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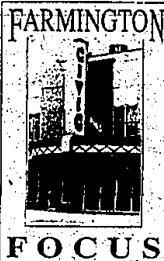
Thursday, July 4, 1991

Farmington, Michigan

56 Pages

Fifty Cents

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**FARMINGTON
FOCUS**

HERITAGES FROM descendants of Arthur Power, Farmington's founder, are on display through July in the Farmington Hills Historical Commission display case outside the council chambers in the City Hall.

Family artifacts relate to Nathan Power (1801-74) and Abram Power (1812-90), both sons of Arthur; Ira Power (1839-1907) and John Wilcox Power (1844-1924), both grandsons of Arthur; and Nathan Hamlin Power, a great-grandson of Arthur.

Nathan Power was Farmington's first school teacher and a Republican Party founder. His grandson, Nathan Hamlin Power, was Farmington's historian during the early 20th century and its first city clerk in 1927.

Abram was a local merchant. John Wilcox Power was a Civil War veteran who later became an actor, ran a local gristmill and served as Oakland County treasurer.

The display, assembled by historical commission member Bob Sklar, was made possible through the generosity of Robert Power of Marshall, Power family historian. He's a great-great-grandson of Arthur Power, who founded Farmington in 1824, after arriving with family members from Farmington, N.Y.

Robert is a distant cousin of Philip Power, who owns the Farmington Observer.

The City Hall is on the southwest corner of 11 Mile and Orchard Lake roads.

HEAR YE! Hear ye! The Farmington-area post offices will operate on a holiday schedule for the upcoming July 4 weekend.

There will be no regular business or residential delivery on Thursday, July 4. No collection of mail, window service or box service will be available.

Regular delivery service will resume Friday and Saturday, July 5 and 6. Window operations at the Farmington and Farmington Hills post offices will close at 5 p.m. Wednesday, July 3, and reopen at 8:30 a.m. Monday, July 8.

However, post office box service will be available Friday and Saturday. Stamps may be purchased from the vending machines in the outer lobbies until 5 p.m. each day.

Stamps may also be purchased at the local Kroger, 25780 W. 12 Mile, and Farmer Jack, 22128 Farmington Road, supermarkets.

MEMORY LANE -- From the July 5, 1991, Farmington Enterprise:

"If the Foundations be Destroyed" was the title of a talk given by the Rev. William O. Welton at a meeting of the Farmington Women's Christian Temperance Union at the Williams home on Gude Road.

Farmington High students Dennis Cannara, Barbara McCoy, Patricia Sowers and Kathleen Wedley attended the Wayne University band camp.

Attraction at the Farmington Civic Theater was "Royal Wedding" with Fred Astaire and Jane Powell.

Items for Farmington Focus may be mailed to the Farmington Observer, 21888 Farmington Road, Farmington 48336, or dropped off at the newspaper office.



SHARON LAMIEUX/staff photographer

Wally Kurzeja, an inspector with the Farmington Hills Fire Department, is the training coordinator for the Western Wayne County Hazardous Incident Response Team. Here

he gets some help out of a chemical protective suit during a monthly training session in June in Farmington Hills.

Hills hosts hazardous material response team

By Joanne Maliszewski
staff writer

They've responded to leaking chlorine in Novi and a fire in a laboratory in Ypsilanti Township. During Memorial Day weekend, out they went to Dearborn, where a railroad car was leaking.

When someone calls for help from the Western Wayne County Hazardous Incident Response Team, 40 members from 23 communities covering 450 square miles show up.

"I think people are more aware when something spills. Sometimes it's a matter of not doing anything. Maybe it's just putting a bucket under a drip or it could be an extensive operation," said Wally Kurzeja, an inspector with the Farmington Hills Fire Department.

HIRT is a part of the Western Wayne County Fire Mutual Aid Association, of which communities such as Farmington Hills, Canton, Westland, Garden City, Livonia, Plymouth and Redford, to name a few, are

When someone calls for help from the Western Wayne County Hazardous Incident Response Team, 40 members from 23 communities covering 450 square miles show up.

members. Inspector Al Ellis represents Farmington Hills on the team.

Firefighters from these communities are the ones who show up when there's any kind of an emergency with hazardous materials. They do more than just show up. There's research, study, learning and, of course, training, for the type of situations they will encounter.

"We have full response responsibilities. We have the ability to mitigate and investigate a wide variety of situations," said Kurzeja, HIRT's training coordinator.

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Hills woman shuns Detroit after beatings

By Joanne Maliszewski
staff writer

Joanne Was of Farmington Hills always loved Detroit. For 30 years she never thought twice about going downtown for all the activities the city offered.

Not anymore. She'll never go again.

"I'll never go down there again because of the fact that people won't help you," said Was, 43. "I don't believe in violence and I don't believe in prejudice. This has just made me aware of reality."

Was — whose beating was videotaped by an amateur cameraman and aired on local TV stations Sunday — had been awake since 7 a.m. Monday answering the telephone.

Calls poured in from the media asking her to tell her story of being beaten and robbed by what she described as a small group of black women and men near the Omni Ho-

tel on East Jefferson Avenue following the annual Freedom Festival fireworks Friday night.

"It's my civic duty to let people know," said Was, who works in new housing construction sales.

A RETURN trip to Detroit is out of the question for Was. But she stressed Monday that she has no racial prejudice as a result of the beating she suffered.

"I know too many black people who are decent," said Was, who moved to Farmington Hills in September 1990, after 14 years in Plymouth. "I am not a prejudiced person."

But she is angry and disappointed with the Detroit Police Department. Time and again Friday night, Was said, she asked police for help and didn't get any.

"We were treated so badly Friday night," Was said.

Help also didn't come when the same group of people whom she says beat her and her 19-year-old daughter, Toni, followed them to police headquarters on Beaubien.

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Civil War gathering to kick off Festival

The Farmington Founders Festival will start with an authentic Civil War encampment Saturday and Sunday, July 6-7, at Heritage Park on Farmington Road north of 10 Mile.

The event, which will run 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. both days, is sponsored by National Bank of Detroit. The Festival continues throughout the week, July 8-13.

This year's Civil War encampment will focus on an unknown soldier who is wounded in battle and later dies in the hands of a Union Army surgeon. He will be hospitalized and buried in a Civil War military funeral.

The Civil War ended more than 125 years ago, but its legacy lives on through folklore and legends which are kept alive by the 7th Michigan Volunteer Infantry Company B, Inc.,



a non-profit Civil War re-enactment organization. Visitors to this year's Founders Festival will witness an authentic

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Hills salon rises from the ashes

Veteran stylist Abe Aon reopens after bad fire

By Casey Hans
staff writer

Abe Aon's Farmington Hills hair salon went up in flames in the winter of 1990, but his entrepreneurial fire is still burning.

After more than one year, the Farmington Hills businessman has reopened his styling business just down the street, where he believes he is on the cutting edge with the newest equipment and a state-of-the-art salon.

Aon lost his other salon in a February 1990 fire which destroyed a landmark, the 18-year-old Roman Terrace building on 12 Mile east of Orchard Lake Road. He reopened the business four months ago on Orchard Lake just south of 13 Mile, and continues to work 7-day weeks to encourage business.

There, he offers men and women all sorts of hairstyling and hair care, and consults with men on hairpieces. Though he changed addresses, he's still at the old phone number: 581-7997.

"With the help of my friends and my customers, I am back in business," said a smiling Aon, a Jerusalem native who has lived in Farmington Hills for 25 years and been in business here for nearly that

know your neighbor

long. "The community helped me, members of the Optimist Club helped me."

"It's not easy, but with the help of those people, I am doing very well."

HE TALKS about the destruction of his business with emotion, recalling the blaze on a bitterly cold early Sunday morning which gutted the landmark building. "It's a misery," he said. "You don't want the consequences. I wouldn't wish a fire on my worst enemy."

Aon began styling hair working for his father in Jerusalem, where they styled hair for foreign embassy personnel. His European education, which taught him a number of languages including French, Italian and English, gave him an advantage. He opened his own shop there at 19, then came to the United States 30 years ago to begin a new life.

Here, he and his wife have raised

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SHARON LAMIEUX/staff photographer

Hair stylist Abe Aon washes and prepares to cut the hair of longtime friend and area dentist Dan Scanlan. Aon reopened his salon business four months ago on Orchard Lake south of 13 Mile in Farmington Hills, after a fire at the Roman Terrace building in 1990 shut him down.

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The CLASSIFIEDS

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