

FH man guilty in roommate killing

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tended" to shoot him, but became so enraged at being challenged by Magon that he fired at him. Florian also admitted that he went to Meljer at 3 a.m. the same day and purchased duct tape, chains and padlocks which he intended to use to restrain Magon so he couldn't leave town.

After the shooting, "I dropped the rifle," Florian testified. "I grabbed the hand of the man that I had believed in. I knew I did wrong. I called the police."

Florian said he trusted Magon because he provided a number of credi-

ble people who vouched for Magon's business plan and because, as a father who paid child support himself, Florian was sympathetic to some of Magon's problems.

The two met in February when they were introduced by friends at Tremors nightclub at Six Mile and Newburg in Livonia. Florian had invested with Magon his last \$25,000 from a \$70,000 inheritance from his grandmother.

Florian discovered his investment in the alleged aquarium business might have gone bad after a chance



SHARON LAMIEUX/staff photographer

Ray Florian confers with his attorney, David Binkley, just before Binkley announced his client would take the stand in his own defense Thursday afternoon.

meeting with a woman at the McDonalds restaurant on Haggerty in Farmington Hills on July 2 — the

day before Magon's murder. The woman told Florian she had been swindled by Magon.

Botsford tested after teacher faints

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classroom.
Michigan Environmental Auditors rechecked the rooms after the repairs. Berkaw's room measured 600 parts per million of carbon dioxide in the second test. The other kindergarten room's carbon dioxide measurement dropped from 1,000 parts per million to 700.

Berkaw's students were moved to the special education classroom, and the special education students were temporarily placed in a smaller classroom.

Berkaw met with Baker and Kamish Thursday before the board meeting and decided that if the carbon dioxide levels are below 1,000 when the classroom is tested Friday, she and the students will return to their classroom today, and the other uprooted students will return to their classroom.

Botsford is the older of the two elementary schools in Clarenceville. Its heating systems differs from the other schools because it is not controlled in the individual classrooms. "There is no proof to say that this

(carbon dioxide) is the problem," said Kamish. "We assumed it was because everything else checked out all right."

"There are no gas leaks, no carbon monoxide problems, nothing wrong with the water. Hopefully this will solve the problem. If not, we'll have to do something else."

BERKAW IS satisfied with the steps the district has taken and is prepared to teach class in her classroom today.

She has a morning class with 16 students and an afternoon class with 19 students.

There have been a couple of changes made to Berkaw's classroom. The vent has been repaired, and fresh air now mixes with the recirculated air flowing in her classroom. A carpet, which Berkaw acquired three years ago from the latch key program, was removed at the suggestion of the environmental auditors because of the possibility of allergic reactions to carpet miles, which could cause similar symptoms.

"If any additional problems occur, we'll be on top of it," said Kamish. "If any problems occur when she returns to class, she has been told to report them immediately to Jesse (Baker). We'll increase the fresh air flow, or do whatever we have to do."

on the agenda

Below are highlights from the agendas of government meetings this week. All meetings are open to the public.

Farmington City Council
Council chambers
23600 Liberty
8 p.m., Monday, Dec. 16

On tonight's agenda the council will:
• Consider a sign variance for Dr. David Ungar, 34435 Grand River.

• Hear a report from the city engineer on basement flooding in the Bel-Aire subdivision.

• Consider a joint meeting with the planning commission and board of zoning appeals regarding outside storage in the industrial district.

• Consider payment to engineers and contractors for the city's sewer project and for the Prospect-Valley View paving project.

• Consider approval of a pedestrian signal cost agreement for Farmington Road and Nine Mile.

Farmington Board of Education
Lewis Schulman Center
32500 Shawwassee
Tuesday, Dec. 17
6 p.m. — Building & Site Committee
7:30 p.m. — Meet the candidates reception

8 p.m. — Regular meeting

During the 6 p.m. committee meeting, board members are expected to hold a facilities study session. Trustees will then meet to be introduced to proposed candidates for a middle school principalship and a special education supervisory job.

During the regular meeting, the board is slated to appoint those people, hear a MEAP results preview and award bids.

military news

• COMPLETES SPECIALIST COURSE

Airman Suzanne M. Verlinda of Farmington Hills has completed the services specialist course at Lowry Air Force Base, Denver.

She was trained in the duties, responsibilities and preparation of food items for the Air Force. Included were accounting, storage operations, equipment and facility safety, baking and short order preparation and service.

Verlinda is a 1991 graduate of Harrison High School.

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Imagine if you had to ask for blood to save the life of someone you love. Next time the American Red Cross asks, give blood, please.

GIVE BLOOD, PLEASE

Who pays the cost of illiteracy? Everyone.

Think about it. Imagine for a moment that you cannot read. How easily are you going to find a job? Do you find a low-paying job that doesn't require reading and let social welfare and government unemployment compensation take up the slack?

Or, suppose you do find a job. What happens to production when you can't understand written instructions? Who pays for the wasted time to correct your mistakes? Perhaps you haven't found a job. Your self-esteem is in the basement. You turn to a life of crime.

Did you know that 60 percent of all prison inmates are functionally illiterate and the figure is **higher** among juvenile offenders?

How can you help?

If you know someone who cannot read, contact one of the agencies below and give them the opportunity to open up their world.

Oakland County Literacy Project
Cathryn Weiss _____ 313/859-1937

Garden City Adult Basic Education
Myrna Hathaway _____ 313/422-7198

Livonia-Bentley Center Adult Basic Education
Honey Browning _____ 313/523-9363

Plymouth/Canton Area Community Literacy Council
Carolyn Burns _____ 313/951-6555

Redford Union Community Education Literacy Organization
Sharon Rand _____ 313/592-3376

Western Wayne County Literacy Council
Cathryn Chodoroff _____ 313/477-6644

Or call the Michigan Basic Skills Hotline:
1-800-537-2836

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