

Aged stained glass
takes on new life, 3B



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Farmington Observer

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Farmington FOCUS

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

HANGING it up.
After 27 years, Bill Gearhart is stepping down today from the Farmington Hills Fire Department.
Gearhart, 64, joined the department in 1959 as a volunteer at Station 3. From 1973-76, he was district chief. He became fire marshal in 1976 and served in that capacity until becoming plan review officer last year. The department threw a retirement party for Gearhart July 9.

THERE'S a Farmington Hills connection in Hollywood. North Farmington High School graduate Pam Dawber will play a single photographer in her new fall television series, "Taking the Town."
The CBS show will focus on a single photographer whose teen-age sister moves in unexpectedly.
Now living in Hollywood Hills, Dawber, 35, formerly co-starred in "Mork & Mandy." The Farmington Hills native also is a former New York fashion model.

SHAPING up.
By-laws and an agreement are taking shape that will make the Downtown Farmington Business Association an authorized chapter of the Farmington/Farmington Hills Chamber of Commerce.
Fifty percent of the DFBA's businesses must be members in good standing of the chamber in order for the DFBA to maintain this special chapter status within the chamber.
The DFBA's purpose is to promote Downtown Farmington and its shopping district.

NOW that Michigan's mandatory seat belt use law, which affects drivers and front-seat passengers in most vehicles, is a year old, Nov. 23-30 has been designated "All-American Buckle Up."
That's a week of national emphasis on safety belts organized by the U.S. Department of Transportation. Motorists will be challenged to give safety belts a try for one week — to "start a habit for life."
Seventy-percent compliance with the seat belt law, conceded to be the maximum attainable level, would save 300 lives a year, Secretary of State Richard Austin said.

FOOTNOTES: One year ago this week — For the first time in 24 years, enrollment for the Farmington Public Schools is predicted to dip below 10,000 students for the 1985-86 school year.
The decline is very normal, according to superintendent Lewis Schulman, and "hasn't been quite as great as we anticipated." Schulman predicts an enrollment of 9,943 students for 1985-86, a reduction of 335 students from 1984-85.

Complaint Former library worker alleges discrimination

A former librarian who resigned her position with the Farmington Community Library in February 1985 is suing the library, the cities of Farmington Hills and Farmington and former library director Gordon Lewis for alleged sexual harassment and discrimination.

In a five-count complaint filed June 3 in Oakland County Circuit Court, former children's librarian

Jill Locke claims she was "constructively discharged" — transferred from a supervisory to non-supervisory position — for refusing and rejecting Lewis' alleged requests for sexual favors.

The complaint also alleges Locke was constructively discharged for refusing to work for less-qualified employees who "were engaging in sexual relationships with defendant Lewis."

Locke, who has requested a jury trial, is seeking in excess of \$10,000 in damages for each of the five counts. A trial date has not been scheduled before Circuit Judge Gene Schnelz.

Locke's attorney, Marietta Robinson of Southfield, was unavailable for comment.

COMMENTING ON Locke's suit, both Farmington City Manager Robert Deadman and Farmington Hills City Manager William Costick said they are uncertain what events led to Locke's allegations.

"Naturally, my reaction is that it is unfortunate," Costick said. "But I don't know actually what took place. Both cities (Farmington and Farmington Hills) have little to do with it (the library system) but funding, so I'm not sure what went on."

Deadman offered a similar response. "I don't know the details. There are a lot of allegations in the lawsuit. The library is a separate entity."

Farmington and Farmington Hills jointly finance the library system. Both city councils appoint members to the library's board of trustees.

Farmington Community Library Board of Trustees President Jonathan Grant refused comment on the case. "We have all been advised not to discuss the case at all," he said.

Library attorney Thomas Fleury of Farmington Hills said, "We are filing a general denial (of Locke's allegations). And an investigation is being conducted."

Lewis' attorney, Ashley Lipson of



Community activist Jon Grant stands along Grand River in downtown Farmington.

Active Civic leader recalls his roots

By Casey Hans
staff writer

Jonathan Grant doesn't consider himself neighborly, but this very private man gives his all for the community.

The 35-year-old Farmington Hills resident and local businessman thrives on his community involvement.

"My hobby is my community work," said the Hills native, who is president of the local library board and on the boards for the Farmington Community Center and Farmington/Farmington Hills Chamber of Commerce.

This week, he also takes an active part in Farmington Founders Festival activities.

"I think it gets in your blood — being active in your community. I think it's good for the children to see that my environment is right and that I'm aware and involved."

GRANT SHARES his life and ex-

people

periences with his 13-year-old daughter, Delores, and with his fiancée and her two children.

His name may be associated most recently with an unsuccessful 1985 bid for a Hills council seat — which he lost by only six votes — and his community work on the annual Founders Festival, an event he chaired successfully with "an excellent group of people" in 1984.

"So many friends and business leaders came out in favor of me and so strongly for me," he said of his council race. "It was a very rewarding experience for me, personally."

Despite his defeat, Grant still considers himself one of the community's biggest boosters. "I just get more and more in-

volved," he said. "People who are willing to do things, get called upon."

He believes the two local cities should have no boundaries when it comes to community involvement.

"I THINK of it as one city (Farmington and Farmington Hills)," he said. "They complement each other very nicely. Farmington Hills has suburban sprawl; Farmington gives Farmington Hills the benefit of having a downtown. A lot of people associate the two."

The 1970 North Farmington graduate is owner of Rollance Forms and Supplies Inc. with an office in the Hills and a new, retail operation in downtown Farmington. He plans to become involved with the downtown merchants and the revitalization effort currently under way.

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Number of pupils is seen dropping

This is the third of four parts examining task force reports recently presented to the Farmington Board of Education. This part looks at the district's human resources and projected enrollment of students.

By Casey Hans
staff writer

The number and ages of students attending Farmington Public Schools between now and 1990 will determine the direction of the district, its personnel needs and its future use of buildings, according to a two-member task force committee on human resources.

Although a slight increase in the elementary levels through 1990 is projected, both middle school and high school levels and total student populations will continue to decline, the report said.

The district's enrollment has declined steadily since it reached a

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Founders Fest Pageant, Kids Day kicks off week of fun



Tug-of-war is one of the many games for kids to enjoy at Kids Day from noon to 6 p.m. Tuesday in Shilawassee Park, Farmington.

The Observer's special section on the 22nd annual Founders Festival is included in today's issue. See Pages 3-5B for more festival previews.

By Casey Hans
staff writer

Community leaders are busy putting the finishing touches on this year's Founders Festival — an event synonymous with the Farmington area for 22 years.

The annual summer event — sponsored by the Farmington/Farmington Hills Chamber of Commerce — begins this week as Miss Farmington for 1986 accepts her crown tonight, area youngsters prepare for "Kids Day" tomorrow and local merchants gear up for a full week of sidewalk sales.

This year's Founders Festival theme is "Farmington — A Down Home Place."

Later this week, festival fun heats up as shopping centers throughout Farmington and Farmington Hills host arts and crafts exhibits, ethnic food booths, tethered balloon rides, kiddie rides, varied entertainment and a bingo tent.

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**FARMINGTON
FOUNDERS
FESTIVAL**

SPECIAL SECTION
IN TODAY'S ISSUE