



STAFF PHOTOS BY SHARON LEMIEUX

They'll benefit: Donna Cook and Diane Bradley, both widows of Farmington Hills police officers, were on hand at the recent benefit golf tournament. At left, Denny Hughes, a Farmington Hills firefighter, tees off during the golf outing.

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is a foursome. Police officers donated money from comp time and collections of more than \$5,000.

The auction, conducted by Free Press columnist Bob Talbert and event organizer and restaurateur John Ginopolis, raised more than \$13,000.

The effort was not lost on Diane Bradley, whose husband, Hills Officer Gary Bradley, died of cancer seven weeks ago, leaving her and their two young daughters behind.

"I had no idea there would be this kind of response," Bradley said. "This will help me continue to be a stay-at-home mom un-

til my kids (Sarah, 3½, and Emily, 22 months) are in school."

Dwyer was the man of the hour, according to organizers like Harris and Ginopolis, but also his own troops, which donated money and the time to help run the event.

"This would not have been possible were it not for the efforts of Chief Dwyer," said Officer Wayne Boerhove, president of the police officers' union local. "This is a tribute to your efforts."

The weather was ideal, the refreshments were plentiful and the buffet was generous to those who took part. And everyone from Hills Mayor Joanne Smith,

who outbid everyone for a Cecil Fielder bat, to those who just knew a good cause when they saw one, seemed to agree that this would be one of the events worth going to every year.

Dwyer said the response was so overwhelming, that he'd considered having a morning and evening round of golf to accommodate the number of people who wanted to attend.

"But we've already met with the volunteers and I think we're going to keep it to the afternoon and evening," he said, already thinking of next year's event. "We're probably looking at a noon start instead of 1 o'clock."



Stogles and brews: Aside from golf clubs, cigars, sodas and beers were in the hands of golfers during the Farmington Hills police golf outing.

Developer's lawsuit too late to stop Power Road rezoning

BY BILL COUTANT
STAFF WRITER

By enacting a rezoning request for property on Power Road north of 11 Mile, the Farmington Hills City Council made moot part of a lawsuit brought by a developer fighting the change.

That suit, filed Sept. 11, a week before the council's unanimous vote in favor of a less dense RA-1 zoning, was early by design.

"Part of the suit sought injunctive relief (to prevent the zoning change)," said Farmington Hills City Attorney John Donohue. "They had to file before the city adopted the new zoning in order to prevent it from taking place."

A hearing on the matter had been scheduled for Wednesday, Sept. 20, but because the city unanimously approved the new zoning Monday, the hearing

would have been too late to prevent the change. The hearing is being rescheduled.

"I'll be filing an answer in the next couple of days," Donohue said Tuesday.

The suit, brought by Oakwood Hills Limited Liability Corp. against the city and officers of the Philbrick Farms/North Power Road Homeowners Association, charges the association with trying to "obstruct, hinder and thwart" the property owners' right to use and develop 23 acres. It also said the association has trampled surveyor's equipment, and threatened adjoining property owners to prevent the developer from negotiating easement agreements for utilities and sewers.

The suit says Oakwood Hills has spent more than \$1 million to develop the property under the former RA-1 zoning. That zoning

would have permitted smaller lots and frontages than the new zoning. The developer had originally proposed a 41-house development. Under the new zoning, only 22 properties could be developed.

Donohue said at issue was whether Oakwood Hills had a vested interest whereby they relied to their detriment on the former zoning.

"No one has a vested interest in a zoning," he said. "The right doesn't occur until you've done some work (construction)."

Donohue said he was confident that the city could justify its action.

"If they are able to get a ruling that allows them to rely on an existing zoning, they're going to be writing law," Donohue said.

Attorney Steven Klousis, representing Oakwood Hills, could not be reached for comment.

Grandview, Botsford to get counselor

BY MARIE CHRISTNEY
STAFF WRITER

Clarenceville Public Schools is about to achieve a much-needed goal — having on staff a counselor for students at Grandview and Botsford elementary schools.

Unlike high school counselors, who deal to a large degree with class scheduling and career concerns, the new elementary counselor will deal primarily with students who have personal, family or social problems.

"There's always been a need for one, someone to serve as a liaison between home and school," said Superintendent David Kamish. "But the money was not there to do this."

On Thursday, the Clarenceville Board of Education approved hiring a counselor who will work one-half time at Grandview and one-half time at Botsford. The job has been posted and should be filled within the next few weeks, Kamish said.

Up until now, both elementary

CLARENCEVILLE SCHOOLS

ies have had on staff a part-time social worker. But the social worker works primarily with special education students, not students in the general population, said Ellen Davis, Grandview principal.

"We've been looking forward to this for the last three-four years," Davis said. "A counselor is very definitely needed. Many kids have problems, either in their home or socially, and there's no one to help them."

Clarenceville Middle School and Clarenceville High have both social workers and counselors on staff.

Young students today, said Botsford principal Jesse Baker, have a lot more stress than their counterparts did 20 years ago. This includes big stress points such as divorce and smaller stresses such as the death of a

"We'll have ongoing sessions to teach coping skills rather than wait until kids fall apart," Baker said.

A portion of the counselor's salary will be paid through federal funds.

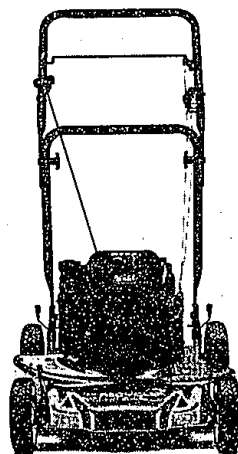
"With the funds available through the Title I grant and enrollment increases, we can easily afford this position at this time," Kamish said.

Last year, the district set as one of its goals the development of a program to assist elementary students and parents.

A committee recommended two options, hiring two counselors, one for each school, for about \$148,000, and hiring one counselor to work at both schools for about \$74,000.

This year, Clarenceville expects to get an extra \$10,000 in federal money and an extra \$30,000 due to increased enrollment.

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