



RANDY BORST/staff photographer

Asbestos search

Terry Frye and Nancy Edson of Kemron Environmental Services of Farmington Hills examine pipes in the boiler room at the Farmington Training Center this week looking for asbestos. School districts throughout the state have until fall to search school buildings for the fibrous insulating material, which has been linked to various lung diseases and cancer.

Farmington officers win honors

By Casey Hane
staff writer

It was their night to shine, as 10 employees of the Farmington Department of Public Safety and one civilian were honored during the city's annual awards presentation.

Officer Maria Putt received Officer of the Year honors, the fifth Farmington officer to receive the award. Three officers, plus two of the department's top employees, helped select both Putt and others for their honors.

Mayor Richard Tupper and director of public safety Frank Lauffoff presented the awards during the regular city council meeting March 7.

The Officer of the Year award is given for "all around, outstanding performance in several areas," Lauffoff said.

Putt was honored for her involvement in undercover narcotics investigations, community work with groups such as Neighborhood Watch

and the schools, and her "all around capabilities and talents," he added.

A FIVE-YEAR veteran of the Farmington department, Putt said the award came as a surprise.

"It's a once-a-year thing and very few get it, so I was pleased," she added.

Putt holds an associate's degree from Delta College in Saginaw and a bachelor's degree in criminal justice from Ferris State University, which she received in 1983.

During her tenure in Farmington, she has spent nearly two years in the department's detective bureau, where she aided not only Farmington, but other departments, with undercover narcotics investigations.

She said she enjoys the diversity in her work, which includes both police and fire, but enjoys undercover work most.

Her career goal is to someday work as a chief of police.

OTHER AWARDS given by the city include:

• A special certificate of appreciation to civilian Daniel Waker, who recently retired as a 10-year reserve officer of the department.

• Department citations to officers Duane Cowger and Robert Schulz for arrests made and linked to malicious destruction of property incidents through the area. The arrests solved \$25,000 worth of property damage cases in several communities.

• Unit citations to Commander Peter Amato, Commander Thomas Cox and Public Safety Officer I James Madigan for a narcotics investigation that culminated in the arrests of two Farmington-area men.

• Awards for safe driving on the job to PSO I Thomas Daniels and PSO I Joseph Schornack.

• Annual longevity awards to officer Vincent Ziegler and PSO I Hilton Hyde, both who have 15 years of



Marie Putt
Officer of the Year

service with the department. Awards are given annually in five-year increments.

Botsford offers special care for elderly

It won't be long before one out of every eight people in the United States is age 50 or older. Taking care of this aging population requires immediate attention and action.

Botsford General Hospital in Farmington Hills now offers a free membership program, ElderMed at Botsford, designed to meet the health care and lifestyle needs of people ages 50 and older.

The program offers:

- Savings on medication and vitamins through discounts and a mail order pharmacy.
- Discounted dentistry, hearing

aids, screening programs, travel and lodging.

- Free door-to-door transportation for medical visits.
- Alcohol and substance abuse treatment and counseling.

- Rehabilitation services for those who have suffered strokes, have orthopedic problems, arthritis or neurological disorders.

- Workshops to help members better understand their Medicare and supplemental insurance coverage.

- Free publications that highlight coming events, community happen-

ings, health tips and new discounts for members.

"ElderMed at Botsford complements hospital services already available to older adults," said Margie Gorchow, executive director of Botsford's Health Development Network.

ElderMed at Botsford is part of a national non-profit program sponsored by Health West Corp. of California.

Detroit's Saratoga General Hospital is the other hospital in southeastern Michigan that offers the ElderMed program.

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