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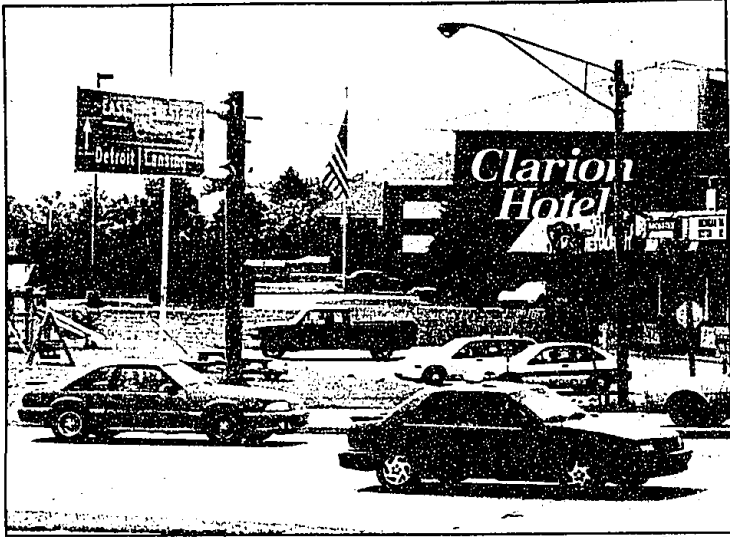


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Hub hotel: The Clarion Hotel at the busy intersection of 12 Mile Road and Farmington Road was one of several area inns targeted in a recent prostitution sting.

Hotels from page 1A

The charges include much more than prostitution or soliciting, the chief said. There could be charges of federal tax evasion, money laundering and credit card fraud. Dwyer said all 21 could face federal conspiracy charges that carry up to a 20-year sentence. Those charges have not yet been filed.

"This involved hundreds of prostitutes and hundreds of 'johns' throughout the area," Dwyer said.

Dwyer said the cooperation of area hotels was important to the operation. Gannon, who works for a corporation that owns six area

hotels including the Clarion, said visibility and accessibility are attractive features of the hotel on 12 Mile and Orchard Lake near the I-696 interchange.

"But it's a mixed bag," he said. "You have to be sensitive to what's happening."

Hotel staff members are trained to notice problems that are not limited to prostitution and gambling. "We strictly enforce our age policy," Gannon said. "You have to be 21 to rent a room."

Gannon said teens will sometimes try to throw drinking parties at a hotel. Worse yet, some-

times their parents will rent the rooms, becoming accomplices in the offense.

"We've had parents say they don't want their kids to have the party in their house," he said. "We have a party ordinance in Farmington Hills. But I've still had parents call me back and complain after we kicked their kids out of the hotel."

Gossett said the free local calls offered by the 760 motels in the Motel 6 chain are a plus for business travelers and families but can attract the wrong crowd.

"All our managers are trained

so that they'll know if there are a lot of calls coming into a room in a short time or going out," Gossett said.

In addition, the Dallas-based chain employs security people at many of its locations.

"We will not rent to someone once we've learned they're a bad actor," he said, adding that hotels must be careful about who they refuse service and how they refuse it. "We are careful not to be discriminatory. But there are business risks. People have to make judgments."

Bus from page 1A

Schools have the final say on bus stops.

"The decision where to place a bus stop is solely within the province of the superintendent of schools. That's state law," Farmington Hills police traffic section supervisor Ray Cranston said.

"Our experience has been the schools usually make the wisest of decisions."

Speeding motorists are a constant concern in Rolling Oaks West, Kaplan said.

Farmington Hills traffic engineering did a survey of the subdi-

vision last year. The average speed was 32.8 miles per hour, Kaplan said.

Hounded corners create blind spots and a lack of stop signs contributes to the problem. A child was hit by a car there two years ago, Kaplan said.

Police have used a SMART trailer, which displays speeds of motorists. Some residents have put in boulders to prevent people from driving on their lawns.

"We're trying everything," Kaplan said.

The subdivision is part of a pi-

lot traffic safety program, Hills traffic safety engineer Kevin McCarthy said.

Board president Cathleen Webb said she understood Kaplan's concerns. She encouraged the subdivision to continue to work with the Hills to curtail

speeders.

Overall, bus stop complaints have actually subsided, Webb said.

"We didn't have one we could think of last year," Webb said. "I think it took some time for people to get used to it at first."

CLARIFICATION

The Community Voice feature on the editorial page of the Aug. 28 Observer contained an incorrect entry. Asked who should play

her in the movie story of her life, Farmington Hills resident Julie Zedon-Salley said, "Meg Ryan. She's a respectable actress."

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FOOT SURGERY IN RHEUMATOID ARTHRITIS
 Just as in the hand, rheumatoid arthritis of the foot can progress so that medicine no longer suffices and surgery is in order.


The site most often involved is the forefoot, what you know as the "ball" of the foot. The ligaments that hold the bones in an arched position give way. You feel you are walking on stones.

No medication or injection can re-establish your normal gait. You need a foot surgeon who will resect the base of bone and at the same operation re-align the toes.

The second source of foot problems is the first-toe bunion. The difficulty is not solved by shaving the excess bone that grows next to the first toe. The underlying problem is a malposition of the toe and its companion, the first metatarsal; correction requires surgically repositioning both bones.

Rheumatoid nodules are another problem necessitating surgery. They develop at pressure points such as the achilles tendon, the first toe, and at the lateral side of the foot. These nodules cause pain because of pressure on them from your shoe. Removing the nodule is the only way to bring relief.

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