

Cleaners from page 1A

And it's a place where Kavlakian and his crew, including his third wife, Carol, one of his four daughters, and his brother, enjoy their customers — and their problems.

"We know our people. In fact, we can tell what day they are going to come in," said Kavlakian, who said he's also well known for his marriages, or his divorces.

Seen area grow

Throughout the day, the front door opens constantly. One woman, weighted down by the cleaning she's bringing in, exclaimed, "I didn't even get to wear it," as she put a suit on the counter. "I spilled tea on it."

With a playful smile, Kavlakian took a peek at the suit. "Tea is tough. Drink coffee."

Playing right along with the woman responded, "Jack, I'm going to buy stock in your business."

When he opened his store — Sept. 22, 1959 to be exact — there wasn't much in Farmington Township.

"The day I opened they closed 13 Mile and decided to pave the road," he said. "That's how lucky I am."

The only other cleaners in the area was Farmington Cleaners in downtown Farmington.

He loves to reminisce about the old days when he could look out of his shop and see 14 Mile Road. But he also doesn't mind the progress or

the people who have moved in droves to the Farmington area.

"At 13 Mile and Farmington there was a huge tree in the middle of the road. To my knowledge, no one ran into it."

Kavlakian describes his business style as the way business used to be done — on his word and promise. "If you have any complaints, I'm the guy you see."

Began as driver

He started out as a driver for a cleaning business that led him to the Farmington area. In fact, his customers include the family he beheld the first door he ever knocked on as a driver.

His customers include some notables — although to Kavlakian anyone who entrusts their clothes to him is a notable — such as Florence Mark of Weight Watchers fame whose driver drops off her cleaning.

"You'd be amazed what people pay for their clothes," Kavlakian said.

A longtime customer who moved away used to send her clothing by mail to be cleaned. "A lot of people come here because they like to deal with the owner," Kavlakian said. And former employees keep in touch with a quick visit or a postcard.

Plus, there's some pretty good stories customers can listen to if they have a few minutes. Kavlakian

can tell you about the almirah that used to dominate Orchard Lake Road or the farms that stretched beyond Farmington Road. And he knows the poop on most of the politics that led to Farmington Hills.

No politics

But he's got a rule: he doesn't get involved in politics. "I think I was always too busy with the Farmington Lions and all my divorces."

He breaks his rule only every so often when school board member Helen Protow is running for election. Kavlakian will put her posters in his windows. "She's a dedicated woman. But usually I don't get involved."

Back to cleaning, which is Kavlakian's life. He readily admits that today's furbies and fashions are the easiest. The big lapels of yesteryear used to drive him crazy because they would cut.

He'll tell you every business has its pitfalls and so does the cleaning business. For example, if you have a white blouse or white jacket with black buttons, Kavlakian begs you to remove the buttons.

Dyes aren't what they used to be and often the black buttons look — all over the white material. He'll also have insignias, emblems and decorations removed before cleaning. And his wife, Carol, will sew them back on before you pick up your cleaning.

Bus stop from page 1A

p.m. board meeting on Sept. 15 to review the complaints and look at the issue. A specific time for the meeting has not been set.

"Safety should not have a monetary value," Susan McKendrick, president of the Normandy Hills homeowners association, told the board. "We would really like to find some other area to cut back that doesn't affect the safety of our children."

Other parents cited statistics from the city of Farmington Hills which showed that main roads have higher incidents of traffic mishaps

than subdivision streets. Farmington Brooke association president Kelly Brown called Haggerty Road a "freeway" and said that the "15 Mile (accident) was a warning and I hope we heed it."

Director of building and student services Don Cowan, who took a lot of heat over the bus stop issue, told parents that everyone in the district is concerned about student safety.

"There is a concern on the part of all of us," he said. "We will continue to evaluate bus stops. We will make those changes when we see them."

Superintendent Michael Flanagan said that the district receives complaints each year as school begins because of transportation issues. Flanagan defended administrators, including Cowan, who he said were "carrying out a policy that was well-thought out last year" but he added that "it doesn't mean it shouldn't be reviewed."

Inch said residents who filled out public comment cards and spoke at Tuesday's meeting will be notified about the upcoming safety committee meeting.


COMING SOON!



PET CONTEST!
GOLDENBERG PHOTOGRAPHY
350-2420


SINK OR SWIM?

It never hurts to learn how to swim. Join our Red Cross swimming class.



American Red Cross

VALET PARKING



Forget the parking hassle when you shop at Jacobson's. We'll do it for you. Just drive up to the Bates Street entrance. Our valet will do the rest. One dollar fee.

Jacobson's

We welcome Jacobson's Charge, MasterCard, VISA, and American Express.
Shop until 9 p.m. on Thursday and Friday. Until 6 p.m. on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Saturday. Shop Sunday 10am to 5 p.m.

Lifesaving from page 1A

an abnormal rhythm. In a lifesaving situation, the first four minutes are critical to restoring blood flow so the potential for organ damage is reduced.

Botsford Hospital purchased the two \$7,500 units for Farmington earlier this year, so they can be carried in patrol vehicles at all times.

Farmington public safety officers handle all police and fire and first responder medical runs for the city.

City Manager Robert Dendman said he's pleased with the effort. "It's practically a partnership," he said. "That's only occurred since Botsford got into the ambulance business."

The defibrillator program in Farmington is scheduled to kick-off on Monday, Sept. 7, and the city will schedule the CPR classes as quickly as residents sign up. For more information or to register, call the public safety department at 474-4700.

Farmington Observer
(USPS 187-840)

Published every Monday and Thursday by Observer & Eccentric, Farmington, MI. 48101-0210. Second class postage paid at Farmington, MI. 48101-0210. Postmaster: Send address changes to Observer & Eccentric, Farmington, MI. 48101-0210. Telephone 644-1148.

Subscription Rates:
(Outside of Michigan) \$30.40
(Michigan) \$25.00
Single copy 50¢
One year (12 issues) \$55.00
One year (12 issues) \$55.00

All advertising published in the Farmington Observer is subject to the conditions stated in the acceptable rate card. Copies of which are available from the advertising department, 21000 Farmington Road, Farmington, MI 48101-0210. 477-5400. The Farmington Observer reserves the right not to accept an advertiser's order. Payment & Cancellation: Advertisers have no authority to send this newspaper and only publication of an ad. Payment & Cancellation: Advertisers have no authority to send this newspaper and only publication of an ad.

Clancy's BAR & GRILL

33350 Eight Mile Farmington Hills 477-7177

Serving Great Food For...
LUNCH & DINNER
• Sandwiches • Steaks • Seafood

ENTERTAINMENT
FRI. & SAT. LADIES NIGHT
NIGHTS MONDAY NIGHT
Most Drinks \$1.00

Specials
Wednesday - Fresh Lake Perch
Friday & Saturday Nights...
ALL-YOU-CAN-EAT FISH FRY \$6.75

DECK OPEN for your outdoor dining pleasure

if

You want great results for your advertising dollars...place your advertising in the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers. Call...

Wayne County 591-2300
Oakland County 644-1100

BACK TO SCHOOL

SUPER SHOE SALE

NOW THROUGH MONDAY

OPEN LABOR DAY NOON - 4 P.M.

SNEAKERS 50% OFF

Equal or Lesser Value
Single Pair 20% off

1st Pair Regular Price, Second Pair:

CHILDREN'S SHOE MART

Daily 10-6
Fri. 'Til 9:00
Sat. 'Til 6:00
Sun. 12-5

Grand River Near Farmington Rd. 478-7611

Barbara Hatch School of Dance

Now accepting fall enrollment
• Ballet • Pointe • Tap • Jazz

Registration will be taken at the studio

• Tues., Sept. 1 5 pm-7 pm
• Wed., Sept. 2 10 am-12 noon
• Thurs., Sept. 3 5 pm-7 pm

Pre-school age thru adult
33305 Grand River Avenue
10 mi. E. of Farmington Rd. - Behind the Above

Barbara Hatch - Director
Bachelor of Fine Arts in Dance
Training Farmington Area Dancers Since 1978

Studio 476-7074
Residence 471-2759

Our Sizzling Summer Deals Are Ending Sunday, September 13th

FINAL DAYS TO SAVE 30-50%

- Pennsylvania House
- Thomasville
- Harden
- Century
- Conover
- Classic Leather
- Bradington-Young
- Nichols & Stone
- La-Z-Boy
- And Many More!
- Timberlake by Lexington

Classic Interiors
Fine Furniture...where quality costs you less

20292 Middlebelt, Livonia • South of 8 Mile

MON., THURS., FRI. 9:30-9:00
TUES., WED., SAT. 9:30-5:30

474-6900

OPEN SUNDAY 1 PM - 5 PM
Excluding Labor Day Weekend

FALL COLORS OF BENETTON.



FALL 1992 Benetton and Sisley Collections.

International colors and styles for the global families in your hometown.

BENETTON
at The Boardwalk
WEST BLOOMFIELD
Orchard Lake Road, South of Maple
737-3737

BENETTON
at Laurel Place Park
LIVONIA
1-275 at Six Mile Road
953-0500