

Year in review from page A1

brought to justice for vandalizing a city golf course but were left wondering whether a Hills couple really did know their son was having a beer-keg party in the house while they were home.

And residents were heartened by the progress a high school musician made in recovering from severe head injuries suffered in a freak accident.

Following is a chronology of 1997 news highlights:

January: Six are charged with selling alcohol to minors in Farmington Hills police sting. Hills drunken driving arrests increase in 1996 from 1995.

February: The Hills city council, in a consent agreement reached under judicial pressure, OKs 27 new homes on Power Road in an area designated as a Natural Beauty Road. Rumblings from discontented area residents will continue throughout the year.

March: The Hills city council, in a consent agreement reached under judicial pressure, OKs 27 new homes on Power Road in an area designated as a Natural Beauty Road. Rumblings from discontented area residents will continue throughout the year.

April: The Hills city council, in a consent agreement reached under judicial pressure, OKs 27 new homes on Power Road in an area designated as a Natural Beauty Road. Rumblings from discontented area residents will continue throughout the year.

May: The Hills city council, in a consent agreement reached under judicial pressure, OKs 27 new homes on Power Road in an area designated as a Natural Beauty Road. Rumblings from discontented area residents will continue throughout the year.

June: The Hills city council, in a consent agreement reached under judicial pressure, OKs 27 new homes on Power Road in an area designated as a Natural Beauty Road. Rumblings from discontented area residents will continue throughout the year.

July: The Hills city council, in a consent agreement reached under judicial pressure, OKs 27 new homes on Power Road in an area designated as a Natural Beauty Road. Rumblings from discontented area residents will continue throughout the year.

August: The Hills city council, in a consent agreement reached under judicial pressure, OKs 27 new homes on Power Road in an area designated as a Natural Beauty Road. Rumblings from discontented area residents will continue throughout the year.

September: The Hills city council, in a consent agreement reached under judicial pressure, OKs 27 new homes on Power Road in an area designated as a Natural Beauty Road. Rumblings from discontented area residents will continue throughout the year.

October: The Hills city council, in a consent agreement reached under judicial pressure, OKs 27 new homes on Power Road in an area designated as a Natural Beauty Road. Rumblings from discontented area residents will continue throughout the year.

November: The Hills city council, in a consent agreement reached under judicial pressure, OKs 27 new homes on Power Road in an area designated as a Natural Beauty Road. Rumblings from discontented area residents will continue throughout the year.

December: The Hills city council, in a consent agreement reached under judicial pressure, OKs 27 new homes on Power Road in an area designated as a Natural Beauty Road. Rumblings from discontented area residents will continue throughout the year.



Heads up: Farmington met Harrison in the district soccer tourney November where Randy Sage, left, and Chris Kozlarski battled for the ball. The Falcons won the game 4-1.

Hills city council makes the Commission on Child, Youth and Families a joint venture with City of Farmington.

Businesses along Eight Mile between Farmington and Halet watch as business falls off due to Oakland County's widening of Eight Mile Road to five lanes.

July: The first five teens in the San Marino vandalism, who pled guilty in June, are sentenced to three years probation and ordered to pay court costs and restitution.

The Hills city council approves a Planned Unit Development (PUD), opening further discussion between itself and the developer of the proposed Super Knart.

The upcoming school bond issue proposal is further cut from \$95 million to \$93.1 million due to money being made available in the district's operating budget, and the Downtown Farmington Center's \$700,000 facelift is under way.

Coch Larry Baker resigns after 22 years as the Mercy High School basketball coach to spend more time with his family.

Longtime local institution Maple Drugs, located in Drakeshire Plaza, becomes part of the Rite Aid chain.

Five more male teen-agers are charged in the San Marino Golf Course vandalism. Three are from Farmington Hills, one from Farmington, one from Brighton.

August: The Farmington Public Schools' share will be almost \$9.5 million in the Durant case involving it and 83 other districts against the state over unpaid special education funding.

West Bay Exploration Co. of Traverse City gets state permits for angle-drilling under Interstate 275 for fossil fuels.

September: Fire Chief Richard Marinucci is elected president of the International Association of Fire Chiefs.

Dr. Jack Kevorkian is linked to three suicides in Farmington Hills, including that of Janet Good, his long-time supporter and Hills resident.

January: Farmington gets the second Borders Books Outlet Store in the nation. It's located on Grand River east of Farmington Road.

School district voters pass both proposals in the \$93.1 million bond issue by a margin of 1,951 votes. The voter turnout of 9,404 is 16 percent of those registered.

The Hills city council and Phoenix Land Development enter a consent judgment after Phoenix and the Woodcreek Homeowners Association reach agreement on the developer's proposed 32-lot Hickory Oaks project. The developer is operating more open space so the new development mirrors the character of adjoining subdivisions.

Melissa Garr, a Farmington High School student and band member injured July 23 when a tree limb fell on her head at the Farmington Glen Aquatic Center, is beginning to come out of the coma she's been in, communicating by sign language and writing.

The voter-approved school bond tax increase of 1.64 mills is reduced to 1.25 mills due to a Proposal A rollback.

October: The second group of five teens charged in the San Marino vandalism are given either probation or boot camp and are also expected to make restitution to the course.

Melissa Garr is now talking again.

A consent-decree vote by Farmington Hills ends two years of

court wrangling between Power Road residents and the developer of the proposed 27-homes Oakwood Hills development.

Melan Realty, the developer of the proposed Super Knart and condominiums project, says it will need financing either from a Downtown Development Authority (DDA) or a Tax Incremental Financing (TIF) plan to buy land for the housing development.

November: All three Hills city council incumbents - Cheryl Oliveira, Jerry Ellis and Jon Grant - are elected to four-year terms, as are Jim Mitchell, Mary Bush and Arnold Campbell, their counterparts on the Farmington city council. And Aldo Vagnozzi, the first Hills mayor elected by popular vote, becomes the first to be re-elected the same way. It will be his final two-year term.

Hills voters also choose, by a huge 4,130-vote margin, to extend the 0.6-mill levy for parks and recreation to the year 2009.

Luigi's Trattoria, a downtown Farmington restaurant, gets the first of four new Class C liquor licenses. Three other Farmington restaurants are in the running for the remainder of the 50 licenses offered statewide.

The Farmington Hills Police Department is named No. 1 in the

nation in community policing for cities 25,000-75,00 by the National League of Cities.

PAST-TRAC, the computerized traffic-control system installed along Orchard Lake Road, is said to have cut travel time by anywhere from 6.5 percent to 31.8 percent.

The Farmington Harrison High School football team goes undefeated and wins the state Class A football championship, the eighth in the school's history and all of them coming under coach John Herrington. He's named coach of the year by a Detroit newspaper and the Detroit Lions and is inducted into the Michigan high school football coaches' hall of fame.

December: Cattleman's Market in Farmington closes one year after it is cited as the source of a fatal outbreak of Legionnaires' disease.

The Hills police department ends the year as it began it: with a sting on 64 bars and restaurants that sells nine for selling alcohol to minors.

The Hills city council denies a drilling permit to West Bay Exploration for two oil and gas wells in the Haggerty-Nine Mile area, citing fears the drilling would release the toxin hydrogen sulfide.



Stanley shines: Everyone was cup crazy after the Red Wings won the Stanley Cup Championship. Fortunately for some YMCA summer campers, Wings assistant coach, Dave Lewis, a Farmington resident, brought the cup by one day for the kids to see and touch.

STAFF PHOTO BY DEAN MITCHELL

after Christmas clearance now in progress

25% to 50% off

original prices
on select merchandise

NOW is the time for great savings on great buys!

assorted
fashion jewelry
& cold weather
accessories

50% off

select merchandise

women's
sportswear

50% off

select merchandise

men's wool
coats
& microfiber
coats

50% off

select merchandise

women's bridge
sportswear

50% off

select merchandise

Pendleton
misses, petites
& Clairewood
for the fuller figure woman

40% off

select merchandise

Ms. J
sportswear &
dresses

30-50% off

select merchandise

Jacobson's

Birmingham • (248) 644-6900 Livonia • (313) 591-7696 Rochester • (248) 651-6000
SHOPPING HOURS • MON-SAT 10-9 • OPEN SUN AT NOON
CLOSED TODAY, NEW YEAR'S DAY