

Flee from page A1

near Nine Mile. With two patrol cars on his trail, the driver swerved onto eastbound Nine Mile before turning into the Shell station parking lot where he crashed. At times, the Grand Prix veered onto the shoulder and across the center median into oncoming traffic to evade authorities. The car also sideswiped another car waiting for a light at Drake and Grand River and hit a patrol car before crashing. Officers unsuccessfully tried to bump the speeding vehicle on Nine Mile near a wooded area in order to stop the chase before

Free litter bags available

The city of Farmington traditionally declares May "Keep Farmington Beautiful" month. As a reminder to citizens of the importance of keeping the City clean, the Farmington Beautification Commission, through the cooperation of local Farmington car washes, will distribute free litter bags the weekends of May

reaching heavily traveled Farmington Road. The driver tried to run but was tackled by an officer near Bostwick Street. Inside the stolen car, police found a nylon bag with hypodermic needles and drug paraphernalia, power tools and a metal rod, which may have been used to break in. The driver was taken to Botsford Hospital to treat injuries from the crash. Blood was drawn, which will be sent to the Michigan State Police crime lab to check alcohol or narcotics.

22-23 and May 29-31. To receive litter bags, citizens should visit: ■ Colonial Car Wash, 33600 9 Mile ■ Grand River-Halsted Shell, 33735 Grand River ■ Jax Kar Wash, 31600 Grand River

Safer from page A5

■ Begin replacing all the windows at Clarenceville High. ■ Resurface the rest of the parking lot at Botsford Elementary. ■ Replace the boilers at Clarenceville High and improve the heating system. New, black double-pane windows have brought a new look to the middle school. Many of the old, partly shielded, aluminum windows were damaged and need replaced. But this year's tax money ran out before the district could finish the job. "The hardware is gone on some of the windows, and we know which ones can't be opened," said Jack Schiffman, director of custodial, maintenance and transportation. By getting twice the amount of fix-up money each year, the district hopes to accomplish more with renovation projects that have proved to be more costly than expected. For example, the cost to replace windows at both Clarenceville middle and high

schools is pegged at \$700,000. If residents reject the 1.25-mill tax hike, the district could be stuck just putting in new windows at the two schools over the next three years. Little would get accomplished elsewhere. **Plenty of needs** Schiffman eyes the old boilers at Clarenceville High, and windows over the long system will last. So far, the district has paid \$80,000 to replace the boilers at the middle school. They got replaced first because the old system died, Schiffman said. Boilers at Grandview and Botsford also are old and need to be replaced. "The things that have been done so far are either absolutely critical, or done to make the school more presentable," said Superintendent Tom Tattan. "The things that are yet to be done, they were identified as things that need to be done. But we haven't been able to afford to do them yet." On Friday, the district mailed

a special edition of the district's newsletter to residents, outlining how the extra money would be spent. In 1995, residents approved two tax hikes to pay for building renovations. Money from the voter-approved 2.10-mill bond issue that raised about \$4.5 million already has been spent. A lot of the money went to renovate Botsford, with much spent on asbestos removal. But the money also paid for handicap compliance, technology and heating/ventilating work in all school buildings. **A bit of history** Voters in 1995 also approved the 0.75-mill building and site sinking fund. Projects paid for by the approximately \$225,000 generated each year since 1995 from this tax include science labs at the middle school, plumbing work and window replacement. In 1995, because of the passage of Proposal A, which cut school taxes but raised the state sales tax, Clarenceville's tax rate

dropped to 7.2578 mills. Passage of these two tax hikes brought the district's total millage up to about 10 mills, where it still is today. If residents approve the two tax questions, the district's total millage would go to a little less than 11 mills. The combined \$6.5 million tax bill generated by both taxes in 1995 was a far cry from the \$20 million, 25-year bond issue for repairs proposed in 1991. Residents soundly rejected the bond issue. If it had passed, it would have added an extra 4.25 mills onto residents' already hefty yearly school tax of 41.9 mills; the millage residents paid prior to passage of Proposal A. After the turnaround at the polls, then-Superintendent David Kamiah got residents to approve the much-smaller, "no frills" tax bill over the much smaller period of time.

Tax from page A6

with about \$722,000 in its rainy day fund. Initial opposition to the two tax hikes has apparently fizzled. A handful of residents complained that the district promised back in 1995, when residents approved two tax hikes, not to seek more fix-up money until the current tax expired in 2004.

Administrators have replied that, if any promise was made, the school district is not bound by promises made by previous administrators and administrators. The Clarenceville District covers parts of Livonia, Redford and Farmington Hills.

Pets from page A1

people as much as you," Walsh said. "The world would be a much greater place if people would donate the most precious thing — time, as well as their animals." Leading the "K-9 Klick" pack during the program's second half was a white German shepherd named Luger and his owner, Michelle Koons. She gave the keynote address about the importance of humans bonding with their dogs through activities such as flyball. "His role in life is to please me and the people around me," Koons said. "The 'K-9 Klick' did a variation on musical chairs, using mats. One-by-one, as four-legged contestants were eliminated, Luger grabbed a mat in his mouth — like a chew toy — and dragged it over to Koons on the sideline. Eventually, only one mat and two dogs remained. When 'You Can Call Me Al' finally stopped, the winner was a mixed breed named Abby, owned by Judy Huston. "These dogs are so beautiful and so well trained," said Pet-A-Pet volunteer Gormaine Allen, who takes her dog for visits at the McAuley Center in Farmington Hills. "I'm not sure who's smarter, the trainers or the dogs."

Following the two-hour meeting, Gwendolyn Porter sang the praises of pet therapy. Porter, a Farmington Hills resident who teaches special needs children age 3-5 in Lyndon Elementary School in Detroit. "The special therapist can't get them (children) to open up," Porter said. "But they do when the dogs come in." She tried to answer a question about why dogs have such great success connecting with handicapped kids or elderly stroke victims. "I have no idea," Porter said. "It's almost as though they have a spirit that God has put into them. Even though they can't talk it comes out, it exudes, and the kids pick up on it." Soon-to-be-published author Renee Esordi also thought enough of Pet-A-Pet to travel all the way from San Diego, Calif., in order to attend. Her book about pet therapy, "You Have a Visitor — Observations on Pet Visitation and Therapy," will be released in the fall. The book will contain Esordi's photographs illustrating the process of human-animal bonding. "I just really like the way dogs can do so much more than just be a companion," said Esordi. "And I feel doing a book like this is going to create an awareness for other people, that you can be part of something like this." Esordi has three canines at home: two chocolate labs, Zoey and Moro; and a German short-haired pointer named Terra. "It's universal how people love their animals," Esordi said. "And this way (Pet-A-Pet) combines that with the need to help other people. They can volunteer and still be with their pets." Pet-A-Pet is a non-profit organization founded by president Ruth Curry, and always in need of new volunteers. Call (313) 636-0410 for more information.

Arthritis Today
JOSEPH J. WEISS, M.D., RHEUMATOLOGY
18829 Farmington Road
Livonia, Michigan 48152
Phone: (248) 478-7860

ARTHRITIS MEDICATION-SATISFACTORY IS EXCELLENT

Scientists seek simplicity and elegance in their work. They strive to develop formulas that contain all the necessary elements (simplicity) and with each part in its proper proportion (elegance).

The same holds when your doctor, who is trained in science, treats your arthritis. Keeping to scientific principles in arthritis care, is difficult for a physician because of the publicity showered upon new drugs. The implication is that he gives you one or more of these recently introduced medications, you will again become whole. The closer truth is that none of the new drugs is so good, that a physician should abandon the principle of simplicity and elegance in prescribing medication.

Treatment for rheumatoid arthritis is a good example. It is possible to have a mild case, and it is reasonable to expect that medication can give you relief to the point you can carry on your work, personal responsibilities, exercise to maintain your health, and sleep at night to sufficiently obtain adequate rest. Yet you are not free of joint pain or undue fatigue.

Your doctor may, with your concurrence, decide that satisfactory treatment of your arthritis, is excellent enough. You may be only on a nonsteroidal drug such as salicylate. Or, you may have a nonsteroidal medication and the number of medications suffice to give a reasonable response, then you have achieved simplicity and elegance. Neither new drugs nor added medicine is in your best interest.

in the 90s
by Herbert M. Gardner, D.D.S.

WHITER TEETH

The popularity of bleaching has increased to the point where it now accounts for more than half of all the cosmetic dental procedures performed in this country. According to the Academy of General Dentistry, dentist-supervised bleaching is effective in at least 90% of patients. The most potent option available, called "power bleaching," involves coating the teeth with 35% hydrogen peroxide and activating the whitening agent by exposing the teeth to a laser. Treatments take about 15 minutes, and four to six visits may be required. Comparable results may also be attained with custom-fitted mouth-guard trays containing a whitening agent. The patient wears the mouth guard while sleeping, and whitening occurs over a period of 10 days to two weeks.

It's clear to us that most of us want whiter teeth. A whiter smile will make you proud and confident, feeling much better about yourself. Today it's easy and affordable to whiten your teeth. At LIVONIA VILLAGE DENTAL ASSOCIATES, we have researched the safest and easiest ways to use materials on the market. We only use and recommend those that are fully supervised by our trained professionals, and activating the whitening agent by exposing the teeth to a laser. Treatments take about 15 minutes, and four to six visits may be required. Comparable results may also be attained with custom-fitted mouth-guard trays containing a whitening agent. The patient wears the mouth guard while sleeping, and whitening occurs over a period of 10 days to two weeks.

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SPOTLIGHT ON

Orthodontics
by Josephine Finazzo, D.M.D.
AN EARLY CHECK

The permanent orthodontic appliances popularly known as "braces" have come a long way since the days of the "tin grills." Back then, each tooth was wrapped in a silver-colored metal bar that served as a point of attachment for the arch wire. Today, these bands have been replaced with relatively small brackets that are simply cemented into place on the front of the teeth. And, as if these small brackets did not minimize the metallic appearance of braces enough, there is another option. Clear brackets allow the natural beauty of teeth to shine through by virtue of their translucency. The only limit of wearing

braces comes from the thin arch wire that embraces the dental arch. Over a million Americans begin orthodontic treatment every year. New technology has made braces even more aesthetic and more affordable, as well as making it possible to straighten teeth for people of all ages. For further information or to schedule a free initial consultation, call THE ORTHODONTIC GROUP, 19223 Merriman (442-8888). We have a computer imaging system that helps patients visualize what the end result of orthodontic treatment may look like. Payment plans and terms are available.

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CANDIDATE FORUMS

Two candidate forums for the Farmington Public Schools election are scheduled in the next couple of weeks. School board candidates Melody Jaske and Gary Sharp are seeking one-year terms. Sharp was appointed by the school board when Joe Svoke resigned. The one year is the remaining time left in Svoke's term. Incumbent Linda Enberg is seeking re-election to a four-year term. The first forum up will be hosted by the Farmington Democratic Club at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, May 19 at Farmington Hills City Hall. The forum also will be cablecast. The second will be hosted by the Farmington Area PTA Council and the League of Women Voters 7:30 p.m. Thursday, May 27 in the board room at the Lewis Schulman Administrative Center, 32600 Shilwaukee Farmington.