

Around the world
traveling alone, 1D



All-Stars
stumble, 1C

From ship's galley
a gourmet meal, 1B

Farmington Observer

Volume 99 Number 82

Monday, July 18, 1988

Farmington, Michigan

44 Pages

Twenty-Five Cents

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, 591-0500; display ads, 591-2300.

BONING up

Three staff members of the Farmington Hills Fire Department spent July 10-13 at the Michigan Fire Chiefs Association's annual training conference in Lansing.

"It's important because you get to keep up with what's going on in the fire service, not only in the state, but also outside of it through the speakers," said Deputy Chief Peter Baldwin of the Farmington Hills Fire Department.

Baldwin attended the conference with Chief Richard Marinucci and assistant to the chief Bob Reiboy.

Firefighter safety was the theme. Greg Flager, a full-time firefighter from Mesa, Ariz., who was burned in a 1986 training accident, related memories of the incident and his rehabilitation in his talk, "To Hell and Back."

Flager, still on light duty, was severely burned when he entered a smokehouse with an air pack but no protective clothing and it flashed over. "He was basically trying to make people aware that you sometimes get complacent and make mistakes, and never think it can happen to you. But it does," Baldwin said.

CARDINAL pays a visit. New Cardinal Edmund Szoka's first visit on his return from Rome was to McAuliffe Center in Farmington Hills.

It wasn't an official visit for the 60-year-old cardinal, archbishop of the Roman Catholic Church in Detroit diocese since 1981. It was a very personal visit to four nuns who were his teachers at St. Michael Elementary School in Muskegon and who now live at McAuliffe Center in the Mercy Center complex.

Sister Mary Vincenta was his teacher in first and second grades. Sister Barbara Galant was his teacher in fourth grade. Sister Mary Dolores was his fifth grade teacher. Sister Mary Dolores was not only his eighth grade teacher, but also the school principal.

Strange display left at synagogue

By Bob Sklar
staff writer

An unusual display of seemingly unrelated objects found near the east driveway to a Farmington Hills synagogue Thursday appeared to be nothing more than an "isolated prank."

"At this particular point, we found nothing that would directly link it to an anti-Semitic situation," said Alan Yost, executive director at Adat Shalom Synagogue, 29901 Middlebelt. "I don't believe there's a connection."

"There aren't typical anti-Semitic characteristics, such as swastikas and the word 'kike,'" said Robert Gordon, president of the Michigan Regional Advisory Board of the

Southfield-based Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith.

Farmington Hills police have no suspects nor motive, but are continuing to investigate. "We're trying to locate an individual who we believe may lead us to a suspect," said Sgt. Charles Nebus.

Police believe the man who put together the display is the same man who used a hammer to shatter the windshield of a car parked at the former office of an Asian psychiatrist across Middlebelt at 2:30 p.m. Thursday. The man is thought to be an Asian in his 50s. He was wearing a white turban.

The display was put together near the synagogue's east driveway between about 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. Thursday.

'At this point, we found nothing that would directly link it to an anti-Semitic situation. I don't believe there's a connection.'

— Alan Yost
synagogue executive director

TAPED TO a lightpost near the entrance drive was an Armageddon-related pamphlet.

Taped to a post of a traffic sign was an umbrella sporting a baggie with a photo of an Asian man posing with a wax figure of Col. Muammar

Qaddafi. On the other post were two baggies, one with a handwritten exercise regime and a rose, the other with a photo of the same Asian man posing with a wax figure of Mr. T. Nearby were scattered items, including sports equipment and minia-

ture plastic figures of planes and kids. On the driveway were the letters A and H made with duct tape. The A was circled with baby oil.

South of the driveway was a freshly dug hole with a shovel upright and a hole across it. Atop the nearby synagogue sign was a glass globe containing a rose and water. A profanity was inscribed on a rock; a piece of broken wire was laid across it.

NEAR THE exit drive, Q-Tips were scattered in front of a rock on which the word "hurricane" was scrawled in ink. The word "hole" was scrawled in duct tape and ink on a stop sign. A black wooden cane and a plastic urine bottle were taped to a

Please turn to Page 4



RANDY BORST/staff photographer

Kaleidoscope of the World

The 24th annual Farmington/Farmington Hills Founders Festival parade Saturday along Grand River sported a cultural theme in salute to the Farmington area's ethnic diversity. Part of the Cultural Awareness Committee's parade unit were these Japanese folks in traditional costume. Committee members suggested the theme, kaleidoscope of the World,

to the Farmington/Farmington Hills Chamber of Commerce, which sponsors the parade. For the story about, and more pictures of, the two-hour parade, which drew throngs of spectators despite 90-degree-plus temperatures, see Page 3A.

Moped must: Know rules

By Joanne Majczewski
staff writer

Bill Thiele says he tells parents everything they should know when buying their youngsters a moped. Somehow, the message isn't getting through. Problems with mopeds and their young operators continue to grow in Farmington Hills.

"We tell them everything," said Thiele, Farmington Cycle World assistant general manager, rattling off the list of state requirements for moped operation.

Still, about 99.9 percent of moped riders don't have one of the most essential required items — a state license, said Sgt. Ray Cranston of the Farmington Hills Police Department Traffic Section.

"Moms and dads go out and buy mopeds for the kids and they don't research what they are required to do," said traffic officer Don Pradette.

So far this year, the department has been called to about six injury accidents involving mopeds. Some of the injuries have been serious. Several years ago, a youngster was killed when he pulled into traffic on his moped and was hit by a car. "We know statistically that moped accidents increase as the summer goes on," Cranston said.

"THE PROBLEM is that they (youngsters) are reckless, untrained

Please turn to Page 4

Drivers must be at least 15

The state rules for driving a moped are as earnest and detailed as they are for driving a car.

The top rule is that you must be at least 15 years old to drive a moped, which has a top speed of 30 mph and an electric or gasoline motor that doesn't require shifting gears to operate.

If you plan to ride the moped on public roads and streets, including subdivisions, you must register the vehicle with the Secretary of State. The registration sticker must be on the moped at all times.

AMONG THE other rules are: You must have a special moped (for those 15 and younger) or valid Michigan driver license to drive it on public roads. To obtain the special moped license, you must pass a vi-

Please turn to Page 4

what's inside

- Around Farmington . . . 4B
- Classifieds . . . Secs. C,E,F
- Index . . . 8E
- Auto . . . Secs. C,F
- Real estate . . . 2E
- Employment . . . 8E
- Creative living . . . Sec. E
- Crossword puzzle . . . 2E
- Entertainment . . . 5D
- On the agenda . . . 4B
- Police/fire calls . . . 4B
- Sports . . . Sec. C
- Street scene . . . Sec. D
- Taste . . . Sec. B

We make it EASY

So easy to place an ad—just pick up the phone. We'll do the rest!

591-0900

Use Your MasterCard or Visa

By Dave Verge
staff writer

The house Shawn McLaughlin was having built near Middle Straits Lake in West Bloomfield was supposed to be finished June 3.

Almost a month later, with no sign of a house on the lot, she and a partner filed suit against Keating Community Homes to get back her \$18,000 deposit on a pre-built \$92,300-house that supposedly takes just one day to put up.

"I've done nothing but go without for the last

year and a half. This was my life savings," McLaughlin said. "Here my lease is up on my apartment and I have no money and I have no house."

She is not alone. Bloomfield Township builder Howard Keating III says he has nine or 10 houses not finished. Some money has been returned, he said.

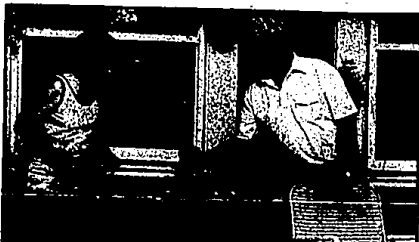
The builder says he's been "struggling" for six months, allegedly because Bloomfield Savings and Loan Association backed out of \$900,000 in

KEATING'S FIRM filed suit June 20 against the bank, seeking \$4.8 million for loss of reputation, buyers, profits, financial investors and return of deposits. Bloomfield Savings has filed a counter-suit.

Keating said he has finished 20-30 houses since he began marketing his prefabricated homes in the northern and western suburbs, including West Bloomfield and Farmington Hills. At the time, he claimed the homes could be assembled in one day. He planned to build 1,200 this year.

Please turn to Page 4

Popular teacher dies in accident



Pat and Bill Nuttall sort through home-grown tomatoes in this 1985 picture.

By Bob Sklar
staff writer

An Our Lady of Sorrows elementary school teacher, remembered as a "real people person" by one of her two daughters, was struck by a car while walking on Power Road Thursday morning and later died of her injuries.

Patricia Marie Nuttall, 58, died at 10:50 a.m. Thursday at Botsford General Hospital, Farmington Hills. The Farmington Hills resident died of multiple injuries, said an Oakland County medical examiner's spokesman.

Mrs. Nuttall was walking on the west shoulder of Power, south of 11 Mile, at 7:30 a.m. when a southbound car left the pavement and struck her, said officer Ed Fitzpatrick of

the Farmington Hills Police Department Traffic Section.

"She was off the pavement and going against the flow of traffic, which is the correct thing to do," Fitzpatrick said.

"My mother walked two miles every morning," said Mrs. Nuttall's daughter, Betsy Morris, 33, of Farmington.

An Our Lady of Sorrows Catholic Church teacher for 20 years, Mrs. Nuttall most recently taught sixth-grade religion, science and social studies. "She was very caring and understanding — a real terrific person and a real role model," said Sister Veronica, principal.

Please turn to Page 4