

City fathers fete
Miss Michigan, 3B



'86 girls
hoops, 1B

Organization aids
crime victims, 3A

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.

CHANGED again.
The Farmington Hills City Council has again revised its policy on neighborhood open spaces. Councilwoman Joan Dudley suggested that the developer's money held for maintenance and repairs be kept in escrow until the residents take over their homeowners association. The measure was unanimously approved Monday, Aug. 25.

FUN times ahead.
St. Alexander's Catholic Church is preparing for its annual festival Sept. 19-21. The Farmington City Council gave permit approval for the event, which will be held at 27835 Shilwassee.

NEW park prompts vehicle purchase.
A new 4-wheel-drive utility vehicle has been purchased by Farmington Hills to aid employees in transporting materials and people to the Heritage Park site for work on the new facility. The lowest of five bidders was Lawn Equipment Corp. of Novi, which sold the Smithco Bandit to the city for \$7,835.10 with cash discount.

OVERSEAS bound.
North Farmington High School teacher Gregory Grodzicki will participate this year in the Fulbright Teacher Exchange program, teaching at Bishop Gore Comprehensive in Wales.
The program is administered by the U.S. International Communication Agency.
He attended the 16th annual Fulbright Teacher Exchange Orientation Institute Aug. 5-9 at the American University in Washington, D.C.
Grodzicki has been a faculty member in Farmington Public Schools since 1970, teaching math, physical education and health. He hopes "to get an opportunity to return to Europe with my family and experience the classrooms and teaching techniques of a foreign country."

JOIN the music.
The Farmington Community Chorus is seeking new members for its 1986 fall semester. Interested adults are asked to attend a rehearsal at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 9, at North Farmington High School, 32900 13 Mile.
Sponsored by Farmington Hills Parks and Recreation, the chorus meets 7:30-9:30 p.m. every Tuesday.
For more information call chorus manager Sue McLean at 542-2409.

FLOWERS galore.
Amy Louise Dunbar of Farmington Hills and Ryan Hunt of Farmington captured first- and second-place honors in the Michigan State Fair's Junior Flower Show, Aug. 22.

FOOTNOTES: One year ago this week Farmington Hills officials announced that once again the widening of Orchard Lake Road, between 11 Mile and the entrance of Oakland Community College-Orchard Ridge, would be delayed because of higher-than-anticipated construction bids.

Project to aid mobile homes

'My concern is that the weather is changing rapidly. . . . I'd like to really move on it.'

—Jan Dolan
Hills Councilwoman

By Casey Hans
staff writer

Farmington Hills mobile home residents may find the coming year a little warmer — and with no strain on their pocketbooks.

Some may qualify for Project Warmth, a program which began 12 years ago and offers full grants to weatherize housing for low-income, senior citizen and handicapped residents throughout Oakland and Livingston counties, according to Oakland County project manager Gerald Sedick.

Hills city officials had hoped the Community Development Block Grant allocation, federal money from the Department of Housing and Urban Development, could be used to help weatherize some of the area mobile homes. The money cannot be used, City Manager William Costick discovered, because the homes are not considered permanent.

Information about Project Warmth was brought before the Hills City Council last Monday, following a staff investigation that discovered the CDBG money could not be used. Project Warmth can be used by residents who either rent or own their mobile homes.

"THE BOTTOM line is that they will not allow (CDBG) federal money to be spent on mobile homes because they're not on permanent foundations," Costick explained.

Apparently mobile homes are considered personal and moveable property unless they have a permanent foundation, he added.

Project Warmth is coordinated through the Oakland Livingston Human Service Agency, a public, non-profit corporation functioning

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Kathie and Al Dallape enjoy their time at Willow Run Airport in Ypsilanti as members of the Yankee Air Force. The Farm-

ington Hills couple believe they are preserving a piece of history.

They're devoted to aviation

By Casey Hans
staff writer

Two years ago Al Dallape arrived home with his heart soaring and his thoughts in the clouds.

He still hasn't touched down. Al had just relived aviation history with a visit to the Yankee Air Force, a group based in a restored, original wooden hangar at Willow Run Airport in Ypsilanti.

The vintage World War II building houses numerous restored aircraft and a public museum with aviation artifacts.

Al's brother introduced him to the YAF, and they've been inseparable ever since.

When he decided to stop fishing three times per week and devote his free time to the YAF, Kathie Dallape knew he was serious.

"He came home and was so happy and said . . . 'I want to join the Air Force,'" said his wife.

Rarely anymore do the Dallapes visit Paradise in Michigan's Upper Peninsula or spend a weekend anywhere other than Ypsilanti.

Today the couple spends their weekends and some weeknights at YAF headquarters away from Farmington Hills where they've lived for 20 years. Their son — a Livonia police officer — and daughter say the couple's involvement is the "best thing that's ever happened to us," Kathie said.

"WE DON'T play at this," she added. "It's a corporation, a museum." Their members number more than 2,000 and range geographically from California to Virginia to Florida.

"They're all eager beavers," Al added.

Al appears pretty eager himself. He pieces together various models of aircraft, bit by bit, until they are ready for display; he also uses his expertise as a mechanic to keep the needed ground equipment in working order.

"It brought back memories," said Al, a World War II United States Air Force veteran, "like it does for all the people out there. They just want to get their feet wet again."

people

"It's something that I like — somebody's got to do it, or it will all be destroyed."

Kathie works her magic keeping the corporation's books in order and tracking the revenues raised through donations to the museum. Her life's work in the bookkeeping field at Singer Sewing Machine Co. from which she is now retired, gave her the needed expertise for the all-volunteer job.

She coordinates money for the YAF in Ypsilanti, which is the mother division for sub-groups in Wisconsin, Saginaw, Flint and New Jersey.

WHERE AL cut back on fishing, Kathie's sewing hobby went by the wayside when the couple became involved with the YAF.

"You look forward to the weekend, and you come home tired," she added, "but we're all one big happy family. We are preserving a piece of history from Vietnam, Korea and World War II."

"This is something you just like to do," Al added, "and you're proud when you get done."

The Dallapes also work with their friends to conserve the history of Willow Run Airport, an airfield built in 1941 to service the Ford Motor Co.'s B-24 bomber manufacturing facility.

Although the group proudly displays a B-52 bomber, dedicated in 1984 to those soldiers who lost their lives in Southeast Asia, and a recently-acquired B-17, they long to display a B-24 at their facility.

The YAF hangar has special significance for Kathie, whose mother helped build B-24s during World War II. The group is working not only to restore aircraft to put in the hangar, but to keep the wooden hangar itself in shape.

Entrepreneur

12-year-old publishes kids magazine



— RICK SMITH/staff photographer

Twelve-year-old Milice Davis is publisher, editor, staff writer and circulation manager of her own bi-weekly publication, "Kids Magazine."

By Susan Steinmueller
staff writer

A unique new publication recently appeared in Farmington.

It's not widely read. It has 13 subscribers to date and is not available at newsstands. And its 12-year-old editor rides her bike to deliver them personally.

But after two issues, the two-page typed "Kids Magazine" already has a following. So far, it has covered such diverse topics as city hall, school safety tips, violence on television and sex discrimination. Some readers, such as Farmington Hills Deputy Clerk Kathy Frey, have a subscription through October.

"I was impressed with it," said Frey, who subscribed after seeing the first issue, for which she was interviewed.

Milice Davis of Farmington Hills, a seventh grader at East Middle School, is editor and publisher of the bi-weekly publication.

"It's pretty much for anybody, but it deals with kids," she said.

THE FIRST issue was devoted to city hall and contained comments and explanations about various city

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