

Restless sleep can
evoke other ills, 1B



Off to the
races, 1D

Founders Festival is
coming together, 4A

Farmington Observer

Volume 97 Number 75

Thursday, June 26, 1986

Farmington, Michigan

72 Pages

Twenty-Five Cents

© 1986 Seiberth Communications Corporation. All Rights Reserved.

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 48924.

NOTE these telephone numbers.

Farmington Hills City Hall and the Farmington Hills Police Department — not the Farmington Police Department as incorrectly reported in Monday's Observer — have a new telephone system. The new service began June 14.

City hall's main switchboard number, 474-6155, and the police-fire emergency number, 477-0911, remain the same. Benefits include more incoming lines, a smoother system of transferring calls between departments and all-around greater efficiency, city administrators said.

TAKING a head start. Farmington Headstart, the federal preschool program for low-income families in the Farmington area, is conducting a search for qualified children for the fall and winter sessions. Classes are held in Alameda Early Childhood Center.

Headstart is a program for children who will be 4 years old before Dec. 1. Farmington Public Schools provides bus service. All children receive lunch and a snack.

Call Headstart coordinator Phyllis Howard: 476-1470.

REZONING fails. American Ramallah Federation's request to rezone almost five acres near the northeast corner of 10 Mile and Orchard Lake roads from single-family residential to special purpose district was denied by the Farmington Hills City Council last week.

The federation proposed building a private club on the acreage. The rezoning request was denied because it did not conform with the city's master zoning plan.

RESTAURANT'S planned.

Property on which Northwest Propane Co. now sits, east of Clairview, south of Northwest, has been rezoned from single-family residential to general business for construction of a restaurant.

In a unanimous vote last week, Farmington Hills City Council upheld the planning commission's earlier recommendation.

Proponent Leonard Siegal of Tylaria Co. plans to remove the propane company.

MUFFLER shop's proposed.

Farmington Hills City Council last week approved a request to rezone property on the northeast corner of Nine Mile and Middlebelt from local business to general business.

Proponent William Hartsock of Farmington plans to convert a vacant gas station into a muffler/repair/oil change shop.

FOOTNOTES: One year ago this week — Farmington Hills resident and East Middle School teacher Shashi Gupta and her children, 10-year-old daughter Arti and 6-year-old son Amit, were among the 329 passengers aboard the Air-India Boeing 747 that crashed into the sea Sunday (June 23, 1985) off the coast of Ireland. All passengers are presumed dead.

Low voter turnout

Hills: yes to parks

By Joanne Malliszowski
staff writer

Beginning July 1, Farmington Hills property owners will pay a new 0.5-mill tax for five years to finance development of city parks and recreation facilities.

In what city manager William Costick called a surprisingly low turnout at Tuesday's special election, voters supported the parks and recreation millage increase by a slim margin.

Unofficial tallies show that of the total 2,108 ballots cast, 1,188 (56.4 percent) supported the special millage and \$20 (43.6 percent) opposed it. The board of canvassers was expected to confirm final vote tallies Wednesday.

The millage is the first such special millage in the city's 12-year history devoted to a specific purpose. Farmington Hills City Council was expected early this morning to adopt a resolution levying the millage.

In the five-year period, the special levy will garner approximately \$3.3 million. Revenue will finance nine top priority projects — namely youth athletic facilities and Heritage Parks — included in the city's master parks and recreation plan.

The 0.5-mill (per \$1,000 of assessed valuation) will cost taxpayers — based on a \$50,000 house assessed at \$45,000 — approximately \$22.50 more annually.

Please turn to Page 2



RANDY DORST/staff photographer

Passive development in Heritage Park (above) has a high priority in Farmington Hills.

Added costs upset mobile park tenants

For a related story, see Page 10A.

By Joanne Malliszowski
staff writer

Tenants have complained, picketed and asked the Farmington Hills City Council for help in a continuing controversy over rent and natural gas bills at the Flamingo Trailer Court.

Some tenants — many of them leaders of a newly formed tenants association in the park — also have received eviction notices.

The continuing controversy between park owners and residents stems from the owners' recent decision to ask tenants to pay natural gas bills — charges previously included in the monthly rent.

Masha Silver, spokeswoman for the park's tenants association, said that all the association wants is a reduction in rent to compensate for the increased costs because of gas charges.

"We just want what we feel is justice," she said.

Rent at the park was increased about \$20 a month in January, not long before the park, at 22600 Middlebelt, was sold to new owners. Paying for gas only adds salt to the wound, tenants complained.

Loretta Corsetti, a resident of the park, said that gas charges could amount to more than a \$50 monthly increase in expenses — in addition to January's rent hike.

"WE CONSIDER this a 35-50 percent rent increase by shifting the

burden of paying gas to us," Silver said.

Betty Brondell of West Bloomfield Township, who, with her husband and other relatives, is one of the park's new owners, acknowledged that "basically that (gas charges) does increase their expenses."

But Brondell maintains that including gas charges in the monthly rent was "definitely a financial burden. The previous owner was going to do it."

"I contacted different park owners. Everyone I spoke to . . . when I told them we were furnishing the

Please turn to Page 10

Schools fill key posts

By Casey Hans
staff writer

Following an election that stressed the lack of top-level women administrators in Farmington Public Schools, trustees selected their first female assistant superintendent Tuesday.

Mary Lou Ankele, acting director of special services since January, was invited to the board table Tuesday as assistant superintendent for special education and services. She replaces recently appointed school superintendent Graham Lewis.

Ankele said she was pleased to be the "pioneer" for women in the Farmington district.

Lewis recommended Mary Lou Ankele for the position after interviewing the director.

Please turn to Page 13

Primary battle

Precinct delegate races are heating up

By Casey Hans
staff writer

The much-publicized entry of television evangelist Marion (Pat) Robertson into the 1988 presidential political arena has drawn unusual attention to the Michigan Republican delegate race.

And it has apparently drawn a large number of his conservative, Christian followers to file as delegate candidates — a position which will have national impact during the next 18 months.

Those elected to local precinct delegate seats in the Tuesday, Aug. 5, primary will select state delegates to the National Republican Convention, who, in turn, will pick the Republican presidential candidate for the 1988 race.

Between the two local cities, the Farmington area will have 33 votes

in this process, as 75 candidates vie for local delegate seats — including 27 from Farmington Hills and six from Farmington.

Those running include several Farmington Hills council members, the Michigan coordinator for the Robertson-founded Freedom Council and other local Republican leaders.

TOPPING STATE Freedom Council numbers — the group claims to represent one half of all candidates — more than 80 percent of Farmington and Farmington Hills candidates were recruited by Council supporters, according to local organizers.

"Since many homeowners elect to do home improvements themselves and often have only weekends and holidays available for this work, they are exempt from the prohibition of construction work on Sundays and holidays," according to the administrative order.

Homeowners and their helpers will be allowed to complete construction work only between 9 a.m. and 7 p.m. on Sundays and holidays.



Richard Headlee
Robertson booster



Alfred Diebel
Bush backer

Please turn to Page 13

Sunday construction limited

Council cracking down

Commercial and residential construction in Farmington Hills is now prohibited on Sundays and legal holidays.

In a 7-0 vote June 16, Farmington Hills City Council adopted an ordinance prohibiting construction on certain days. Introduced as an emergency ordinance June 9, adoption came as the result of complaints from residents close to construction sites.

"The right to enjoy peace and quiet on a Sunday and legal holiday is paramount to the builders' right to disturb that peace and quiet by construction activity," according to the emergency ordinance.

The building prohibition was enacted as an emergency ordinance so it could take effect immediately. An emergency ordinance, according to

city charter, expires after 35 days. The emergency ordinance will expire just after the regular ordinance takes effect July 7.

Violation of the ordinance is a misdemeanor that upon conviction carries a maximum penalty of a \$500 fine and 90 days in jail.

THE EMERGENCY ordinance allowed city inspectors to stop workers at construction sites June 15, less than a week after the ordinance was enacted, director of public services Thomas Blasell said. The builders were not issued violations.

"We are trying to assess where builders are with compliance," Blasell said.

The administrative order does not cover contracted work completed for a homeowner.

THE ADMINISTRATIVE order also includes an appeals process. Under the guidelines, appeals will be granted only in emergency cases for construction in non-residential areas or when there's a threat to the public's health, safety and welfare.

Written permission to continue with construction on Sundays or holidays must be obtained from the city manager or public services director.

As of late last week, the city had not received complaints from builders or developers about the building prohibition, Blasell said. Southeastern Michigan Builders Association officials were unavailable for comment.

what's inside

Business	1-3C
Cable connection	6C
Campus pipeline	4C
Club circuit	4B
Classifieds, Sections C-E	4F
Crossword puzzle	10E
Entertainment	5-BD
Obituaries	4C
Opinion	14A
Police/fire calls	8A
Readers' forum	16A
Recreation news	4C
Sports	1-4D
Travel	7C
News line	477-5450
Home delivery	591-0500
Sports line	591-2312
Classified line	591-0900

