

# That's the tickets

## Police on prowl for I-696 speeders

BY PAT MURPHY

By the time you read this — if you travel I-696 — you could already have a speeding ticket. Then again, maybe you lucked out . . . for now, if you're driving more than the 55 mile per hour speed limit. Police are beginning a crack down on speeding along I-696 today from Farmington Hills to Roseville. But they won't say when or where officers will be on the prowl.

A press conference was scheduled at 10 a.m. today at the Packwood Plaza Shopping Center at I-696 and Coolidge. And by 3 p.m. or so, the time many will have had an opportunity to

read this newspaper, officers will have had time to issue dozens of tickets, according to those close to the crack down.

Tougher enforcement will be hard to dodge because motorists won't know where or when the crack down is in force, or how many officers will be participating, raising the odds against speeders.

"This is just another way to make I-696 safe," said Southfield Police Chief Joseph Thomas. "We routinely check for speeders from the air, but this will be more thorough."

The crack down is timely and much-needed, according to Farmington Hills Police Chief William J. Dwyer. "People have been clocked along I-696 at 85 to

100 miles per hour. That's gotta stop before we have a multi-car pile up that kills innocent people."

Something about I-696 — the area's busiest freeway, carrying an estimated 140,000 motorists daily — invites speeding, said Southfield deputy chief Michael A. Welch. "Maybe it's the wide-open spaces. But motorists speed along I-696 more than any other freeway in the area . . . much more than along M-10 (the Lodge)."

The police response to that now is "aggressive patrolling," which police say means more officers using radar, airplanes and anything else to help motorists get the message.

Although police are not restricted in their enforcement, Welch said the crack down is aimed at speeders and people scoffing at state law requiring the use of seatbelts.

Having sounded a stern warning, Welch said police will be out to enforce the "spirit of the law," not particularly the letter of the law. Asked to elaborate, he said, "If you're going 60, chances are you will not get a ticket. If you're going 70, chances are you will."

People travelling between those two speeds do so at their own risk . . . while knowing the number of officers on patrol at any one time may have increased threefold or more.

## Public services workers, city agree on contract

BY LARRY O'CONNOR  
STAFF WRITER

Farmington Department of Public Services employees and the city have agreed on a three-year deal, which calls for a 10-percent overall pay increase.

Farmington City Council OK'd the contract at its June 19 meeting.

Public Services employees receive a 3-percent pay hike in January 1996 and subsequent 3.5 percent increases each of the following two years.

A deal was reached after four "brief" sessions between Assistant City Manager Bill Richards and AFSCME Local 1456 representatives Don Gould and Chuck Eudy.

"I just have to characterize it as both sides worked well together," City Manager Frank Laubhoff said. "Both sides were reasonable."

Several non-wage issues were also settled.

Those include an amendment to a sick leave provision for an additional personal day and standby pay for certain situations. Also, employees will have a \$5,000 life insurance policy through retirement.

The prescription co-pay has been raised from \$3 to \$10, Laubhoff said.

The city and its public safety officers reached a contract settle-

ment earlier this year. A tentative agreement was also hammered out with the public safety dispatchers. The dispatcher deal has to be ratified before being approved by the City Council. "Then we're done," Laubhoff said, "until next year."

### Cellular Service

Only \$10.00 Per Month

Air time 35 cents peak, 18 cents off-peak.

No time-packs. No contracts.

Free Custom Calling Features

Free Detailed Billing

Volume Discounts

Call 1-800-536-6692

for details!

THINKING ABOUT...

AIR CONDITIONING

CALL TODAY FOR A FREE ESTIMATE

(810) 476-7022

ANYTIME

D&G HEATING & COOLING

19140 Farmington Road • Livonia

## Commission members look for beauty marks

Members of the Farmington Hills Beautification Commission are out and about on the lookout for well-maintained shopping centers, entrances to subdivisions, apartments and condos, and industrial buildings in the city.

There are 1995 Beautification Awards to be given out.

The commissioners are looking

### Timbercrest meeting set

Timbercrest, the controversial residential and commercial development planned for the southeast corner of 12 Mile and Middlebelt roads, is on the agenda for the Farmington Hills Planning Commission meeting at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, June 29, in the council chambers of the City Hall, 11 Mile and Orchard Lake roads.

The Hills Planning Commission will consider the landscape plan for the proposed development, said Dale Countegan, city planning director. The meeting is open to the public.

"I'm not sure how many will attend," Countegan said. "The site plan (approval) and everything else about Timbercrest have been widely publicized, so we'll see."

Timbercrest was approved by the City Council despite objections from nearby residents, who cited quality-of-life issues, and a threatened recall of six of the seven council members.

### Donor event June 30

The "Gift of Hope," a blood donation and bone marrow testing event, will take place from 8 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. Friday, June 30, at 10 American Red Cross donor centers, including one at 29631 W. Six Mile Road, west of Middlebelt.

Donors can help patients who need blood products and those who need to find a bone marrow match. Participants must be at least 17 years of age to donate blood. The first 500 qualifying people between 18-55 to schedule appointments can also join the National Marrow Donor Program Registry.

Those who donate blood are asked to give Nancy Buck's name as recipient. The Farmington Hills woman is in need of a bone marrow transplant.

Other Red Cross centers are located in Ann Arbor, Bloomfield Hills, Canton Township, Dearborn, Oak Park, Port Huron, the Detroit Renaissance Center, Roseville and Southgate.

To make an appointment, call 1-800-GIVE LIFE.

### Hills man appointed

Lear Seating Corp. announced the appointment of Nasser D. Swannigan Jr. of Farmington Hills as plant manager for its Detroit facility.

Prior to joining Lear, Swannigan held several positions at Acustar Inc., most recently as program management executive.

Swannigan began his career as a laboratory technician at Buckeye Cellulose Corp. and later worked as an electrical engineer at Union Carbide Corp. Swannigan received a bachelor's degree in electrical engineering at Christian Brothers University, a master of business administration from Florida Institute of Technology, and a juris doctor at Detroit College of Law.



"The emergency team went above and beyond the call of duty."

My daughter, Alexis, has been asthmatic since she was three. So unfortunately we've been to several hospitals over the years.

One night, Alexis had an attack at ten o'clock. We needed to go to the hospital and decided to go to Botsford. The experience was good right from the start.

It began with someone opening the door for us at the new emergency department. Then we went to a room where Alexis was immediately triaged and cared for. I was really impressed with the quality of care. The Emergency Specialists were very adept in pediatrics.

Even though an asthma attack can be very scary, there was never any stress. Alexis was always treated like a person first — never like a number.

I felt the people at Botsford really cared about patients and the community. When we were leaving, the nurse in triage came back in to say good-bye and said, "Hope you feel better Alexis."



**botsford  
general  
hospital**

© 1995 Botsford General Hospital

Reaching out to the people of our community.

28050 Grand River Avenue Farmington Hills, MI 48336-5933

To find out more about Botsford's Emergency and Urgent Care Services, call (310) 442-7986.