

Suds those wheels

Donations will be accepted for the "free" car wash conducted by the Frank A. Marshall Chapter of the Order of Daughters of the East from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, July 29, in the parking lot of the Farmington Masonic Temple, Grand River and Farmington Road.

Jazz and ice cream

A free jazz concert and ice cream social will be held 7-9 p.m. Monday, July 31, at the Farmington Hills Activity Center, 28050 11 Mile Road. Music will be provided by the Blue Lake Pine Arts Camp International Band. The ice cream social will follow. Spectators are asked to enter through Gate 4 off 11 Mile Road.

Register . . . then play

Registration for players skating in the adult hockey leagues playing in the new Farmington Hills Ice Arena are due Tuesday, Aug. 1.

A total of 32 teams will play this fall. The following men's divisions will play twice a week beginning Labor Day week: 18 and over — Monday at 10:30 p.m. and Thursday at 10 p.m.; 30 and over — Wednesday at 10:30 p.m. and Sunday at 8:30 p.m.; 40 and over — Tuesday at 10 p.m. and Saturday at 9 p.m.; 50 and over — Wednesday at 8:30 p.m. and Sunday at 11 p.m.

Additional information may be obtained by calling Gerald Nelson, arena manager, at 473-9577.

'Hidden child' to speak

Iselle Feldman, who was a "hidden child" during World War II, will speak at a flag-raising ceremony to thank and honor WWII veterans and their families at 10 a.m. Friday, Aug. 4, at the Downtown Branch of the Farmington Community Library, 23500 Liberty.

Feldman, who has spoken at the West Bloomfield Holocaust Center and to children at area schools, will talk about her war experiences. In addition to the flag-raising and ceremony, there will be a display WWII model fighter aircraft in the library lobby and war posters and photographs downstairs in the Hall of History.

FARMINGTON FOCUS

Refreshments will be served. For more information, call 474-7770.

Cottage owners take note

The Observer is looking for a few good cottages. The newspaper's At Home section wants to know about your summer place. Whether it's a simple cabin in the woods, a luxurious lodge on Lake Michigan, a stylish condo in Boyne City, or a floating yacht on Lake Huron, we'd like you to share it with our readers.

We want to know something about your haven from suburbia. What attracted you to a particular area, what some of your special decorating ideas are, what you enjoy doing during the summer. Send us a color photo or two, interior or exterior (with the negative) along with your name, community and phone number. We'll select a representative sample for a story in a late August At Home section.

Send photo and information to Mary Klemic, At Home Editor, The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 805 E. Maple, Birmingham 48009.

Memory Lane

From the July 28, 1955 edition of the Farmington Enterprise:

- Four Detroit teenagers were injured after being involved in an auto accident on the U.S. 16 Cut-Off west of Farmington Road.
- Summer dresses were reduced from a regular price of \$8.95 to \$4.77 and \$8.77 at Dancer's Department Store on Grand River.
- An Oldsmobile 88 sedan was advertised for \$2,316.62 at Earl Vivier, 33205 Grand River.
- Short item: "Smoked shoulder butt should be simmered in water until tender, about 45 minutes per pound. If you like, glaze it in a hot oven for a few minutes before serving."

Items for Farmington Focus may be mailed to the Farmington Observer, 33411 Grand River, Farmington 48335, faxed to 477-9722 or dropped off at the newspaper office. For the computer literate, the Internet E-mail address is: pucky@eeonline.com.

Hills reactivates utility panel

BY BILL COUTANT
STAFF WRITER

The dust has settled, tempers have cooled, but Farmington Hills officials don't want a recurrence of the problems the city has had with power outages.

"It's a recurring theme," said Hills City Manager Bill Costick. "Several people continue to frequently have power outages."

Costick, members of the city's police and fire departments, as well as several council members had received many calls from residents who had lost power during the storms of July 13-16. Although Detroit Edison workers did their best to restore power, during the peak outage, 9,000 Farmington and Farmington Hills customers were without power. Costick said people understood that the storms would cause power outages, but they couldn't understand outages at other times when there weren't extremes

weather conditions.

"What we have is a reliability problem," Costick said.

James P. Connelly, a corporate and public affairs manager for Edison, said the company had improved its response to a massive outage from the July 1991 outage that lasted eight days in some areas.

"We've done a lot of things to improve our line clearance program," Connelly said. This year's storm, actually three separate storms on Thursday, Saturday and Sunday (July 13, 15, 16) were more severe than the 1991 storm.

"This affected 95 percent of our area," he said. "In 1992, it affected 50 percent of the area." There were also 11,000 lightning strikes this year as opposed to 1,600 in 1991. And winds of 60-80 mph made even clear lines vulnerable to falling trees, he said.

But Councilman Aldo Vagnor-

al, who was mayor when the storm of 1991 hit, said the utility had promised more of an accounting of outages as part of a consent agreement with the Michigan Public Service Commission. Vagnor told of one caller who lost power, checked into a motel, couldn't then find a room in the booked up motel.

"People have to be able to plan," Vagnor said.

Connelly said the utility is conducting an audit to trace outages and their causes. In addition, there will be two public hearings before the PSC. Vagnor is pushing for one of them being in Farmington Hills.

In addition, the city will reconstitute a Detroit Edison Citizens Committee composed of former committee members and new members who called in with complaints about the utility.

\$20,000 REWARD

For information leading to the arrest of two (2) men responsible for the theft of eleven (11) Rothschild's Orthopedics Light-Pro artificial limbs. The limbs were taken from the Perimeter Dunwoody Holiday Inn located at 4386 Chamblee Dunwoody Drive, Atlanta, Georgia. The theft occurred immediately after the completion of the March 1993 Regional Meeting of the Georgia Society of Orthotists and Prosthetists.

Please contact:

Mr. Samuel Werbin
3508 Broad Street
Atlanta, Ga. 30341
1-404-451-1306

Mr. Vernon Rothschild
300 Mill St., Unit C
Salisbury, Md. 21801
1-410-546-5502

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