

Older Americans
celebrate life, 1B



District
soccer, 1D

Meet 13 candidates
for OCC board, 6C

Farmington Observer

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Farmington, Michigan

92 Pages

Twenty-Five Cents

5 stores ticketed in liquor law test

By Joanne Maliszewski
staff writer

Police getting anti-drinking message out, 6A

In the first of what is expected to be a series of crackdowns on liquor sales to minors during the 1988 high school prom and graduation season, Farmington Hills police ticketed five of 35 licensed convenience and grocery stores.

The few licensees ticketed is a major improvement over previous undercover police liquor law enforcement operations in the past two years. In an undercover operation in late 1986, 75 percent of the city's 67 licensed establishments, including restaurants and bars, were cited.

"Obviously, we had hoped there

would be none (cited)," said Farmington Hills Police Chief William Dwyer. "But we're pleased the number of people cited significantly decreased."

"The licensees and employees are being more responsible and checking people for the proper identification. That does not mean we won't continue or do another enforcement action before graduation time," he added.

The undercover operation Friday was the third in two years in which police used an undercover cadet under the legal drinking age of 21 to determine whether licensees and

employees are complying with local ordinance and state Liquor Control Commission (LCC) prohibitions on selling to minors.

"WE TAKE this proactive approach because we're aware of the alcohol problem facing every community. We're trying to be clear in what the city feels about alcohol and the enforcement of the alcohol laws," Dwyer said, adding that SDM and SDD licensed establishments were targeted because "of the carry-over nature of their business." SDM and SDD licensees permit the sale of

beer and wine, or beer, wine and spirits.

The crackdown coincides with the high school prom and graduation season, which generally brings heavier alcohol use among teens, Dwyer said. "Last Friday was phase one of a multiphase effort for graduation time. We will step up efforts of the uniformed officers for drinking and driving."

Police plan to target Class C-licensed (liquor by the glass) restaurants and bars next month. Of the five SDD and SDM package liquor stores cited, three are major chains. They include: Efros Mul-

The few licensees ticketed (5 out of 35) is a major improvement over previous undercover police liquor law enforcement operations. In late 1986, 75 percent of the city's 67 licensed establishments, including restaurants and bars, were cited.

Please turn to Page 6

farmington FOCUS

To write the Observer: 33203 Grand River, Farmington 48024. To call news line, 477-5450; sports line, 591-2312; home delivery, 591-0500; classified ads, 591-0900; display ads, 591-2300.

In giving Student Round Table's annual report for the 1987-88 school year, president Drew McDougall, a Farmington High senior, expressed appreciation to assistant superintendent Lynn Nutter.

Student Round Table vice president Cindy Cramer, a North Farmington senior, accompanied McDougall.

"Mr. Nutter is, I guess you'd say, the overseer of the Round Table," McDougall told the Farmington Board of Education May 15.

To which Nutter quipped: "The errand boy."

STATE leaders may copy the Farmington Education Association, which recently formed a Teacher Hall of Fame.

FEA's Hall of Fame inducted 11 retired Farmington Public Schools teachers May 3.

"It was such a success, that a state-level Hall of Fame may be formed, based on the Farmington model," FEA organizers said.

Quote of the week

"We've gone back and looked at past sites. There's some areas where we could do some more work. It's a constant battle. You can't stop Mother Nature."

— Dale Countegan, Farmington Hills administrator, describing the city's cleanup efforts during the annual Rouge Rescue (see story this page).

what's inside

- Around Farmington . . . 4B
- Business . . . Sec. C
- Cable connection . . . 7B
- Chamber perspectives 10C
- Classifieds . . . Secs. E, G, H
- Index . . . Secs. 1, 1G
- AutoSecs. G, H
- Real estate 2E
- Employment 1G
- Crossword puzzle . . . 8E
- Entertainment . . . 11C
- Obituaries 9C
- Opinion 14A
- Police/tiro calls . . . 10A
- Sports Sec. D
- Suburban life Sec. B

Due to the Memorial Day holiday, we will be closed Monday, May 30th.

To place your in-column "Liner" ad in our Thursday, June 2nd edition, please call Tuesday, May 31 between 8 a.m. and 5:30 p.m.



RANDY BORST/staff photographer

Close encounters

In a cross-town varsity soccer match Monday afternoon, Mercy's Dana Lehmkuhl (left) and North Farmington's Donna O'Brien battle for control of the ball. The Marlins of Mercy High won the district matchup 5-1 and elimi-

nated Farmington High 6-2 on Wednesday. Mercy plays for the district title Saturday at Southfield. Please see Pages 1D and 4D for first-round results.

Rouge again needs a few dirty dozen

By Joanne Maliszewski
staff writer

It's that time of the year again when the polluted Rouge River needs your help.

Volunteers are being sought to lend a hand in the third annual Farmington Hills cleanup of the Rouge River 8:30-11:30 a.m. Saturday, June 4.

"We're not anticipating pulling cars, shopping carts out like many communities downstream end up doing," said Dale Countegan, Farmington Hills department of planning and community development director.

Unlike past years, only the Farmington Hills portion of the river will be targeted for cleanup of debris and logjams. Farmington is bowing out

of the regional one-day cleanup effort because there's nothing for volunteers to do. The city's department of public works crews keep the river free-flowing throughout the year.

This year's cleanup site will be along the river behind Boys Republic, on the north side of Nine Mile, between Middlebelt and Inkster.

"We'll have banners up so people who plan to participate will see where it is," Countegan said.

SIGNUP WILL begin at 8:30 a.m. at the site where a large tent will be erected. But Countegan asks volunteers to contact the department of public services, 473-9522, to provide city staff with an idea of the numbers who will attend the cleanup. A

Please turn to Page 6

Building owner plans to expand downtown office

By Casey Hans
staff writer

A downtown Farmington property owner plans to renovate his 72-year-old building and will pay the city \$15,000 to develop more parking north of Grand River.

Richard Bliznik, owner of a building at 33312 Grand River, plans a second-story addition to the rear of his concrete building. The addition would create an additional 900 square feet of space. The building, on the north side of the street, was constructed as a bank in 1916 and now houses Century 21 real estate offices.

Councilman Arnold Campbell called the project an "exciting stimulus" for other private development on the block. Councilman Ralph Yoder appeared pleased, saying, "We've been waiting for years" for improvements to rear facades of downtown buildings.

"Refurbishing the rear elevations of the buildings on the north side of Grand River is an essential element to the Downtown Development Authority plan for this area," added city manager Robert Deadman, as he recommended city council approval for the plan.

On May 16 city council approved the proposed building addition and improvements and accepted Bliznik's money for extra parking. The planning commission earlier approved his site plan with a stipulation that the council accept the parking contribution. Deadman said the DDA board also supports the plan.

Bliznik's \$15,000 will be placed in escrow and will pay for future development of six parking spaces, according to Deadman. The city is currently negotiating to buy property on Thomas Street to be used for parking. It is zoned for parking.

THE PROPOSED addition would be made of concrete "to blend in better with the front," explained Camp-

Please turn to Page 2

Additions beg topic: Where is parking?

The issue of parking goes hand-in-hand with renovations to downtown Farmington buildings on the north side of Grand River.

Merchants say there's not enough of it; residents in the city's adjoining historic district are concerned about what they call "creeping asphalt," as city and business leaders seek ways to add parking spaces.

Proposed improvements to a 72-year-old building at 33312 Grand River will allow more rental space in the former bank building, but will also necessitate more parking.

And the new parking may come sooner than later.

THE CITY is eyeing a property parcel on Thomas Street, just west of the old R & R Products soap factory now owned by the estate of the Porter family. It is zoned for parking.

"We need more north-side parking," said city manager Robert Deadman. "We're looking at the Porter property now, but have not been able to come to terms. We're negotiating with the estate."

Deadman also sits on the Downtown Development Authority, which is coordinating the public project downtown.

But homeowners and members of the Old Villages Association are watching the city's progress carefully, because the Porter parcel sits the border of the historic district.

OVA Member Frank Reid said the

Please turn to Page 2

Please turn to Page 6

For a related opinion, 14A

The Navy will be the honored military branch at this year's Memorial Day parade in downtown Farmington Monday, May 30.

Immediately after the parade, Navy Reservist Capt. Glen Boston will deliver the principal address at a memorial service at the Veterans Memorial on Grand River, just west of Farmington Road.

During active service, Boston served with an anti-submarine unit stationed at Moffett Field, Calif. After detachments to Alaska and Okinawa, he was deployed to the Philippines in support of operations in Vietnam. Boston was designated a tactical coordinator and served as

Please turn to Page 4

Parade honors Navy on day to remember



Glen Boston
keynote speaker



Wally Christensen
parade chairman