



Staff photos by RANDY BORST

## A boost

The Dads' Club and the Moms' Club at Mercy High, in conjunction with Great Scott! supermarkets, hosted a fundraiser April 19 to benefit athletic and extracurricular programs at the private, all-girls school in Farmington Hills. A portion of all sales on that day at the Great Scott! at 11 Mile and Middlebelt, across from Mercy, were donated to the school. Above, the Mercys' choral group entertains shoppers. At right, sophomores Marybeth Mason (left), Maureen Phoney, Maureen Paulin and Kim Reichard bag groceries. All are on the varsity softball team.



# Tax rate may drop, but taxes rise

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- Street-related projects including the city's share of the widening and storm water changes on Orchard Lake Road, work in the Twin Valley subdivision, and purchase of an asphalt roller.
- Stable water and sewer rates for the coming year, Deadman said

the city has not received any wholesale increase from the city of Detroit, thus stabilizing rates to residents.

NOT ADDRESSED in the proposed budget are increased costs for changes in procedures for garbage collection and disposal. The city is expecting to consider a plan devel-

oped by the six-member Southwest Oakland County Solid Waste Consortium yet this year, which may boost rates. "The budget will require an amendment if that is implemented this year," Deadman said.

The public safety department has the largest portion of the general fund budget of \$1.33 million, followed by general government ex-

penses of \$885,000, public services at \$739,000, and insurance and fixed expenses, \$681,000.

The council has already met twice this month, and will also meet May 11 to review the budget and make any revisions before it is adopted. Under state law, it must be adopted before the council's first meeting in June.

## Attorney in Hills gains judgeship

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what I want to preserve and protect in court is the right and the entitlement of all people to dignity," said Harris, who was a Democratic candidate in the 1970 race for the then-19th Congressional District (that included Farmington and Farmington Hills).

Harris said his goals also include promptness in the courtroom and the rendering of decisions in a "prompt and timely manner." He also wants people who come before him to feel they had the opportunity to tell their side of the story and to know they have been heard.

"If I can achieve these objectives, then I will have achieved a heck of a lot," he said.

IN SELECTING Harris, Morris said the governor looked for a person considered a "good quality professional" who would serve as "a good community role model."

Harris is a member of the state and Oakland County bar associations as well as the Incorporated Society of Irish American Lawyers. He is a retired lieutenant colonel in the U.S. Marine Corps and a member of the Disabled American Veterans and the Marine Corps Aviation Association.

He served as an Oakland County road commissioner from 1971-75 and as chairman from 1975-76.

Harris and his wife, Elaine, have three grown sons, Michael, Timothy and Patrick, all graduates of North Farmington High School.

## A bright future awaited worker

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caused the explosion until later in the week. The water-line break and flood delayed investigations, he said.

Steiner was involved in high school football, wrestling, track and pole vaulting. He joined the Navy after high school, served for eight years, joined the Veterans of Foreign Wars and landed a job with Doetsch.

"He's worked ever since he's been out of high school and he worked while he was in high school," Fred Steiner said.

Grace Noble of Redford Township described her grandson as a "good boy."

AL LANIGAN, principal at Larkshire Elementary in Farmington Hills where Steiner and his siblings attended grade school, remembered Billy well.

"I sure remember Billy," he said. "It was just a shock when I saw what happened."

"He just was a very wholesome, all-American boy. The last time I saw him a couple of years ago, I remember thinking, other than bigger, he hasn't changed. He was al-

ways helping. He would never say anything negative about anybody."

Steiner attended Farmington Public Schools throughout his childhood, including Larkshire, East Junior High School and Farmington High School, from which he graduated in 1980.

DAVE CATHERMAN, head track and field coach when Steiner was a student, said all the Steiner children were "thought of very highly. Bill in particular was one of our leaders." During his three years as a varsity pole vaulter, he led his field in the Observer area.

"He was a very important part of picking up the team goals, the loyalty and the commitment. He was a great example of that," Catherman added. "He was one of our most loyal kids."

Steiner is survived by his wife, Torey, and his son, Dustin Lee, of Canton Township; his parents, Fred and Dorothy Steiner, his sister, Kimberly Ann Steiner, and his brother, James Steiner, all of Farmington Hills.

Other survivors include his grandparents, Helen and Herb Steiner and Grace Noble, all of Redford Township.

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