

# Auxiliary police leader dies at 48

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count for the police department's auxiliary unit.

"I don't have time to do it," was one of Mr. Stockel's responses. "Whose name do I put on it?" was another response.

Fraddette only recently found out that his friend had indeed followed his request — but never told him. Yet the auxiliary unit wasn't the only name on the account. Fraddette's name was on it, too.

"He got me," Fraddette said.

YET HIS friend remembers something even more memorable about Mr. Stockel. His friendship. "You could always seek Dennis out. He had time for you. No matter what the topic. His advice was always sound," he added.

Mr. Stockel is also remembered for his love of hunting and fishing and the time and energy he gave to the police department since he first joined up in April 1976.

"He was an exceptional and valued member of the auxiliary unit," said Sgt. Ray Cranton of the police department's traffic section. "He offered a tremendous amount of leadership that allowed the unit to grow."

"Under his stewardship, the unit has become recognized as one of the finest and most progressive units in the metropolitan area," Cranton continued.

During his tenure as manager, Mr. Stockel was recognized as the Auxiliary Police Officer of the Year in 1987. He was given a letter

of appreciation in May 1990 for his actions during a rally that involved two politically opposed groups on the Oakland Community College-Orchard Ridge campus.

"Through his assistance we've been able to take potentially explosive situation and help calm the situation down very quickly," Fraddette said. "He had a calming effect — with the public and the officers."

"A devoted husband and father," Mr. Stockel also is remembered as "one of those rare individuals" that everyone likes and respects, Fraddette said.

AS MANAGER, Mr. Stockel was responsible for the auxiliary members who help officers in a myriad of duties — whatever it took. Mr. Stockel even had a phone at his home that was strictly for auxiliary unit business.

"This was Dennis' way of aiding the community in which he lived. He was dedicated to Farmington Hills and believed in this community," Fraddette said. "He worked to make it better."

Stockel is survived by his wife, Sandra, son, Dan, and daughters, Julie and Denise; parents Michael and Mildred Stockel, brother, Jim, and sister, Debra.

A funeral Mass was celebrated Saturday morning at St. Alexander Catholic Church, Farmington Hills. The Rev. James Wright officiated. Burial was at Holy Sepulchre Cemetery, Southfield. Arrangements were by Heene-Sundquist Funeral Home, Farmington Hills.

# Hills man wants cat control law

By Joanne Maliszewski  
staff writer

Farmington Hills resident Howard Aldrich is tired of all the cats running loose in his neighborhood.

"My castle is getting a little overrun with felines," said the Cora Street resident. "I'm tired of paw prints on my car."

That's not to mention the dead birds he's found — and he believes the cats are the suspects. Or the cat feces he finds all over his yard.

"It certainly turns me off," Aldrich told the Farmington Hills City

Council recently.

Aldrich apparently isn't the first resident to complain about cats on the loose. "We've had some inquiries along those lines," Mayor Aldo Vagnoni said.

City manager William Costick called complaints about loose cats "a popular issue" and one that is expected to be addressed in August.

BECAUSE RESIDENTS are tired of rising taxes, Costick said, it's hard to imagine putting a leash law on the books because of the costs of enforcement.

But a report that will be provided to the council next month is expected to give an option for "reasonably dealing with" the problem where it's become a nuisance, Costick said.

The Farmington City Council also is expected to address cat controls in August. A Farmington resident complained to the city council that she, too, is tired of roaming cats in her vegetable and flower gardens.

The Farmington City Council twice before addressed the issue but took no action.

Currently, no misdemeanor or civil complaint can be signed against a person for a cat complaint. It can only be handled under nuisance laws. The city must document the matter, then file suit through the circuit court system, according to Farmington officials.

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# Hills dentist wins lawsuit

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being told there might be a problem.)

DR. MATTHEWS said he didn't learn that any criminal charges were involved until he got a call from the State Police during which the officer read him his rights over the phone.

"To tell you the truth, I thought it was a practical joke," said Dr. Matthews. He said he was later officially charged with "impersonating an oral surgeon and billing for procedures not performed."

"This has been five and a half years of living hell," said Matthews. "But I stood up to Goliath. The jury voted eight to nothing in my favor. I was exonerated on all counts."

"I feel that I can now hold my head up high. The truth has prevailed," Dr. Matthews said.

# Bill bars jobless pay for pushers

Convicted drug dealers would not be able to collect unemployment benefits under legislation introduced recently in the Michigan House by state Rep. Lyn Bankes, R-Livonia.

House Bill 4990 was prompted by an individual who was convicted of drug dealing and was drawing unemployment, said Bankes.

"Although the person's un-negotiated contract provided that conviction of a felony would result in termination of employment, the Michigan Employment Security Commission rejected such termination as a disqualifier for unemployment."

"My legislation would disqualify individuals from benefits if they lost their jobs due to legal offenses for which they were convicted, if they worked under a collective bargaining agreement or other employment contract that provided for termination of employment under those circumstances."

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