

## Community Corner

This week's question:

Do you think the U.S. should do more to negotiate the immediate release of the hostages in the Middle East?

We asked this question at the Mid-Eleven Shopping Center in Farmington Hills.



"They are American citizens. We should stick up for our own citizens. The U.S. should back them 100 percent."  
— Jason McDowell  
Farmington Hills



"No, I think they are giving into the hostage takers' too much."  
— Pat Thomson  
Farmington Hills visitor



"Definitely so. They could put an economic embargo against the Arab nations."  
— Art Dulzo  
Farmington Hills



"They're not putting enough pressure. These people are innocent. They didn't do anything. Why should they have to be hostages."  
— George Pappas  
Farmington Hills



"It seems as though nothing is being done. We're relying on countries in the Middle East to take action."  
— Denise Twinn  
Farmington Hills visitor



"I think President (George) Bush has done the right thing — staying neutral. I don't think the U.S. should go in and stir things up."  
— Doug Pachan  
Farmington Hills

## Planting marks Earth Day

In commemoration of Earth Day, the Farmington Hills Department of Special Services held a special memorial tree planting service at Heritage Park April 23.

The following memorial trees were planted as a part of a brief ceremony:

**Elmer Boschna Memorial** — A flowering ornamental tree planted in memory of Elmer Boschna, deceased father of Bob Boschna of the Assessing Department. Funds for the tree were contributed by employees of the City of Farmington Hills.

**Charles Bagwell Memorial** — A Red Maple tree planted in memory of Charles Bagwell, deceased husband of Hannelore Bagwell, a resident of the Normandy Hills subdivision. Funds for the tree were contributed by officers of the Normandy Hills Homeowners' Association.

**Toni Kramer Memorial** — A flowering ornamental tree will be planted in memory of Toni Kramer, deceased wife of William Kramer. Funds for the tree were contributed by the North Farmington Garden Club in memory of Toni, a long-time member of that club.

Other trees were planted as a part of the Earth Day observance. Donated by the Nissan Research & Development — Six White Pine trees donated by this Farmington Hills corporation.

Donated by Mr. & Mrs. James Graves & Family — Two mature deciduous and two mature conifer, donated by this Farmington Hills family.

Memorial trees were planted near the pond at the front of the park. "Earth Day" trees were planted near the picnic area.

## Tree removal irks Hills man

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**DEVELOPERS ALSO** removed about 120 evergreens of various species, but have since replanted them along a berm bordering I-696.

The retention pond will feature a fountain, as well as trees and other landscaping. The 100-foot-wide boulevard entrance will feature two landscaped islands, Freedman said.

Notarianni is critical of both the city and developer for where and how the retention pond was built, including the amount of trees and brush taken for it.

"I'm amazed they couldn't work around it, albeit more expensively. I think it's kind of ironic when they were concerned about paving Drake Road, they planted hundreds of bushes and trees up and down the road."

The city's tree ordinance prohibits removal or destruction of certain trees without a permit. Trees less than 6 inches in diameter are

exempt, as are certain types of trees.

The ordinance, however, is up for change. City officials want to beef up the ordinance by requiring replacement of all removed trees, 6 inches in diameter and larger. The current ordinance requires replacement of landmark trees only.

**FREEDMAN ADMITS** responsibility for not securing a tree permit. But part of the blame is in the lack of communication between the city's engineering and planning departments, he said.

"We were under the impression we were all set. We didn't know we needed a permit to clear the retention pond area."

Countegnan disagreed. "He (Freedman) was advised on numerous occasions on what to do. There are no excuses. In my mind, I'm clear and firmly believe we conveyed the message."

Notarianni wants to know why

Selective Group was not fined for failing to secure a tree removal permit.

The developers paid by having their work stopped April 27, after city staff learned the developers also did not have a grading permit, Countegnan said.

"We went out and assessed what was done without a permit."

A **GRADING** permit was subsequently issued and work resumed April 30. A tree permit was not issued even though all work conformed to site plans because it would have been after the fact, Countegnan said.

Tree removal will continue to be monitored. For each \$200,000-plus home site, developers will be required to submit a tree survey and secure a permit.

"That protects the trees and gives us more protection," Countegnan said.

## Police continue probe of fatal crash

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dillon at Pontiac General Hospital Tuesday, Karna said.

His brother, Eric Reed, said Tuesday that Aaron was still in intensive care but his doctors anticipate a full recovery with no complications. "The accident damaged parts of his lung," Reed said.

**OTHER TEAM** members, Andrzej Gomulinski, 15, of Petersburg, who sat behind Elliott, the driver, and Nathan Bush, 16, of West Bloomfield, who sat in the rear row seat, also sustained minor injuries, Madigan said. They were treated and released at Pontiac General Hospital Saturday, Karna said.

Madigan said the three vehicles involved in the accident were traveling northbound on Middlebelt between Maple and Walnut Lake Road shortly after noon.

The driver of a late model Ford Tempo, Marianne Moran of Warren, stopped at Winchester to make a left-hand turn into a subdivision. Her car was struck from behind by the first of the two St. Mary's vans.

THE FIRST van, driven by head coach John Le Blanc, was hauling a boat carrier that held a half-dozen of the narrow, 25-foot rowing skiffs used in competition.

The second van, which held most of the rowing crew, was following

the boat carrier and was unable to stop in time to avoid a collision that started the chain reaction.

Moran was taken to St. Joseph Hospital, Madigan said. She was treated and released, according to a medical records spokesman.

Three racing skulls from the carrier punctured the trailing van's windshield and struck the front seat occupants.

"They (the skulls) did not break loose from the trailer," Madigan said.

Caswell, sitting to the right of the driver, sustained fatal head injuries.

No passengers in the first van were injured.

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**Mother's Day Giveaway Contest**  
MAY 1-13

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**DON'T MISS THESE LAUREL PARK PLACE EVENTS**

**May 5** Spring Fashion Fair  
Noon and 3:00 in the Grand Court

**May 10-13** Bill Cook International Auto Show  
Pavilion East, North Entrance, just west of entrance

**May 12** Freeze Modeling Exhibition  
1:00 PM - 4:00 PM

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