

Her candy house grew into a village, 1B

All-Area hoop, 5D

Local reaction to Panama conflict, 7A

# Farmington Observer

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## farmington FOCUS

# Undercover liquor sting nabs 18

Related stories, 3A

**By Susan Buck**  
staff writer

Sixteen restaurants and bars and two package liquor stores were ticketed Friday as Farmington Hills police executed their sixth undercover sting Friday in an attempt to discourage sale of alcoholic beverages to minors.

The 18 liquor licensees who were ticketed represent 33 percent of those checked during the noon to midnight sting, in which two 19-year-old cadets, a male and a female, were accompanied by sworn officers. The male took part in a previous sting.

The sting, the sixth since 1985, targeted restaurants and bars as well

as 10 package liquor stores that had at least two or more Michigan Liquor Control Commission (LCC) violations for selling to minors.

"We're not successful. We're not getting their attention," Police Chief William Dwyer said of the 13 repeat offenders.

"Why do they do it? I think they are just negligent as far as their responsibility in training their employees."

"And, in some cases, it is total disregard to the rules and regulations of the Michigan Liquor Control Commission. I think some of these persons are strictly out for the almighty dollar."

The police have information that a package liquor dealer was selling a six-pack of beer for as high as \$15. So they are strictly out for the profit that can be made," Dwyer said.

Dwyer declined to name that dealer. He said the police have had good cooperation from local district court judges in the battle against employees who sell alcohol to minors. Fines range up to \$500, with an average of \$66. He hopes for stiffer penalties this time, including jail terms if merited.

THIS WAS the fourth time since 1986 the Last Stop Party Store, 29154 Grand River, has been ticketed. In summer 1986, the store was fined \$200 for selling to a minor. In fall 1988, it was fined \$1,000 and issued a 7-day suspension for previous violations of selling to a minor. It was issued four violations in 1981. On June 2, the store was ticketed for selling to a minor but no disposition was available.

"We may take them to court and

pull their license, or at least (try) to have their license revoked," Dwyer said.

A man identifying himself as the store manager called the undercover sting entrapment by police. "They

Sever's 6-point plan

**Farmington Hills Mayor Terry Sever's six-point plan to toughen local liquor law enforcement:**

- Ignore requests for new liquor licenses in 1990.
- Recommend to the LCC that, as of Dec. 15, first-time violators receive a minimum 15-day license suspension in addition to a fine.
- Recommend to the LCC that, as of Dec. 15, repeat violators receive a minimum 30-day suspension in addition to a fine.
- Have the city council direct the city attorney and police department to investigate certain licensees and prepare a case allowing the city to revoke the licenses of those deemed irresponsible.
- Have the city consider developing an ordinance requiring licensees to provide, at their expense, proper training and certification to all sellers of alcohol.
- Request that area LCC board representatives appear before the city council.

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, 591-0900; display ads, 591-2300; fax line, 477-9722.

**IN the spotlight.**

The Farmington Hills City Council Monday decided to discuss the controversy surrounding a Nov. 16 planning commission decision banning use of loudspeakers or amplifiers at the Community Center of Farmington-Farmington Hills' amphitheater.

The discussion will take place at the council's annual goals and issues study session Saturday, Jan. 20 in the city hall.

Neighbors have complained about noise from the amphitheater. Center officials say the 1-year ban will sharply curtail events and negatively affect their budget.

**SECOND** in command, Farmington Hills city clerk Kathryn Dorman was elected vice president of the Oakland County Clerks Association last Wednesday.

The one-year term puts her in line for the presidency next year.

Dorman has been Farmington Hills clerk for 16 months. Before that, she was deputy clerk for 3½ years.

**QUOTE** of the week

The ease of which our decays were served alcohol is a very frightening experience.

— Farmington Hills Mayor Terry Sever, after the police department's sixth liquor enforcement strike Friday, 3A.



Don Hillier, Farmington IGA owner, uses a Beztak map to point out other supermarkets in the Farmington area at the city council meeting.

## Hills rejects rezoning bid for Muirwood

**Views at hearing vary, 8A**

**By Casey Hans**  
staff writer

After more than one year of debate, the Farmington Hills City Council denied a rezoning request Monday that would have allowed a major expansion at the Muirwood Square shopping center.

At least two council members questioned whether the push to re-

zone 6.3 acres by the Farmington Hills-based Beztak Building Co. could be a "self-orchestrated hard-ship" case.

The 5-2 split decision to deny the rezoning came on the heels of a 7-0 recommendation from city planning commissioners, who had voted last month to recommend it. It also followed a 2½-hour public hearing, in which a variety of residents, merchants and others spoke on the issue, giving it a mixed review.

## Action on Muirwood

This is a list of action taken on the proposed rezoning and expansion of Muirwood Square shopping center, according to information from the Farmington Hills city manager's office. The rezoning, requested by Beztak Building Co., was denied Monday night.

- Dec. 1, 1988 — planning commission studies zoning request, takes no action.
- Jan. 12, 1989 — zoning request set for public hearing on Feb. 16.
- Feb. 16, 1989 — planning commission holds public hearing, recommends denial of rezoning. Beztak withdraws request.
- Aug. 3, 1989 — planning commission studies re-submitted zoning request.
- Oct. 12, 1989 — zoning request set for public hearing for Nov. 16.
- Nov. 16, 1989 — planning commission holds public hearing, recommends approval of rezoning.
- Dec. 18, 1989 — city council denies rezoning request.

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**EARLY DEADLINES**

Due to the holiday, we will be closed Monday, Dec. 25, 1989.

To place your classified "liner" ad for Mon., Dec. 25th, call before 5 P.M., today, Thurs., Dec. 21, 1989.

**OAKLAND COUNTY**  
644-1070  
HOLIDAY GREETINGS

## Resident holds back a gunman

A gunman who tried to force his way into a house in northwest Farmington Hills was foiled when the homeowner pushed him back and slammed the door Sunday afternoon, Farmington Hills police said.

The gunman fired one shot toward the house before leaving, but no one was hurt. It's not clear what his intentions were, detective Darnel Krause said.

According to a Farmington Hills police report:

At 3:10 p.m. a homeowner on Kenloch Drive, in the 13 Mile-Drake Road area, heard the doorbell and went to the front door, accompanied by his young son.

A man thought to be in his 20s asked if "Wilson" was home, then produced a revolver from his coat pocket and ordered the homeowner inside.

As the gunman tried to step inside, the homeowner pushed him back and slammed the door. The homeowner then dropped to the floor with his son and yelled to his wife to call the police.

From an upstairs window, his wife saw the gunman fire a shot toward the house as he got in a waiting car driven by another man. The car was backed up in the driveway, just off the street. The gunshot missed the house.

## Kendallwood gets a facelift

**By Susan Buck**  
staff writer

Kendallwood Shopping Center completed a \$3 million facelift this summer after numerous community complaints about deteriorating appearance and safety problems.

Old businesses in the Farmington Road-12 Mile center in Farmington Hills are delighted that construction crews are gone and customers have easy access. New businesses hope customers learn they exist.

"It's a brand-new shopping center," said owner James Butler of Southfield. "It's one of the few strip centers which has an anchor, Crowley's. It's a good corner."

Twenty-three stores are occupied with six more still to be leased. Butler bought the center in 1984; Crowley's took over the old Demery's store in 1972.

Gene DiCresce, Crowley's store manager, said he has eagerly witnessed an expanded store.

"The mall itself was pretty shabby," DiCresce said. The parking lot had potholes. We got a lot of complaints from customers. They assumed we owned the mall, which we don't. Everytime somebody would get a flat tire in a pothole, they would come running in. We have all new sidewalks and a new parking lot. We took over the building next door and put in a men's store."

CROWLEY'S SQUARE footage now is about 70,000, up from a previous 62,000. They put in a barrier-free restroom and ramp for the disabled.

DiCresce sees an increase of men shopping on their lunch hour. The store caters to the surrounding high-income area with higher-quality, designer brands such as Liz Claiborne.

Mary Bush, Farmington-Farmington Hills Chamber of Commerce president and an executive assistant for Thompson Brown Co. Realtors across from Kendallwood, said the shopping center serves a need for people who don't want to battle a mall's crowded stores and parking lots.

Jeanne Rice, a West Bloomfield resident, who owns Jennie's Hairmark, has been in her present location facing south for two years after moving from a smaller location next to Crowley's, where she did business for 14 years.



Crowley's anchors the newly renovated Kendallwood Shopping Center at 12 Mile and Farmington Road in Farmington Hills.

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