

# Police intensify teen anti-drinking message

By Joanna Maliszewski  
staff writer

As high school prom and graduation season nears, the message to teens and parents is getting louder: alcohol and drugs aren't necessary for a good time.

Farmington Hills police this week are sending out notices to owners of motels and hotels reminding them of the city's three-year-old host liability ordinance.

Parents also are reminded that they run the risk of violating city ordinance if they host or are aware of a party at their home where liquor or drugs is served.

"We won't be going out on seek and destroy missions. But we will respond to any calls or complaints as far as minors being served drugs or alcohol at private residences or motels and hotels," Farmington Hills police Chief William Dwyer said.

"We know there will be serious injury to minors between now and graduation time. Hopefully, no alcohol-related deaths will occur," Dwyer said.

Farmington Hills' host liability ordinance penalizes adults age 17 or older who knowingly allow minors to consume alcoholic beverages or illegal drugs at parties

under their control — and fail to take corrective steps. In 1987, the city council expanded the ordinance to include hotels, motels and rental properties.

"A LOT OF hotels and motels have a policy regarding the renting of rooms to anyone under 21. But that is not law. So what a lot of parents do is rent rooms for their sons and daughters (for parties). And though not always knowingly, alcohol is consumed by minors," Dwyer said.

"In those cases where a parent rents a room and knowingly alcohol is served, we'll go after the parent," Dwyer continued.

For the most part, motel and hotel owners have fully cooperated with the city's intent to discourage drinking by minors. "I think we have had excellent cooperation from motels in Farmington Hills," said Betty Nicolay, board chairwoman for Farmington Families in Action and a member of the police department's Citizens Crime Prevention Advisory Committee.

"I really think we have to continue to make motels and parents more aware of the problem (teen drinking). When parents serve their children alcohol, that just reinforces the mixed message we're giving these kids —

that you can't have a good time without alcohol," Nicolay continued.

Since hotels and motels were included in the host liability ordinance in April 1987, six tickets have been issued against adults renting rooms in which minors had consumed alcoholic beverages, Dwyer said.

MANAGER JOHN Brissette said the Dillon Inn, on 12 Mile near I-696, has experienced few problems with teens. But he's gearing up for the prom and graduation season. The inn, he said, has instituted a policy prohibiting the renting of rooms to anyone younger than 21 years.

"We have had some parents say they want to rent a room for their son or daughter. We say, 'Are they 21?' If not, they can't have the room," Brissette said.

Motels and hotels were included in the host liability ordinance when problems began occurring with youths congregating and having parties in rented rooms. Dwyer and Nicolay testified earlier this month before the state Senate, which is considering enacting a statewide host liability law.

"We felt this ordinance was a stand against use of all

illegal drugs by our youth, but even more important, to give reinforcement to kids who didn't want to use drugs and to parents who refuse to serve minors," Nicolay told the state Senate about the city's host liability ordinance.

Though prom and graduation season represents increased teen drinking, Farmington Hills statistics show a decrease in the number of accidents involving drinking teens.

OF THE 168 drunk driving arrests made by Farmington Hills police so far this year, only eight tested for blood-alcohol levels were younger than 20, said police Sgt. Ray Cranston of the Traffic Section.

Of 888 reported accidents since the first of the year, 37 involved drinking. That works out to about one of every 24 accidents. The state average is 1-in-6, Cranston said.

"I think the educational process has worked well. People are more aware of drinking and driving and the problems associated with it. My concern is that the public doesn't get complacent about it. We have to maintain the awareness," Cranston said.

## The dirty dozens Rouge cleanup effort needs helpers

Continued from Page 1

barbecue lunch will be served after the cleanup and T-shirts, boasting the Rouge River cleanup insignia, will be provided, Countegian said.

Volunteers should come prepared with boots and blue jeans or overalls that you don't mind dirtying. The river is shallower this year with the deepest only a couple feet. "If we don't have some good rains, we won't have much of a river," Countegian said.

In 1986, the first year of the Rouge River cleanup efforts were along the river behind Farmington Nursing Home. Last year, workers targeted east of Tuck Road, a half mile north of Eight Mile, south of Timberline Apartments.

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

Though the Rouge has raw sewage

and toxic pollutant problems, the annual cleanup day is specifically designed to remove the debris and other objects that pile up in the river and either block it or aid in changing its course, Countegian said.

When the river changes its course because of blockage, it begins eroding the river banks and prevents the river's natural abilities to cleanse itself of the growing fecal contaminants, Countegian said.

Fecal waste enters the river through various ways, particularly from sanitary sewer and septic system overflows. The long-planned \$45.8 million Evergreen-Farmington sanitary sewer improvements are designed to prevent sanitary sewer overflows by adding capacity to sewer lines.

POSSIBILITIES OF septic and sewer systems emptying directly into the river from houses poses an almost greater difficulty.

"The problem is identifying who's

doing it," Countegian said, reminding residents that it's illegal to combine their sump pumps for storm water drainage with their sanitary sewer lines as well directly piping waste into the river.

The Friends of the Rouge, who coordinate the annual Rouge Rescue efforts, monitor various points along the river every year to determine fecal waste content.

With the help of a computer system, interested high school students are collecting information about the river's pollution problems. The students are exchanging information with students in Germany conducting similar tests on the polluted Rhine River.

## Hills police ticket 5 stores

Continued from Page 1

wood Drugs, 35584 Grand River; Perry Drug Store, 40830 Orchard Lake; Revco Discount Drug Center, 25870 Middlebelt; 7-Eleven, 22059 Farmington; and Great American Basket, 29594 Orchard Lake.

"We consider this a serious issue," said Perry Drugs spokesman Bert Falbaum. "But mistakes are made. We have very strict disciplinary action, either suspension or firing for employees (cited for liquor law violations)."

Perry Drugs offers in-house training programs for employees, who are expected to wear buttons with the slogan, "ID is No Minor Thing." Employees are faced with the "tough issue" of offending some customers by asking for identification or possibly violating the law, Falbaum said.

"WE ARE uncompromising on this issue," Falbaum continued, referring to corporate policy on selling alcohol to minors.

Police cited licensees for violating LCC regulations barring sale of alcohol to minors and employees for violating city ordinance. Licensees either sign a waiver for the LCC or face a hearing before the commission, which levies fines or penalties. Penalties levied by the LCC vary depending on each individual case.

Violating the city liquor sales ordinance is a misdemeanor carrying a penalty of up to 90 days in jail and a \$500 fine upon conviction.

## PROPOSED PUBLIC NOTICE CITY OF FARMINGTON HILLS

### NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON LEVYING ADDITIONAL PROPERTY TAXES AND ON THE PROPOSED FISCAL 88-89 CITY BUDGET.

The City Council of the City of Farmington Hills will hold a public hearing at 7:30 p.m. on Monday, June 6, 1988, in the Council Chambers at City Hall, 31555 West Eleven Mile Road, on the proposed 1988 City Tax Levy and on the proposed 1988-89 City Budget. Copies of the proposed budget are available for public inspection during regular business hours in the office of the City Clerk, Farmington Hills Branch Library, 32737 West Twelve Mile Road, Farmington Hills, and at the Farmington Branch Library, 23550 Liberty Street, Farmington. All interested citizens are encouraged to attend and submit written or oral comments.

Last year (1987), the City levied \$8,6055 Mills (\$8.6055 per \$1,000 SEV) for City operations, City Charter limited debt and capital improvements. Due to an increase in the State Equalized Value of existing property in the City, State Law (Act 5 of 1982) provides that the base tax rate for 1988 city operating, City Charter limited debt and capital improvements taxes be reduced to \$7,9644 Mills (\$7.9644 per \$1,000 SEV). This is \$6,411 Mills (\$6.411 per \$1,000 SEV) lower than the 1987 operating and capital tax rate.

Presently, the City is authorized to levy \$9,0471 Mills for operating purposes.

With the proposed loss in Federal Revenue Sharing, other projected revenue losses, increased operating and service costs and the City's commitments to drainage and other public facility improvements, the City may be required to raise additional revenues by increasing tax millage.

For these and other reasons in order to fund the City's proposed 1988-89 Budget and to maintain essential services, meet debt obligations, provide capital improvements, the City may find it necessary to levy additional millage of up to \$7,405 Mills (\$7.405 per \$1,000 SEV) above the 1987 base operating millage rate of \$7,9644 (\$7.9644 per \$1,000 SEV) and will levy unlimited debt millage of \$6,951 Mills (\$6.951 per \$1,000 SEV). This additional millage would be allocated for operations and for capital improvements. This millage rate would provide an estimated increase of 9.298% in property tax revenues for operating purposes, debt service and capital improvements. The City has complete authority to establish the number of mills proposed to be levied from within its authorized millage rate.

JOAN REYNOLDS,  
City Clerk

## We're Proud Of Our Reputation

...You Should Be, Too  
You Helped Build It.

### LANDSCAPE TIMBERS

6" x 8" - 8" (Red Pine) Treated \$13.40 Cash & Carry  
30 Year Warranty Against Rot • Free Delivery with purchase of 10 or more  
Thru May 31st

**H.A. SMITH Lumber & Supplies, Inc.**  
Family Founded • Owned • Managed, Since 1946

Where Your Business is Appreciated  
and Strangers are Only Friends We Haven't Met

Hours: Mon.-Fri. 7:30-5:30, Sat. 8:00-4:30  
28575 Grand River Ave. (Near Middlebelt)

**FARMINGTON HILLS 474-6610**

## GIVE BLOOD, PLEASE.

American Red Cross

## Silk City BRASS SALE

May 19 thru June 1

7 pc. Solid Brass  
Planter Set \$19.99

Silk Florals in  
Brass \$19.99

## ALL BRASS 20% OFF

Summer  
SPECIALS

**FUSCHIA**

In 8" Bell Pot... \$24.99

In Hanging  
Basket ..... \$29.99

Delicate 7" Button  
Fern Tree..... \$59.99

**Silk City**

12700 Merriman • Livonia

**425-7460**

Hours: Mon.-Fri. 8-6 • Thurs. 8-5 • Sat. 9-5

## THINKING ABOUT AIR CONDITIONING?

CALL TODAY **brunet**

FOR FREE ESTIMATE

**476-7022**

ANYTIME

**D & G HEATING & COOLING**

19140 FARMINGTON • LIVONIA

## MIDWEST PARTY SHOPPE

20430 FARMINGTON RD.

Just South of 8 Mile Rd. LIVONIA

478-4643

Money Orders 35¢

HOURS: Mon.-Thurs. 9:30 a.m.-11:00 p.m. • Fri. & Sat. 9:30 a.m.-12:00 a.m.

Sundays 10:00 a.m.-9:00 p.m.

PIZZAS • SUBS • DELI • BEER & WINE • HAND DIPPED ICE CREAM

COUPON

**BUSCH BEER**

24-Bottle Case \$6.99 + Dep.

**MOLSON CANADIAN**

24-Bottle Case \$8.99 + Dep.

With Coupon • Thru 6-12-88

2 Liter Bottle

**PEPSI or COKE 97¢**

Limit 4 + Dep.

With Coupon • Thru 6-12-88

## Help your child turn on to learning.

Is your child turned off by school?  
Huntington Learning Center can help him see the light.

From preschool to high school, we fill the gaps in your child's education with individualized tutoring in:

**Reading • Math • Writing • Study Skills • SAT/ACT prep**

The personal attention and help your child receives from our certified teachers will motivate him to succeed in school for years to come. Huntington gives your child the Educational Edge?

Call the Huntington Learning Center nearest you today.

**626-8825**

Middlebelt at 14 Mile

Farmington Hills

**THE HUNTINGTON LEARNING CENTER**



## FREE IN-HOME DECORATING SERVICE

**All Special Order  
WALLPAPER  
30% OFF**

Custom  
**DRAPERIES  
30% OFF**

Pleasing People  
for over  
37 years

**B & D**  
Custom Vertical  
and Mini  
**ALL BLINDS  
60% OFF**

Guaranteed  
Lowest Prices on  
Ball, Delmar,  
Grabber &  
Levolor Products

**PAINTING  
WALLPAPER &  
WINDOW  
COVERING  
INSTALLED**

# PEASE

Paint, Wallpaper & Window Treatments  
570 South Main Street • Plymouth  
453-5100