

# Farmington Observer

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## IN THE PAPER TODAY

### COMMUNITY LIFE

Are you ready? The new millennium is right around the corner and it brings plenty of changes for all of us, especially with our technology. Get ready./B1

### SPORTS

Ex-hoop star: Eve Claar, a former North Farmington basketball star, is still involved in the game as a front-office employee of the Detroit Shock./C1

Records fall: A foursome of Farmington Hills girls broke two state swimming records during national competition in Buffalo, N.Y./C1

### AT HOME

Vintage look: Residents of one of the houses on this year's Historic Home Tour in Ypsilanti went to great detail in maintaining the house's late '40s style, even to replacing their modern stove./D4

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## Death penalty sought in 1996 ATM murder

■ U.S. Attorney General Janet Reno has given her permission to federal prosecutors to seek the death penalty for a man charged in the 1996 Farmington Hills murder of an ATM employee at the Comerica bank on Northwestern and 13 Mile.



A man charged in the 1996 Farmington Hills murder of an ATM employee could be sentenced to death if convicted.

Federal prosecutors received U.S. Attorney General Janet Reno's permission to seek the death penalty in the case against Antonio McKelton, 27, who is charged in the shooting death of Everisto Bosley, 25. The ATM technician was gunned down while he serviced the machine at Comerica bank on Northwestern and 13 Mile Road Nov. 16, 1996.

"My Bible-trained conscience teaches that the Scriptures show there is nothing wrong with the death penalty," said Martha Bosley, the victim's mother. "I feel that if McKelton is found guilty then that is what he should get."

Police linked McKelton to the murder after a weapon - found in an abandoned auto on Maple Road

used in a West Bloomfield jewelry heist May 1997 - matched the gun used to kill Bosley, a former U.S. Marines military police officer - during an attempted robbery. McKelton's fingerprints were on the 9 millimeter pistol, police said.

McKelton is serving six years in jail after pleading no contest in the Tapper Jewelry Store robbery in West Bloomfield. A trial date, originally set for Aug. 3, has been moved to Jan. 12, 1999.

Hills police Chief Bill Dwyer commended Reno's decision.

"Our position in this case is that you have a person who had a violent, criminal history and, without provocation, ambushed and shot an unarmed man who had served his country," Dwyer said. "The death penalty is in order because of the violent past of this particular person."

After discussing the case with Oakland County and U.S. pro-

Please see MURDER, A13

## M-5 road work to get under way

Jon Nashar, owner of the Shell gasoline station at Grand River and Halsted, estimates he'll lose 45 percent of his business during road work on the M-5 interchange. But, he said: "Although the construction work will be inconvenient, long term it will be worth it."

Improvements during the four-phase, \$5.5 million project includes construction of a continuous flow (loop) on-ramp from eastbound Grand River; the off-ramp from northwest bound M-5 will merge into a one-way Freedom Road; and the off ramp from southeast bound M-5 will be widened. Pedestrians will be accommodated on the north side of the Grand River bridge over M-5.

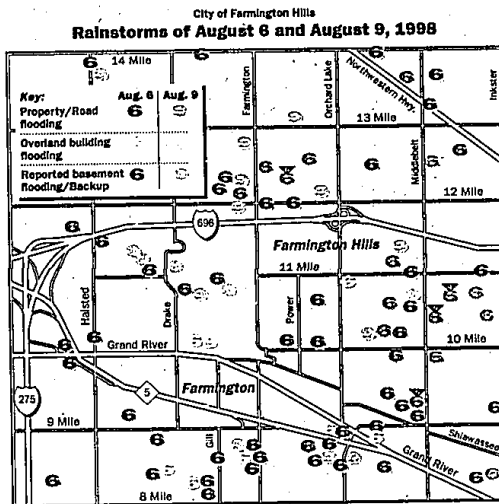
Nashar, like other businesses and motorists in the area, will feel

the pinch while the changes are in the works. But the relief provided by the improvements has been anticipated for a long time.

Construction of the inner section of Grand River and Halsted will begin in August and take eight to 10 months. During that time the entrance and exit of the Shell station will be gone, and gasoline deliveries will be done 1-3 a.m., Nashar said.

Phase one, from early August through early September, will cause the temporary closure of the northbound I-275 ramp to eastbound M-5; as well as the resurfacing of eastbound M-5 and construction of temporary crossovers to move traffic while westbound M-5 is being reconstructed. Work will also include resurfacing and

Please see M-5, A3



## Waves of anger Hills residents fed up

In a mood as foul as the stench wafting in their flooded basements, several Farmington Hills residents say they're fed up with raw sewerage seeping into their homes.

On Monday, they lodged their complaints with an empathetic Farmington Hills City Council, which promised to do all it could - short of paying for damages - to help residents deal with flooding from torrential rains Aug. 6 and 9.

The pledge didn't appease all residents, some of whom want council members to take responsibility for the problem.

Canterleigh Street resident Jeanne Jones asked that a moratorium be declared on all new building projects until sewer problems are fixed.

"Otherwise you can have your chil-

### FLOODING

dren come over and clean up my basement," said Jones, who was away in Charlevoix and came home to find her basement 11 1/2-foot deep with raw sewage after rain Aug. 6.

Jones had company. Other residents related ongoing problems, complaining about the clean-up that can run \$750, and mounting damage to their homes.

They also worry about the health risks, especially exposure to E-coli bacteria.

City officials assured they are doing everything possible to curtail flooding, which includes spending more than \$10

Please see HILLS, A12

## City weathers rainfall

When the second wave of heavy rain fell on Farmington early Sunday evening, the city still hadn't fully recovered from last Thursday's initial wave.

As a result, said Farmington Department of Public Services Director Kevin Gushman, there were about another dozen reports of basement floodings after Sunday's downpour - when two inches of rain fell in 90 minutes.

"The previous storm (on Thursday) just compounded the situation," Gushman said Tuesday. "Two inches is not that much, but it is when coupled with what fell earlier."

And what fell earlier was, in Gushman's opinion, "a very, very intense storm. We had more water than I've seen in 14 years" with the city.

Please see CITY, A12

## SMART's chief gets off the bus

After seeing SMART through one of its darkest hours, Plymouth resident Richard C. Kaufman is stepping down as general manager of the transit system to return to the practice of law.

"I've decided I'm a lawyer first and an administrator second," said Kaufman in a resignation submitted Tuesday.

He was a Wayne Circuit judge for eight years before joining SMART in January, 1996, and he is expected to become a partner with Fink Zausmer, PC, in Farmington Hills in October.

SMART deputy general manager Dan G. Dirke, Kaufman's assistant, is among the people most frequently mentioned as a possible successor.

When Kaufman became SMART's general manager, the system was heavily in debt and struggling for survival. Under his direction, the system reduced its debt, reorganized itself and increased ridership.

Please see SWITCH, A4

■ 'I've decided I'm a lawyer first and an administrator second.'

Richard Kaufman  
—Outgoing SMART chief

## New Hills manager appointed

All that was missing was a horse and a sunset.

As one city manager left to pursue a new job out west in California, his deputy stepped right up to take his badge - or name plate in this case. After receiving a proclamation and well-wishes from Farmington Hills City Council members Monday night, Hobbs walked out of the council chambers.

"That was totally awesome," Hobbs said after the council kudos. "I'm practicing my vocabulary for southern California."

Hobbs' somewhat dramatic exit set the scene for city council members to officially appoint Steve Brock as his successor by unanimous vote.

Brock is under a one-year contract and will be reviewed after six months. He will make \$106,000 during the year, the same salary as Hobbs.

After council's vote, Brock briskly stepped up to the dais and received

Please see BROCK, A13



Appointed: Former Assistant City Manager Steve Brock was appointed Monday to replace outgoing City Manager Dan Hobbs.

## Pioneering cyberian nets national award

If cyberspace is a new frontier, then Gerald M. Furi, assistant director of the Farmington Community Library, is a pioneer.

His work making the Internet easily accessible to area residents has been recognized by MCI Telecommunications, which honored him as one of the 51 winners in the 1998 MCI Cyberian of the Year national awards program.

These select librarians are applauded for rising out of the cyber-revolution by helping to revamp the way library patrons access and navigate the technology of world information.

"The availability of digital access, whether to the Internet or to electronic media within the library, continues to provide free and qualitatively excellent source of information mediated by librarians for all citizens, regardless of education or economic status," Furi wrote in his MCI nomination form.

Computers and printed works complement each other, Furi explained, adding that computers have breadth and books have depth.

Sitting in his office flanked by computers, Furi said: "I'm flattered (about the award), but really it's all the

■ 'I'm flattered (about the award), but really it's all the work of a lot of people.'

Gerald Furi  
—Assistant library director

Please see CYBERIAN, A2

