

# Hills cops expect open house to draw crowd

**By Joanne Maliszewski**  
staff writer

Army tanks. A U.S. Coast Guard helicopter. A bomb truck. Fire trucks. And clowns. Sounds like a great toy store. But it's really the fourth annual Farmington Hills Police Department Open House.

If you want to take a peek at the tanks, helicopter and fire trucks, be at the police department between noon and 4 p.m. Sunday, June 2. Planners of the annual event expect about 5,000 people to attend.

"We get more and more people every year. We start seeing the same faces every year," said Lt. Richard Murphy of the Farmington Hills police.

Runners and joggers can get a head start on the open house by signing up for the department's second annual 10-kilometer (6.2-mile) run,

scheduled for 9 a.m. Saturday, June 1.

The run, which has a \$12 entry fee, will begin at the athletic building at the Oakland Community College-Oakland Ridge campus. Anyone can join in. Registration will begin at 8 a.m. Those interested should call Inspector Richard Niemisto, 474-6161.

Proceeds from the run will be donated to charity. Last year, approximately \$1,000 was given to the Muscular Dystrophy Foundation, Murphy said.

THE SUNDAY open house is ex-

pected to provide something for everyone — kids and adults.

"This year is going to be a great deal," Murphy said. For the first time, participants can pretend they are police officers and practice on a Firearms Training System. That's where you pretend you're after the bad guy. Scenarios filled with good and bad guys move quickly in front of you. You have to decide what to do.

The federal Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms agency will be on hand with their bomb truck to show how they remove bombs. A robot car lent

by Ferndale police will show kids all about traffic safety.

An M-1 tank and a refueling tank, as well as the type of Jeep used in Operation Desert Storm loaned from Selfridge Air National Guard base, will be on display. "People are interested in seeing that because of the war," Murphy said.

The Farmington Hills Fire Department also will have their fire trucks on display, as well as clowns. The Oakland County Sheriff's mounted and marine division also will be there. The U.S. Secret Service will have a display of their own.

A CAKE WALK for kids, a dunk tank and doughnut toss are among the games one can expect, complete with prizes such as gift certificates from Target and Kmart. Your Cleaners will donate balloons to the gala.

Throughout the afternoon, radio station WLLZ will broadcast from the open house as the Burger King magician, Ronald McDonald and Little Caesar mix and mingle with the crowds.

"This is geared toward the community at large so they get know the

police department," Murphy said.

Tours of the police department will be provided as well as firearms and Tae Kwan Do demonstrations. Kids can have their bicycles registered and have their fingerprints taken.

Adults can have their blood pressure taken and stop by for information at booths set up by Farmington Families in Action, Neighborhood Watch and Mothers Against Drunk Driving.

"Crime prevention information also will be available to them," Murphy said.

## Cities plan fee to fund recycling

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city has always paid for garbage collection and should continue, Perrin said.

THE ANSWER was still 'no.'

"In our budget review session, a third of the time was spent dealing with this program," Deadman said. "Everyone understands the benefit of the tax system. But everyone who would be taxed is not getting the program."

To add the program to the tax rate would be to tax commercial and industrial businesses and offices that are not included in recycling and composting, Farmington Hills councilwoman Jean Fox said.

In the past decade, Farmington Hills' garbage costs increased from \$1 million to \$12.2 million in 1991-1992. That's about 1 mill of taxes for the coming year. Disposal fees at the landfill increased 1,400 percent in 10 years, Costick said.

"We did not feel as much as our taxes are stretched now... this had to come from someplace else," Fox added.

Deadman offered a similar opinion. "We're not able to assume the costs on the millage rate. There will be a point where we don't have enough millage to make the program work."

The bottom line, Vagnozzi said, is that now is not the right climate for a tax increase for recycling. The city council is expected to raise Farmington Hills taxes 1.8 percent to help balance a proposed 1991-92 \$28.7 million budget.

Putting the issue on the ballot and letting voters decide whether to pay higher taxes for recycling was not discounted.

"At some point we would put it on the ballot for an advisory vote," Vagnozzi said.

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