



RANDY BORST/staff photographer

David Schroeter, a floral designer at Schroeter's Flowers and Gifts on Orchard Lake Road, was recently inducted with 54 other designers into the prestigious American Institute of Floral Designers.

By Susan Buck
staff writer

In David Schroeter's life, everything is coming up roses. Lilies and mums, Freesias and Marigolds, too. Schroeter, a floral designer at Schroeter's Flowers and Gifts on Orchard Lake Road in Farmington Hills, has two reasons to celebrate this year.

In July, he was inducted with 54 other designers from around the world into the prestigious American Institute of Floral Designers (AIFD) at the Marriott World Center in Orlando, Fla.

"In the florist industry, it's the biggest thing you can do," said Schroeter. "It's kind of like getting your Ph.D."

Considered the creme de la creme in floral design, AIFD is an international organization comprised of designers recognized by its peers for outstanding design excellence and professionalism.

As a result, Schroeter ranks among the organization's worldwide membership of 440 persons.

Life blooms for floral designer

people

Those invited to join AIFD have successfully completed two phases of design qualification. Completing both stages takes two to three years. Only about a quarter of the florists who pursue this status are successful.

Now Schroeter can add the initials "AIFD" after his name.

IN SEPTEMBER, Schroeter took prizes in all of his 21 floral entries at the Michigan State Fair, including eight first-place prizes.

More importantly, he captured the Best of Show award the first day of the fair for an arrangement called "Warm Welcome." This arrangement, designed for use on a low table in an entrance hall, featured a piece of sculpture made of formed metal tubing and two calla lilies.

"It's my favorite flower. I was

ecstatic," he said, when learning of the honor. "I stayed down for the judging. We're not allowed in the building, but all of the florists stand right in the doorway and watch."

The Farmington Hills homeowner graduated from West Bloomfield High School in 1979. "I love contemporary stuff," he said. "My house is all black and white and gray."

Just as Schroeter's floral arrangements exude a simple, quiet elegance, his first interest in flower arranging began just as simply.

"When he was 7, we couldn't push him out of the store," said Donna Schroeter, his mother and owner of the store. "My dad had a flower shop in Detroit, so David is a third-generation florist. David has a knack of taking just a few flowers and making a statement."

DONNA SCHROETER soon plans to make her son a partner in her 18-year-old business. "Michigan is very competitive. This area seems to have a lot of quality designers," she said.

In the minds of both Schroeters, style comes first with their customers; price second.

Customers benefit by the expanding availability of flowers. The greenhouses of Holland, Australia and South America are just a phone call away.

And when they arrive, David Schroeter whisks exotic flower varieties like Gerbera Daisies, "Star Gazers" Lilies and Proteas off to pleased customers in the metro area. "We do a room at Meadow Brook Hall (in Rochester Hills) every year for the Christmas Wars," he said.

Three years ago, David Schroeter was on the floral arrangement committee for the Floral Transit Delivery women's luncheon at Cobo Hall in Detroit honoring FTD's 75th anniversary.

"It's a lot of hard work," said Schroeter.

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on the agenda

Below are highlights from agendas of government meetings this week. All meetings are open to the public.

Farmington Hills City Council
Farmington Hills City Hall
Council Chambers
31555 11 Mile
7:30 p.m., Monday, Oct. 10

Two public hearings are scheduled for tonight:

- Consideration of determination for Robinson sanitary sewer and notice of intent to issue bonds.
- Consideration of determination for Broadview/Dohany paving and notice of intent to issue bonds.

The council also will review projects proposed for the 1989 construction season and will consider introduction of an amendment to the 1987 BOCA basic national plumbing code. Also to be considered is an application for an adult foster care small group home, 25491 Hunt Club Boulevard, and award of bid for street pavement planer/grader for the Department of Public Works.

The following consent agenda also will be considered:

- Approval of lot split moratorium release in two areas.
- Award of contract for Greenfield sanitary sewer installation to Greenfield, Inc. for \$43,294.
- Award of bid for tree planting program to Ray's Landscape and Nursery for \$53,250.
- Award of bid for Moran Street water to DiNello Construction Co. for \$12,750.
- Approval to buy \$3,928 in computer equipment for the police department through the county cooperative purchasing program.

Farmington Community Library
Board of Trustees
Farmington Hills branch
32737 12 Mile
5 p.m., Thursday, Oct. 13

The 1987-88 annual audit will be presented to trustees. Also to be discussed is the actuarial valuation of the pension program through the Michigan Municipal Employees Retirement System.

New annual vehicle fee of \$25 backed by Farmington council

By Casey Hans
staff writer

Farmington City Council members have unanimously supported a countywide ballot proposal that would add \$25 per vehicle to annual vehicle registration fees.

The proposal will be on the Nov. 8 general election ballot, as proposed by the Oakland County Road Commission.

"The county is somewhat insulated from the local electorate. It's up to the communities to get out there and support this," Mayor Richard Tupper said. "It's evidently in our hands."

"I think we have no recourse but to endorse it and support it," councilman Ralph Yoder said.

THE PROPOSAL would give Oak-

land County communities \$20 million per year for the next 10 years, but would handle only a portion of the \$750 million needed to meet the county's highway needs, city manager Robert Deadman said.

Farmington would receive nearly \$187,000 each year if the proposal is approved.

"Some cities have taken a position opposed to it. Others have taken a position supporting it," Deadman said.

"Without this, I don't know what the state will consider in the future. It's a tough call."

Oakland is the first county to take the matter to the voters. It is the only option allowed by the state Legislature.

THE CITY of Farmington has ear-

marked several projects if the proposal is approved. These include:

- widen Farmington Road to five lanes from Eight Mile to Nine Mile,
- repair and overlay Freedom Road from Nine Mile to Haledale,
- repair and overlay Drake Road from Grand River to the southern city limits,
- funding for local road repair, overlay and aesthetic improvements to the road system.

All of the money from the proposal would be given back to local communities to use on roads.

"It becomes evident, that without additional revenues to increase the capacity of the road system, the economic growth and the quality of life throughout the county will be adversely affected," Deadman said.

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—UPCOMING SPECIAL EVENTS—

Thursday, October 13, 1988 - 7:00 PM
Notice is hereby given to all members of the corporation to attend a **special membership meeting** for the purpose of ratifying a change of organizational name. The Board of Directors proposes the name change to:
THE COMMUNITY CENTER
Farmington - Farmington Hills

Sunday, October 23 - 7:30 PM

AN EVENING OF CABARET

Chanteuse **SHERI NICHOLS** and pianist **Richard Berant** perform their exciting repertoire, cabaret style, in the intimate setting of the Center's Living Room.

Reservations are necessary.

Sunday, October 30 - 4:30 PM

HALLOWEEN HOWL

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