

RANDY BORST/staff photographer

'Lucky to be alive'

A 21-year-old Southgate man is "lucky to be alive" after being pinned beneath the single-bottom truck he was driving along Haggerty in Farmington Hills Aug. 18, Farmington Hills Police Sgt. Ray Cranston said. George Walter Leming Jr. was released following treatment at Botsford General Hospital, Farmington Hills. Leming was northbound on Haggerty at 9:45 a.m. when he lost control of the truck. The truck, carrying 25,000 pounds of construction dirt, skidded off the east shoulder, jackknifed and rolled over in a muddy area of the

Seely Drain. Leming ended up pinned under the cab. It took Farmington Hills firefighters — with assistance from the Department of Public Service, Livonia Towing and area construction workers — to free Leming from the wreckage. Haggerty was closed between 13 Mile and 14 Mile for three hours. Leming works for Scalfani Trucking, River Rouge. The Michigan State Police Motor Carrier Division was examining the truck in an effort to help determine the cause of the accident, Cranston said.

Meet festival's players

Performers from the Michigan Renaissance Festival will appear at Hardee's Restaurant, 12 Mile and Farmington roads, at 5:30 p.m. Thursday.

See the kings, queens, magicians, jesters and jugglers dressed in traditional costume of the 16th century.

While at the restaurant, the performers will give away a limited number of free admission tickets to the seventh annual festival.

The festival runs from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. weekends on Dixie Highway, south of Lahring, near Holly. Call 645-9640.

on the agenda

Farmington Hills City Council
Council Chambers
31555 11 Mile
7:30 p.m. Monday, Aug. 25

Slated for tonight is a discussion on the use of political signs in the city. The city's present ordinance prohibits signs on front lawns. A local attorney and a representative of the American Civil Liberties Union have spoken out against the ordinance, calling it unconstitutional.

Also on the agenda is an administrative report on the availability of Community Development Block grants and other assistance programs for insulation and maintenance for area mobile homes. A multi-year sidewalk improvement program will also be discussed.

Enactment of four ordinances involving zoning requests, cost hearings for road improvements in Westgate/Franklin subdivision and on Drake Road between 13 and 14 Mile, and a request for a SDM license for Great American Basket Co., 29594 Orchard Lake Road will also be considered.

A preliminary plat for Windwood Pointe subdivision, final plat approval for Farmington Glens subdivision and the setting of a public hearing date for cost hearing on Barfield paving are also slated for discussion.

Several city purchases, recommendation of traffic control order to reduce speeds for part of Haisted Road, and recommendation of bids for Ten Mile sanitary sewer are also on the agenda.

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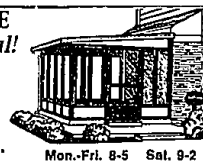
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Drugs, which alone or in combination present attacks of gout, include indomethacin, naproxen, colchicine, phenylbutazone, allopurinol, and benemid.

Yet some individuals, despite being on such therapy, still have attacks of gout. What goes wrong?

One reason is alcohol use. Alcohol decreases the ability of the kidney to rid the body of uric acid — the chemical that causes a gout attack. Even small amounts may impair kidney excretion enough to allow blood uric acids to rise sufficiently to set off an acute episode.

Diuretics or "water pills" like alcohol, impair the kidney's mechanism for disposing of uric acid. Even one diuretic tablet a day may permit a buildup of uric acid concentration that overcomes the effect of gout medication.

Another possibility is that the "gout" attack is not gout but something that looks like gout. Tendinitis can mimic a gout attack as can pseudogout, a condition caused by crystals of calcium and phosphate.

Attacks may occur because the individual has become lax in taking medication intended to stop gout. Months of compliance may lead to a period of negligence. Then gout, like a veteran guerrilla fighter, will take advantage of the opportunity and launch a surprise attack.

There are reasons why gout returns, and investigation by the doctor and the patient usually can uncover the cause.

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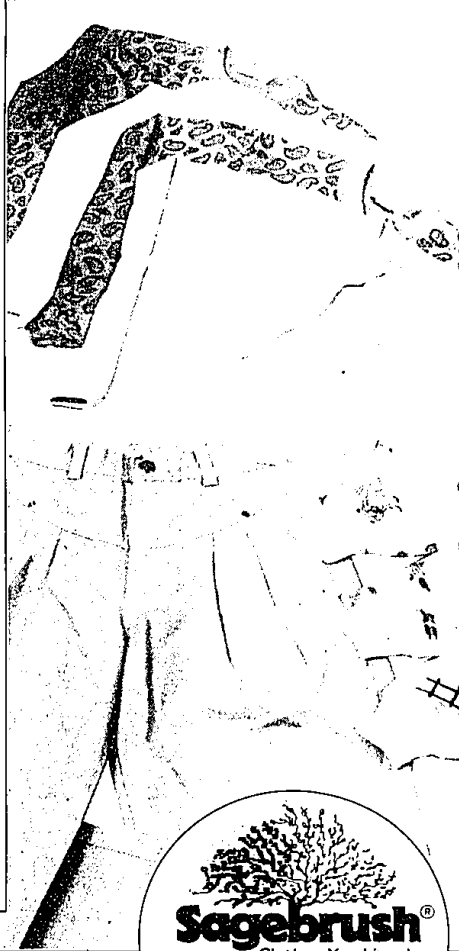
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