

Nothing automatic about new gun plans

By Joanne Malleszewska
staff writer

Farmington and Farmington Hills police will not immediately follow the lead of other suburban departments and carry the much-talked-about and often controversial semi-automatic handguns.

Both department chiefs are looking at the 9mm handgun — but with the idea of buying them in the future. "We're looking at the weapons but for when we need to replace our existing .357-caliber (Smith & Wesson Magnums) in the next couple years,"

Farmington public safety director Frank Laubhoff said.

In Farmington Hills, police Chief William Dwyer takes the same position. "We are considering going with the 9mm in the future. Maybe in 2 to 3 years. Because of the cost factors and other needs, it's not one of the burning issues."

Dwyer estimated that for his department, the semiautomatic handguns might cost about \$50,000 if the current .357-caliber revolvers are replaced. The semiautomatics are about \$500 a piece compared to \$300 for the Magnums.

Livonia, Birmingham and Beverly Hills are among the suburbs whose police departments have made the switch to the more expensive handgun.

BUT BOTH Laubhoff and Dwyer are willing to wait. Neither sees the need to join the growing number of departments, including federal law enforcement agencies, buying the more powerful handguns.

In Farmington Hills, officers are authorized to use the 9mm if they are qualified and certified, Dwyer said.

"It's an emotional issue for each department to make the decision to purchase," Laubhoff said. "There are arguments on both sides. Police officers want to feel they are adequately prepared on the street both mentally and with equipment. There's nothing wrong with that."

Despite perceptions, the 9mm semiautomatic is not a machine gun. The spring-loaded 9mm provides the officer firing capacity or the ability to fire 15, 17 or 18 rounds without reloading. The rounds are in a cartridge loaded in the handgun's han-

die as opposed to loading ammunition into the chamber of a revolver.

But unlike a machine gun, the 9mm trigger must be pulled for each of the rounds, Laubhoff said. "That seems to some people the important issue," he said. "It is no more dangerous than a revolver (.357-caliber, for example). The semiautomatic should prove no more dangerous than the current situations when a weapon is used. Any time a weapon is used, it's a hazard for police officers and others around."

THE POLICE chiefs are aware of some opposition to the multi-round handguns. Both acknowledge they are still studying the issue. But they do see the benefits. In addition to firing capacity, the semiautomatic appears to be more accurate than the .357-caliber or the .38-caliber.

"The accuracy improves because there is less recoil absorbed. The weapon doesn't jump in his hand," Laubhoff said.

"Even in the suburbs where crime is not running rampant, we still have our share of crimes. More people in narcotics situations have high-powered weapons. Law enforcement is just trying to keep pace with the criminal element," Dwyer said.

What other charity would



sit up,
roll over,
and beg for your money?

Pet project

Village Mall hosts humane society benefit

By Bob Sklar
staff writer

This Valentine's Day, there are some who need more than their hearts warmed.

As a Michigan Humane Society filer puts it: "When a person gets a pet, he takes on a responsibility. He promises to provide food, water, shelter and love. In return, he gets the animal's unwavering loyalty and devotion. It's like an unwritten contract between man and animal. Seeing this contract broken is the saddest part of the work we do."

That's the underlying message of the Michigan Humane Society's Valentine's Day display, coming Friday and Saturday to the lobby of the Village Mall, Grand River at Farmington Road, in downtown Farmington.

For the third straight year, the Village Mall Merchants Association will host a two-day benefit to raise money for the humane society. Hours are 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Friday and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday. Sales, giveaways and refreshments are planned.

The purpose is to support the Michigan Humane Society while promoting business downtown.

"By helping out the humane soci-

ety, we at the Village Mall feel like we're accomplishing something for an organization that needs help," said Ann Donovan of Donovan's Irish Imports.

A cat lover, she said, "Most of us are into animals. We're a group of people who have something in common other than just running a business. We really enjoy having pets."

AS VALENTINE'S Day nears, hundreds of healthy animals are waiting at the Michigan Humane Society for that certain someone who can provide a loving, permanent home.

If you're already spoken for by a pet, there's another way you can help humane society dependents. Contributions help get animals off the street, before a bitter winter night gets to them before the humane society can.

From the lobby of the Village Mall, humane society volunteers will sell sweaters with paw prints and other animal designs. Valentine's Day gifts for dogs — like specially wrapped milk bones — also will be sold.

Each donor of money, clean old blankets or pet food can enter a drawing to guess the number of milk

bones in a ribbon-topped jar. The Village Mall Merchants Association will award a humane society sweatshirt to the most accurate guesser.

The Galloping Doggie Groomer will be at the mall Feb. 10-18 to groom dogs and cats. Twenty percent of the proceeds will go to the humane society. Call 545-1000 for an appointment.

THE MICHIGAN Humane Society is a private, non-profit group devoted to protecting and fighting for animal rights. It extends a helping hand to homeless, injured or abused animals.

Society workers offer several services beyond injured animal care — pet adoption, pet therapy, community education, cruelty investigation, wildlife rehabilitation.

In explaining why pets should be spayed or neutered, a society poster says: "Every year, millions of cats and kittens end up in animal shel-

ters, are sold for experimentation, abandoned, die of exposure and starvation, and worse! Their crime for these punishments was being born into a world that has no room for them."

The Michigan Humane Society is the last refuge for thousands of homeless or unwanted animals. There's no color TV in the rooms. There's no swimming pool out back. And the menu rarely changes. But the society's 550-plus rooms are nearly always full.

ANIMALS THE humane society can't find a home for — the very sick, the old, the injured — receive an intravenous injection of sodium pentobarbital.

"Because our primary concern is the welfare of the animals, we fought hard and achieved success in helping outlaw the use of the decompression chamber and electrocution in the state," says a humane society brochure.

Farmington Observer

(USPS 187-840)

Published every Monday and Thursday by Observer & Economic Newspapers, 1225 Bowers, Farmington, MI 48012. Second-class postage paid at Farmington, MI 48012. Address all mail subscriptions, change of address, Form 3509 to P.O. Box 2426, Livonia, MI 48151. Telephone 591-0500.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES
(in Oakland County)

One year	\$24.20
(Elsewhere in Michigan)	
Newstand	per copy, 25¢
One year	\$40.00
(Elsewhere in U.S.A.)	
One year	\$60.00

All advertising published in the Farmington Observer is subject to the conditions stated in the applicable rate card, copies of which are available from the advertising department, Farmington 3203 Grand River, Farmington, MI (313) 477-5450. The Farmington Observer reserves the right not to accept an advertiser's order. Observer & Economic ad-takers have no authority to bind this newspaper and only publication of an advertisement shall constitute final acceptance of the advertiser's order.

More Harrison honor roll

Because of a space problem, several Farmington Hills Harrison High School seniors were left off the honor roll list published in the Monday, Feb. 6 issue of the Observer.

They are: Robert Schneider, Anthony Scaron, Jennifer Conik, Forlyn Sharpe, Jeffrey Skinner, Danile Slaim, Karl Smith, Kevin Smith, Ste-

ven Smith, Shawn Smith, Marco Sosa, Jason Springel, Patricia Sullivan, Robert Swartz, Andrew Thav, Kristen Tomle, Chad Veenstra, Brenda Verellen, Gail Walock, Courtney Watson, Erik Weingrot, Steven Welprecht, Litter Winter, Todd Whittemore, Laura Wilkinson, William Wolford and Kelly Wright.

5th Anniversary

Over 10,000 Fun Kid Visits

MY PLACE

just for kids®

3618 W. Maple (at Lahser)
Birmingham 548-5702

32875 Northwestern (S. of 14 Mile)
Farmington Hills 737-5437

HOURS: Mon-Sat 10-6 PM, Sun 1-5 PM
SAT 10-5 PM, Sun 1-5 PM

"Quality, hourly drop-in child care WHERE KIDS CAN HAVE FUN!"

THANK YOU!

Save

\$2 limit one per visit per family expires 2/16/88

Plan your child's next Birthday Party at My Place "Just for Kids"

473-5840

Fallsafe Alarm Service Inc.

FOR FARMINGTON HILLS

HOME SECURITY SYSTEM \$695.00
SPECIAL FOR THE NEW YEAR.

Includes: 6 month free monitoring, 2 doors, inside-outside alarm, 1 digital key pad, motion detector, control panel with rechargeable battery back up.

25760 Glenview Rd.
Farmington Hills

IF YOU LIKE COLORFUL COVERAGE READ STREET SCENE

HOME GROCERY SHOPPERS

"Let Us Shop For You"

835-7420

Serving Westland, Livonia, Dearborn, Redford, Farmington, Farmington Hills & Southfield Areas

MEXICAN FOOD

el Mexico Restaurant

1/2 OFF DINNER

Buy One Dinner & Receive Second of Equal or lesser value 1/2 OFF

LUNCH \$2.99

10000 Drake Rd. • West Bloomfield (corner of Walnut Lake & Drake)

861-8088

Clip and Use

Treat Yourself to a Beautiful Set of

Acrylic Nails

Reg. \$40.00 NOW \$24.95

AIRBRUSHING • NAIL ART

MARILYN'S NAILS

477-2610

Midwood Square 35562 Grand River Farmington Hills

Hours: Tues.-Fri. 10-9:00 Sat. 10-6:00 Sun. 1-5:00

For your Valentine

PREMIUM LONG STEM ROSES
Gift Boxed or beautifully Arranged in a Vase...and very reasonably priced from \$36.50 a dozen.

FTD "CANDY HEARTS BOUQUET" \$22.50 to \$27.50

HMF VALENTINE FEATURE DESIGNS

"CUPIDS DELIGHT" ... red & white flowers arranged with a white bear & heart pick in a white ceramic bowl with red hearts design \$11.50 to \$17.50

"LOVE IN BLOOM" ... an etched glass bud vase with roses, baby's breath & a white bear pick \$11.50 to \$17.50

"VALENTINO" ... a heart-shaped heartthrob plush character with sunglasses clings to a cylinder vase filled with red roses and white carnations \$27.50

"TROPICAL ROMANCE" ... a styled arrangement of anthurium, the red heart-shaped flower of love from Hawaii, and tropical foliage in a designer bowl \$22.50 to \$36.50

"P.S. I LOVE YOU" ... a styled arrangement of pink and white fragrant fresh flowers in a white ceramic Heart of Love container \$25.00

"SWEETHEART ROSE BASKET" ... a dozen sweetheart roses with baby's breath & a heart pick in a basket \$35.00

"BEAR IN A BASKET" ... a handled basket with a colorful mixed flower arrangement in one side and a big cuddly plush bear nestled in the other side \$40.00

Ask about "THE '89 VALENTINE" ... the complete Valentines gift.

Open Sunday, Feb. 12
10 am to 5 pm

Harry Miller FLOWERS

ALL MAJOR CREDIT CARDS ACCEPTED

Since 1928
50 Years of Quality & Service

Dearborn 14900 Michigan Ave. 881-2728

Detroit First Federal Bldg. 961-4803

Farmington Hills Orchard-12 Shopping Plaza 885-4444

1/2 OFF ALL WINTER MERCHANDISE

KLEIN'S OF LIVONIA

NEWBURGH PLAZA • 591-9244

1/2 OFF MERCHANDISE FINAL SALE—ALTERATIONS AT COST—NO LAYAWAYS
PRIOR PURCHASES EXCLUDED—OPEN MON.-FRI. 10-9:00, SAT. 10-6:00

VISA MasterCard American Express Discover