

City proclamation lauds FHS state honor

Farmington High School principal James Myers and two members of his staff were on hand during Monday night's Farmington City Council meeting to receive a proclamation honoring the school for its recent selection as a state Blue Ribbon exemplary school.

The proclamation salutes FHS administrators, staff, students and the school board and acknowledges "the value and importance of the school to the youth and families of the Farmington community."

Faculty members Bob Crawford and Caryn Callanan spoke to the council, along with Myers.

"It was an exciting process," Crawford said. "It gave us a chance to reflect about what we do at Farmington High School."

It (the award) reflects the quality of students we have."

Building timeline

Myers also updated the council about construction at Farmington High, the first building in the school district scheduled to begin bond issue-related work. He said he expects "things to start any day" on the addition of a seven-classroom science wing, which would be built in the area now containing portable classrooms. That portion would be completed by September. Upcoming projects include expanding the vocal-instrumental music department, revamping the swimming pool for competitive meets and recasting the technology wing. If all goes well, he said all FHS bond projects will be completed by August 1999.

Meanwhile, even though a district groundbreaking took place Tuesday, Myers said a dirt-turning ceremony at FHS is planned for March.

Hanging high

Keeping with tradition, Miss Farmington-Farmington Hills Jennifer Hoomke presented a framed portrait featuring former Mayor JoAnne McShane and Hoomke. Both McShane and current Mayor Mary Bush were thanked by the reigning beauty queen for their efforts as "wonderful role models for young women."

The portrait was immediately hung up on the wall in council chambers.

- Tim Smith

Bills seek to ban human cloning

BY TIM RICHARD
STAFF WRITER

Michigan would join the parade of states outlawing human cloning - and even research on human cloning - under three bills passed by the House of Representatives.

The bills would allow permanent lifting of the medical licenses of guilty doctors, provide for \$10 million in civil fines, set up 10-year prison sentences, and ban the use of state money for human cloning research.

"The bills don't match (what other states are doing)," said opponent Patricia Godchaux, R-Birmingham. "We'll end up (as we did) with assisted suicide - people running between states to get what they want."

Godchaux was the only Republican to oppose the measures. She said she opposes human cloning but thinks it would be best handled uniformly by a federal law rather than a patchwork of state laws.

Godchaux and other opponents said human cloning is so far in the future that there should be no rush to pass a state law now.

The key bill, requiring the loss of medical licenses for offending doctors, passed 92-11 with six absent. Ten Democrats and Godchaux cast the no votes.

Rep. Nancy Cassels, R-Nowi, a co-sponsor, said, "With Dolly (the Scottish sheep) and now the two calves here in America, cloning is no longer considered science fiction. We must not (allow) the possibility of a scientific advancement lead us to the reprehensible act of human cloning."

The bills don't ban licensed health professionals from assisted reproduction technology, including in vitro fertilization.

"Remove my name as a co-sponsor," said Rep. Mary Schroer, D-Ann Arbor. "I was for this until I read the bill. We're going to wind up with 50 different (state) laws. I don't want people cloned, but I don't want to stop research. It should be up to the federal government."

Rep. David Gubow, D-Huntington Woods, said the House committee failed to bring research and pharmaceutical interests into the debate. "There is a model state act, but it is not what we have here. There needs to be a dialogue rather than a knee-jerk reaction to one doctor."

He referred to Chicago physician Richard Seed, who announced a week earlier he would attempt human cloning. Cloning is the exact genetic reproduction of a creature - in effect, a years younger identical twin.

Here is how O&E area lawmakers voted:

YES - Penny Crisman, R-Rochester, Barbara Dobb, R-Union Lake, Shirley Johnson, R-Royal Oak, Greg Kaza, R-Rochester Hills, Tom Middleton, R-Ortonville, Nancy Quarles, D-Southfield, Andrew Raczowski, R-Farmington Hills.

NO - Patricia Godchaux, R-Birmingham.

The House Bills are 4846, 4952 and 5474.

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ROYAL OAK Wednesday, February 11th 7:00 - 8:30 p.m. Coffee & Cookies Royal Oak Woman's Club 424 S. Pleasant	DEARBORN HEIGHTS Thursday, February 12th 10:00 - 11:30 a.m. Coffee & Danish Candfield Community Center 1801 N. Beech Dale
FARMINGTON HILLS Thursday, February 12th 10:00 - 11:30 a.m. Coffee & Danish Farmington Community Library 32737 W. Twelve Mile Road	

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RECREATION NEWS

The Recreation Division of the Farmington Hills Department of Special Services presents a synopsis of upcoming activities. For further information, call 473-9570.

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DOWNHILL SKIING
The Farmington Hills Recreation Division is offering a complete Downhill Ski Program for all participants, fourth grade through high school, each Friday night at Mt. Brighton. The bus will leave designated locations at 4:30 p.m. and return at approximately 10 p.m. Fee is \$50 for a two-week session. The fee includes lift ticket, ski lessons and bus transportation. The \$11.50 ski rental is not included and will be collected on the bus. Call 473-9570 for exact dates and departure sites.

ADULT SOFTBALL
The Farmington Hills Recreation Division will take new team registration for men's, women's and co-ed softball starting Monday, Feb. 2. Call 473-9570.

SHELTER RENTALS
The Farmington Hills Recreation Division will begin accepting park shelter rentals on Feb. 2. Payment must be made at time of reservation. Call 473-9570.

TEEN CENTER
This program is open to the students of the Farmington area who are 12-16 years of age. The program is held from 7-9:45 p.m. Friday evenings at East Middle School. The program dates are Jan. 30, Feb. 6 and 27, March 6, 13 and 20. Registration will be taken at the site. The fee is \$2 per person. Call 473-9570.

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