

Group honors Hills for its community police system

BY LARRY O'CONNOR
STAFF WRITER

Farmington Hills police officers are one with their community and, as a result, No. 1 with the Michigan Municipal League.

The Hills department was honored by the state organization during its 14th annual MML Achievement Awards recently for its extensive community policing initiatives, which includes 37 programs that range from working with youth to helping seniors.

The department was cited among cities in the state with a population between 25,001 and 75,000. The department's community policing programs have also been submitted to the National League of Cities for award consideration.

"We're real excited: There's all sorts of programs involved in community policing that are truly just officers who want to do it and they want to be part of the community," said Bill Dwyer, Farmington Hills police chief.

"They want the community to

understand they're just not out there enforcing the traffic laws and writing tickets... but they're caring, compassionate people."

Farmington Hills community policing programs are credited in the 3-percent drop in serious crimes and another 11-percent fall in lesser offenses last year.

The department expanded its community efforts after the city had 6.5 percent jump in population from 1990-95, and subsequently, a 46-percent increase in police activities.

Yet the philosophy of community policing is no different than what officers adhered to on their beat in old neighborhoods, Dwyer said.

"When you talk about the '60s



"I think that's one of the reasons why our breaking and enterings are down by almost 40 percent compared to last year."

Chief Bill Dwyer
—Farmington Hills police

and '40s, community policing was in place and called something different," Dwyer said.

"We're still reaching people on a more personal basis. We're just not riding up and down subdivisions in a patrol car with the window rolled up. We're out there as much as possible..."

Programs continue to grow. Recently, Farmington Hills police added an apartment managers crime prevention program. Apartment dwellers make up a significant portion of the city's population, but are not typically involved in neighborhood or business watch programs.

Such watch programs get residents involved in fighting crime. "I think that's one of the reasons why our breaking and enterings are down by almost 40 percent compared to last year," Dwyer said.

Crime prevention isn't the sole motivation behind all programs, though. The department also hosts an annual 10-K run and operates a holiday donation program.

A majority of community policing programs do not cost the department money.

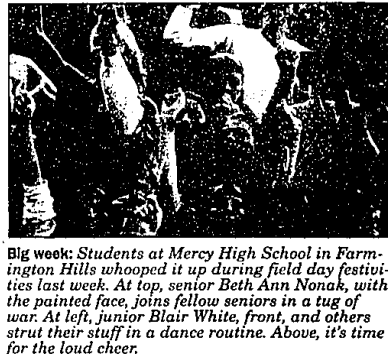
For instance, the Bicycle Patrol Program only costs in terms of equipment whereas the School Liaison Program is partially funded through Farmington Public Schools.

"It's just added responsibility to the department and its personnel," Dwyer said. "In fact, there hasn't been an increase in our budget as it relates to community policing."

Mercy, there's spirit



STAFF PHOTOS BY BRIAN MITCHELL



Big week: Students at Mercy High School in Farmington Hills whooped it up during field day festivities last week. At top, senior Beth Ann Nonak, with the painted face, joins fellow seniors in a tug of war. At left, junior Blair White, front, and others strut their stuff in a dance routine. Above, it's time for the loud cheer.

Mexican Gardens II
FAMILY RESTAURANT

Come Feast on Farmington Hills' Finest Authentic Mexican Food!

Buy 1 dinner and receive 1/2 off a 2nd dinner of equal or lesser value
(good Sunday-Thursday only, expires 10-31-97)

36600 GRAND FIVER AVE.
between Redwood & Oakwood FARMINGTON
(248) 474-8417
CARRY OUT AVAILABLE
Mon. - Thurs. 11-10, Fri. & Sat. 11-11, Sun 12-10

MARIACHI BAND EVERY SUNDAY 6-8 PM
STARTING OCTOBER 12

READER SERVICE

HOW TO REACH US

- Newsroom: 248-477-5450
- Newsroom fax: 248-477-9722
- Nightline/Sports: 313-953-2141
- Reader Comment Line: 313-953-2042
- Classified Advertising: 313-591-0900
- Display Advertising: 313-591-2300
- Home Delivery: 248-901-4716
- Cable TV Weekly: 313-953-2190

HOMELINE: 313-953-2020

- Open houses and new developments in your area.
- Free real estate seminar information.
- Current mortgage rates.

✓ CLASSIFIED AFTER HOURS: 313-591-0900

Place classified ads at your convenience.

CIRCULATION AFTER HOURS
OAKLAND COUNTY: 248-901-4716

FAX LINE: 313-953-2288

You can use a MasterCard, or Visa to access the following information from our classified ads. This service is available by noon Wednesday and Friday:

- Item No. 9402: Looking for a place to rent or someone to share an apartment with? Get a listing of our rental classifieds. Cost: \$5.95.
- Item No. 9800: Recreation: boats, motorcycles, campers, airplanes, etc. Cost: \$5.95.
- Item No. 9822: Vehicles: Used trucks, vans and all makes of automobiles. Cost: \$39.95.

O&E ON-LINE: 248-644-1100

You can access it about any communications software—PC or Macintosh. On-Line users can:

- Send and receive unlimited email.
- Access all features of the Internet—Telnet, Gopher, WWW and more.
- Read electronic editions of the Observer & Eccentric newspapers.
- Chat with users across town or across the country.

if you need help signing on to our service, just call the **O & E On-Line Hotline: 313-953-2266**

PHOTO REPRINTS: 313-591-0500

Order reprints of pictures that have been taken by our staff photographers:

- Provide the publication date, page number, and description of the picture, which must have been published within the past 6 months.
- \$20 for the first print, \$7.50 for each additional print paid in advance (check or credit card).

The Farmington Observer

CCC **MPA** **SN**

Farmington Observer
(USPS 187-640)

Published every Sunday and Thursday by Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 808 E. Maple, Farmington, MI 48333-0910. Periodical postage paid at Farmington, MI 48333-0910. Postmaster: Send address changes to Observer & Eccentric, Newspaper 808 E. Maple, Farmington, MI 48333-0910. Telephone 248-1107.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES

ONE YEAR (in Oakland County)	\$42.00
HOME DELIVERY SERVICE	per copy 75¢ per copy 40¢ yearly \$55.00

Advertising

All advertising published in the Farmington Observer is subject to the conditions stated in the applicable rate card. Copies of which are available from the advertising department, 33411 Grand River, Farmington, MI 48333 (248) 477-5450. The Farmington Observer reserves the right not to accept an advertiser's order. Observer & Eccentric assumes no liability for loss of advertising material or for any other loss. Advertisers assume full responsibility for the accuracy of the information provided.

SHANGRI-LA
GOURMET CHINESE RESTAURANT

Featuring Authentic HONG KONG Style Cooking

Wonderful Traditional Favorites... Superb Variety of Dining Specialties

- LIVE PISH, LUMBER, and CRAB in our kitchen. COOKED TO ORDER
- DIM SUM LUNCH SPECIALS 11 a.m. - 5 p.m.
- SAT., SUN. DIM SUM (10 a.m. - 3 p.m.)
- LUNCH SPECIALS 11 a.m. - 4 p.m.
- CARRY OUTS AVAILABLE

HOURS:
Monday thru Sunday 11 a.m. - 2 a.m.

33411 GRAND RIVER ROAD
FARMINGTON, MI 48333

You have your reasons.

Whether it's for education, retirement or simply for the peace of mind that comes from knowing your money will be there when you need it.

Ask your employer or banker about saving

U.S. SAVINGS BONDS

Take stock in America

A public service of this newspaper

LOOSE LOWER DENTURES? PARTIALS?

PERHAPS IMPLANTS ARE THE ANSWER!

LIVONIA VILLAGE DENTAL ASSOCIATES
HERBERT GARDNER, DDS
(248) 478-2110

You are cordially invited to
Jewel Gallery
Armani Signing Event
Fri. Oct. 17 6:00 pm - 9:00 pm

Connie Ribaudo
Executive Director of
The Giuseppe Armani Society
She is the only American
authorized to authenticate
Giuseppe Armani's work with
her signature.

She will be present for the event and will sign any new purchases.
ONE DAY ONLY
Friday, October 17th
6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

- Register to Win a Giuseppe Armani Figurine
- Free Gift with purchase
- Refreshments served

"True Love"

Livonia Mall
7 Mile & Middlebelt
(next to Sears)
(248) 471-5007

JEWEL GALLERY