

CPR helps Hills employee save a life

Tim Waker, 19, had no idea the CPR (cardiopulmonary resuscitation) training he learned last Wednesday would be put to the test in a very real way on Saturday.

He was at Farmington Road and Grand River on a recent weekend morning and noticed a car on the side of the road with the driver slumped over the wheel. The passenger was just getting out of the car to call for help.

Waker and a security guard from the bank across the street ran to the scene.

FORTUNATELY, both had CPR training and they began the procedures which, for Waker, were still fresh in his mind.

The driver of the car, a man in his 70s, was not breathing.

Waker removed him from the car, positioned him on the ground and, with his rescue mate, took turns using the breathing and chest compression CPR techniques.

Within minutes, Farmington public safety officers arrived. They provided additional rescue support, and the patient was taken to Botsford General Hospital in Farmington Hills for what turned out to be a successful recovery.

According to one of the doctors, the patient was very lucky to be alive, lucky not to have suffered any brain damage, which occurs with a lack of oxygen to the brain.

He was also lucky to have such a capable rescue team there at the right time and place.

"I was very nervous, but knew this was something I had to do," Waker said.

Maybe it's in his genes. Waker's dad, Daniel, has been a volunteer fire fighter in the Farmington Hills Fire Department for 10 years.

WAKER IS also a city employee in the engineering department. He was recently hired as an engineering aide.

The CPR training was offered to all personnel in city hall, sponsored by the employee health and safety committee and presented by the fire department.

More than 100 employees took the course. They all passed.



Tim Waker helps save life

Noise on freeway irks nearby residents

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MDOT does not provide noise abatement for commercial and office property, such as the type that hovers over the freeway along the I-21 corridor.

Along the residential areas, however, MDOT plans to:

- build a 10-12-foot wall near the expanded Orchard Lake Road interchange from the Clarion Hotel west past Echo Valley condos

miniiums and Kendallwood apartments.

- build a wall in addition to an existing berm to buffer Farm Meadows subdivision, east of Mery High School.

- increase the height of the existing earth berm between the freeway and Camelot Court subdivision.

IN SOME cases, residents disagree with the height of walls and berms proposed by MDOT. The existing berm near Camelot Court subdivision, for example, is inadequate because the freeway base was raised. "The height of the truck wheels is now equal to the height of the berm," Swiacki said.

That's why, Swiacki said, the MDOT plan for a 12-foot berm to buffer his neighborhood from the I-21 noise just won't do. A 25-foot berm is needed, he added.

The site for noise abatement east of Halsted was eliminated because of the area's wetlands and high costs. "Homeowners weren't happy

about that," Funk said.

And neither were city officials. "That's what we heard for the first time. But by no means does that mean it's dead. We have to explore that and develop a position on it," Costick said.

MDOT officials, meanwhile, are considering a right-of-way fence to protect Howard Road homeowners from motorists who may walk off the freeway to that area, Funk said.

"We thought we had to do something to mitigate their concerns," she said.

Residents, officials differ over park's status

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terior of our subdivision. This park was obviously planned as a neighborhood park as demonstrated by location, types of equipment and

the lack of drinking fountains and restroom facilities," Kurzeja said.

The closed lot, Potter said, has caused congestion on nearby streets, such as Independence and Waldron, where patrons must now park.

The closed lot also has prompted complaints from those who want to use the park but whose only means of getting there is by car.

"The park is our neighborhood park. We don't need parking," Kurzeja said.

But parks and recreation commissioner Barbara McCann said

that as a city-owned park, parking must be provided for handicapped patrons. City attorney Paul Bibeau is expected to provide a report later on whether handicapped parking is legally required for a city-owned park.

Kurzeja said the city's south end, particularly Old Town, in southeast Farmington Hills, has long been discriminated against. Parks and recreation commissioners are aware of residents' feelings about wanting a closed parking lot but have continued to propose reopening.

Proposed park improvements include:

- Moving the basketball court within the small parking lot toward the park's center. The asphalt area will be a half-court size with two hoops.
- Building a tot lot to accompany the existing playground equipment for older children.
- Building a picnic shelter, where a playground program can be started.
- Adding more picnic tables and grills.

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Deputization of court officer on hold

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choles and Undersheriff Billy J. Nolin.

"It will be necessary that a report from the psychologist and/or psychiatrist be forwarded to this office for review."

Since taking the bench last June, Harris has made having a deputized court officer a priority to handle problem matters in his courtroom.

He could not be reached for comment about whether he would seek a psychological examination for Mitchell or withdraw the request for deputization.

Mitchell, also, could not be reached for comment.

According to forms submitted in the request process, Harris asked that Mitchell be deputized so he would have arrest powers in the courtroom. If approved, Mitchell would have no power to enforce the Michigan Vehicle Code and could not carry a concealed weapon.

The FOI documents from the sheriff's department also show a discrepancy in when Mitchell was actually hired by the court.

Harris requested the deputization in a Sept. 15, 1989, letter to Nichols, stating that Mitchell was appointed

and a full-time employee of the court. Harris told the Observer in mid-October that Mitchell was "trying the job out" but had not yet been hired. He said in mid-November the employment paperwork was finalized.

Information on file at the city of Farmington — which handles payroll and financial records for the

47th District Court — shows Mitchell was employed effective Monday, Oct. 16, and, as is the norm, filled out necessary employment paperwork within several days, said city treasurer Patsy Cantrell.

IN RESPONSE to Harris' Sept. 15 request, the sheriff's department forwarded necessary forms and information to him.

Crash claims Hills man

A Farmington Hills man who owned a Chinese restaurant in West Bloomfield died of injuries he sustained when his minivan rolled over on I-96 in Novi early Saturday.

Meng Fa Che, 46, owner of the Mandarin House Chinese Restaurant on Orchard Lake Road, was pronounced dead at Botsford General Hospital, Farmington Hills, at 2:44 a.m. Saturday.

He died of multiple injuries, the Oakland County Medical Examiner said.

Fa Che was eastbound on I-96, just west of Beck, at 1:52 a.m. Saturday when his minivan left the road and rolled over several times in the median before coming to rest on the roof. He was belted and alone, witnesses told the Michigan State Police.

The road was dry. Troopers continue to investigate to try to determine why the minivan left the road, a state police spokeswoman said.

A native of China, Fa Che leaves his wife, Chiuying Liu; two sons, Garry and Jerry; and one daughter, Suzanna.

Services were Monday at Heene-Sundquist Funeral Home, Farmington. Burial was in Glen Eden Cemetery, Livonia.

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