeting has the endorsement of the mayor and some members of the city council but is in no way intended to become a political faction in the city," says Jack Joynt of the Springbrook association.

FARMINGTON Hills Councilwoman Joan Dudley was sworn into the Michigan Bar to practice law May 21. She graduated with honors from the Thomas M. Cooley Law School in January.

GOLD medalist. Farmington Hills resident Janet Burke is editor of The Cranbrook Journal, which received a gold medal in national recognition competition sponsored by the Washington-based Council for Advancement and Support of Education.

The Journal is produced by JB Communications for the Cranbrook Education Community, Bloomfield Hills. Burke is president of JB.

ON board. Farmington Observer editor Robert Sklar was named to a three-year term on the Farmington/Farmington Hills Chamber of Commerce.

FOOTNOTES: One year ago this week — Yeu Gottu have heart, and Farmington Harrison had plenty as it swept past North Farmington and Plymouth Canton to claim the Class A district baseball title. The Hawks now advance to the regional June 8 (1985) at Plymouth Canton against Livonia Stevenson.

Hills affirms penalties for city host law

By Joanne Maliszewski staff writer

The Farmington Hills host liability ordinance will remain unchanged. Councilwoman Joan Dudley's refusal to decriminalize the penalties under the almost one-year-old ordinance met defeat at the hands of the Farmington Hills City Council Tuesday in a 6-1 vote.

River's cleanup nearing

By Teri Banna staff writer

Organizers of the upcoming "Rouge Rescue" on Saturday, June 7, have targeted 13 miles along the 126-mile river in Oakland and Wayne counties where volunteers will find recreation activities to go along with the river cleanup.

In Oakland County a 15-year tradition will continue with a cleanup sponsored by the city of Southfield. There volunteer efforts have been ongoing annually since the 1970s when removing log jams from the river was a "humongous" task.

"The major part of our work has been done," said city project coordinator Steve Marshall. "Now we're down to logjams of a manageable size. The biggest one left will take about 50 people one-half day to remove."

Next week's Rouge cleanup in Southfield will run for two days at the Beech Woods Park at Beech and Nine Mile. Marshall said a barbecue and swim party at the park is planned for 4-7 p.m. Saturday for participating volunteers.

Another Oakland County site is at the Farmington Nursing Home, 30405 Folsom. It is alongside M-102 at Tuck. To register, call 474-6115.

A FINAL orientation session will be 7:30 p.m. Monday in Bentley High School, 15100 Hubbard, corner of Hubbard and Five Mile, between Merriman and Farmington roads in Livonia where events will be mapped out and cleanup instructions given, said Rouge River Watershed director Bruce Monson.

Monson said a representative from the Wayne County Health Department will explain health precautions for working in the polluted river water.

The department has advised that potential volunteers avoid the water if they have open sores which could subject them to infection. The department also advises that immunizations be up to date.

According to Monson, organizers are hopeful that each site will at-

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"I expected it frankly. I still feel it (a criminal charge for an ordinance violation) is inappropriate. I don't believe it is as beneficial as these people think it is," Dudley said following the vote.

Joining the council in opposing Dudley's request to change the penalty from a criminal offense to a civil infraction were members of Farmington Families in Action (FFA) lobbyists for the ordinance's passage last year.

FFA President Betty Nicolay called Dudley's proposed change an attempt to weaken the ordinance. To amend the penalties, she said, would render the ordinance "totally ineffective."

FARMINGTON HILLS attorney Clarence Gable, who consulted with the FFA in the ordinance's drafting last year, joined Nicolay in opposition.

The value of the host ordinance, he said, is not in convictions, but as a deterrent to those who would otherwise host a party for teenagers and supply them with alcoholic beverages.

The city's ordinance penalizes adults age 17 or older who knowingly allow minors to consume alcoholic beverages or illegal drugs at house parties under their control — and who fail to take corrective steps.

Violation of the ordinance is a misdemeanor — a criminal offense — that carries a penalty of up to \$500 and 30 days in the county jail for first offenders. Subsequent convictions bring a penalty of up to \$500 and 90 days imprisonment.

Two weeks ago, Dudley asked council to consider changing the penalty from a criminal offense to a civil infraction — that would not leave violators with a criminal record.

UNDER DUDLEY'S defeated amendment, a first-time violation would have carried up to a \$100 fine (or whatever fine council would have determined). Subsequent violations would carry up to a \$500 fine. Civil infractions do not carry penalties of imprisonment.

Of greatest concern to Dudley — and the basis for her request — is that those convicted under the host ordinance receive criminal records.

"I believe the penalty for this ordinance is too harsh," Dudley said. "These kids are good kids. They are not criminals. Laws that are too harsh produce disrespect for the law."

A woman whose daughter was ticketed under the ordinance (and whose case is still pending) came to Dudley's support. The Farmington Hills resident was one of two audience members supporting Dudley's proposed change in the ordinance.

"I feel she has had her civil rights infringed upon," the woman said, referring to her daughter. "She may end up with a criminal record. She is innocent. She never had a drink that night."

Yet Gable echoed council's and

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Wally Christensen of American Legion Farmington Post 348 and Air Force Reserve Col. Bruce Wylie salute Cub Scout Pack 162's float honoring the unknown soldier during the parade that preceded Monday's Memorial Day observance.

Lest we forget War veterans are honored



AT RIGHT: Farmington High School marching band member Bill King plays taps.



Barkis Moklan of Farmington, a World War I veteran, places a wreath at Farmington's Veterans' Memorial.

Memorial Day Parade — 1986: 1B

By Susan Steinmueller staff writer

U.S. Air Force Reserve Col. Bruce Wylie, guest speaker at Memorial Day services at the Downtown Farmington Veterans' Memorial, opened with a quote from Thomas Paine: "Those who expect to reap the blessing of freedom must undergo the fatigue of supporting it."

Since those words were spoken 200 years ago, said Wylie, nearly 1.5 million Americans have died in battle. But, he said, in defending freedom, they have not died in vain.

Wylie, preparedness liaison officer for Michigan and a Livonia resident, spoke from a podium near the Veterans' Memorial on Grand River Monday morning.

Many in the audience had just finished marching in the Farmington Area Veterans Council-sponsored Memorial Day Parade, which ended at the monument.

In speaking about the need to defend freedom and those who have died in battle, Wylie asked, "Why did they do this? And what has it meant to our great United States?"

"THOSE MEN and women answered the clarion call of freedom and the basic precept of the Declaration of Independence . . . the inalienable right to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness," he said.

"What has all of this meant to the United States? I would ask this question . . . How many of you in this audience would be here today if the United States had not done what she saw as necessary at the time?"

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Safe Rides Service helps attack drunk driving

By Bob Sklar staff writer

Safe Rides, the Farmington area's pilot project to get intoxicated teens home safely from prom dances and spring parties, got off to a slow start last weekend.

No one called for a ride either Friday or Saturday night, the first of four consecutive weekends the Rides service will be offered. The service will wrap up Friday and Saturday, June 13-14.

"Our purpose is simple," said Robert LeKovish, a counselor and Students Against Drunk Driving (SADD)

faculty advisor at Farmington High. "We provide safe rides for students who've been drinking or who went to a party with a student who drank too much."

"We don't promote or condone parties with drinking. But we do want to reduce the number of intoxicated students on the road," he added.

The Safe Rides service, part of the Boy Scouts of America's Explorer Division, is available from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. Friday and Saturday nights for Farmington, Farmington Harrison, North Farmington and Mercy High students who live in Farmington,

Farmington Hills or a bordering community. The Explorer Division provides liability insurance.

THE TELEPHONE number to call for a ride is distributed in the schools through posters, announcements and handouts. Business cards suitable for carrying are available as well.

The Safe Rides base station is at LaSalle Body Shop in Farmington Hills. Each six-student team includes a call taker, a dispatcher and two chaperones. Each car includes a male and a female student cha-

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