

# Accent's on education to prevent fires

Area firefighters are gearing up this week to offer facts on fires, in the hopes of saving future lives.

"We try to make fire prevention a year-round effort," said Farmington Hills Fire Chief Richard Marinucci. Firefighters in both Farmington and Farmington Hills have targeted their education efforts in local schools in recent days.

"The message definitely gets home" to parents, he added. The kids "flat out nag 'em" about fire safety.

Both cities are focusing on Fire Prevention Week, which runs from Oct. 7-13 throughout the country. This year's theme is "Make Your Place Firesafe: Hunt for Home Hazards." In conjunction with the week, Farmington Hills is sponsoring its 13th Annual Fire Prevention Open House on Sunday from noon to 4 p.m. Marinucci expects 4,000 to 5,000 people to attend.

Farmington Hills firefighters handled 398 fire runs in 1989, logging \$1.3 million in losses, while Farmington public safety officers handled 112 with \$124,000 in losses. Both departments have regular safety and inspection programs throughout the year.

Farmington Fire Marshal Joe

Schorneck said the focus on fire prevention and safety issues ultimately helps save lives and property. In Farmington, many of the calls are kitchen fires.

"The majority of these are when someone put something on the stove and went to sleep . . . or left the apartment and forgot," he said. He suggests more awareness, a smoke detector in every bedroom and a portable extinguisher in kitchen areas.

The local education push is backed up by national figures from the National Fire Protection Association, which shows a 13 percent drop in fire deaths in 1989 and also a downward trend in overall fire incidents. The NFPA attributes much of it to good education and awareness.

"With home fire deaths still accounting for 80 percent of all fire deaths, residential fire safety initiatives remain the key," said NFPA president Robert Grant.

The NFPA offers a few national fire facts for impact:

- Fire causes an injury every 19 minutes.
- A fire is reported every 15 seconds.
- Fire causes \$274 in damage each second.



The crowd moves back as Farmington Hills firefighter Jim Cheyenne pours water on a stove-top grease fire during the 1989 Fire Department Open House. This year's open house is scheduled for Sunday from noon to 4 p.m.

## 13th Hills fire open house is Sunday

A day chock-full of fire safety demonstrations and family activities is scheduled for this Sunday, as Farmington Hills sponsors its 13th Annual Fire Prevention Open House from noon to 4 p.m.

The Oct. 7 event is at the fire department's headquarters at 28711 Drake Road, just north of 12 Mile. It ties in with Fire Prevention Week which runs Oct. 7-13, and has the theme "Hunt for Home Hazards."

Doors open at noon, with Sparky the Fire Dog

and Smokey Bear arriving at 12:30 p.m. Crash rescue demonstrations are slated for 1:30 p.m. and 2:30 p.m., followed at 3 p.m. by a precision ladder raise and climb demonstration.

Other activities include extinguishing a live kitchen fire, blood pressure checks, a hazardous materials display, a dunk tank, helicopters and an antique fire truck display. Activities for kids including movies and cartoons, a coloring contest, helium balloons, plus fire clowns, Parkey

the Panda and Sesame Street's Bert and Ernie. Refreshments will also be served.

The Hills' Children's Fire Safety House will also be on hand to show families just how quickly a fire can spread. Fire drill routines are part of the package.

Parking is available along Drake Road, and in neighboring subdivisions. Enter Drake Road from 13 Mile, because of construction at the 12 Mile intersection.

# Hills panel mounts all-out voter participation drive

By Joanne Maliszewski  
staff writer

They aren't kidding. They want Farmington Hills voters to cast their ballots in the Nov. 6 general election.

The Farmington Hills Committee to Increase Voter Participation is so serious about voting they are pulling all the plugs to inform voters about the political races and encourage them to get to the polls Nov. 6.

"We want to increase the quantity and the quality of publicity regarding elections and increased voter participation," committee chairwoman Juliette Hovanessian said.

"We're really doing public relations to help people become aware that voting is a responsibility and a privilege," Hovanessian added.

Members are sending letters to each homeowners association in the city reminding voters of the Nov. 6 election, providing them with a precinct map as well as a schedule of planned candidate debates.

"Voter participation has been increasing in our city and, with your help, an even greater voter turnout can be achieved in this election," according to a letter from the committee to associations.

The committee also has started a monthly cable television show, "My Vote Counts."

THE OCTOBER show on community access Channel 12 offers insights from an Hungarian native, now a naturalized American, as well as ideas on "how to judge a candidate," offered by a League of Women Voters representative.

"This is a permanent program. It's going to be on every month," Hovanessian said. The show will air at 8 p.m. every Tuesday.

Committee members also will provide public service announcements about voting and the Nov. 6 election on cable community access.

Hovanessian said the committee is hoping to sell T-shirts and bumper stickers offered by the Michigan Municipal League that say: "Vote. It Improves Your Constitution."

The following candidates nights have been scheduled by various organizations:

- 7 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 9: The Farmington Area Republican Club will host judicial candidates at the Farmington Community Library, 31737 12 Mile. They include: Judy Hughes and Clark Durant for the Michigan Supreme Court; Thomas M. Brennan, Rudy Nichols,

James Sheehy and Deborah Tyner for the Oakland County Circuit Court; E. Thomas Fitzgerald and Linda S. Hallmark for the Michigan Court of Appeals; and Fred L. Harris and Frederick O. Knauer for the 47th District Court in Farmington. For more information, call Hovanessian at 474-3770.

• 7:15 p.m., Wednesday, Oct. 24: The Council of Homeowners Association of Farmington Hills will host 15th state Senate District candidates Democrat incumbent Jack Faxon of Farmington Hills and Republican opponent Denise Alexander of Southfield. Homeowners council chairman Marty Krohner said the group did not invite Libertarian candidate Steve Silver. The program will be in council chambers at Farmington Hills City Hall, 31555 11 Mile.

The homeowners program will be taped and cablecast on community access cable television.

• 7:30-8:30 p.m., Wednesday, Oct. 10: The League of Women Voter of West Bloomfield-Farmington Area will host 15th state Senate District candidates Democrat incumbent Jack Faxon and opponents Republican Denise Alexander and Libertarian Steve Silver.

The program will be taped live in Continental Cablevision of Southfield studios, 27800 Franklin Road. It will be replayed on MetroVision in the Farmington area at a later date. Tickets for the studio audience are available by calling the league at 855-0407. The program will feature phone-in questions from the television audience. Oakland University political science Prof. Michelle Fiskulch also will be on hand with questions.

# Top citizen nominations due

It's that time of the year again when the search is on for the community's best.

Nominations are now being accepted for Citizen of the Year, sponsored by the Farmington-Farmington Hills Chamber of Commerce. Nominations must be made by Friday, Oct. 12.

The recipient will be honored at the annual Citizen of the Year dinner at 6 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 25, at the Clanton Hotel, 31525 12 Mile. Philip Power, Suburban Communications Corp. chairman of the board and University of Michigan regent, is the guest speaker.

The award is designed to honor a community booster with extensive public service in the past year or the past few years.

"Nominees can be anyone who has contributed meritorious service to the community either as a volunteer or in connection with their business," said Bob Van Every, chairman of the Citizen of the Year committee.

NOMINEES SHOULD be someone who goes beyond their ordinary day-to-day work and their service should be to the community as a whole, as opposed to service for a specific group, said Jody Sorenson, chamber

executive director.

"They should be people who have given their time and effort to the betterment of the community," Sorenson said.

Nominees can be any age and may live or work in the Farmington-Farmington Hills community. Past award winners are excluded but past nominees may be nominated again. Government officials may be nominated but only for their volunteer achievements.

Completed forms should be dropped or mailed to the chamber office, 33411 Grand River, Farmington.



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### 1990 Citizen of the Year NOMINATION FORM

#### NOMINATOR INFORMATION

Name	Date of nomination		
Home address	City	State	Zip
Home Phone	Work phone		
Occupation/Profession	Title/Position		
Place of work	Work address		
Signature			

#### ALSO PROVIDE

A description of your nominee's most recent local achievements. Supporting letters from colleagues, peers and others who can elaborate on the value of your nominee's service or character are encouraged. Tell the judges what contributions you feel the nominee has made to improve or uplift some aspect of the community. Be specific in explaining why you believe these contributions are significant and should earn special plaudits. A resume of service would be helpful. Detail time periods. Be sure you answer the question, "Why should this nominee be selected as the 1990 Citizen of the Year?"

Please send to:  
Farmington/Farmington Hills Chamber of Commerce  
33411 Grand River  
Farmington, Michigan 48335

DEADLINE:  
OCT. 12, 1990