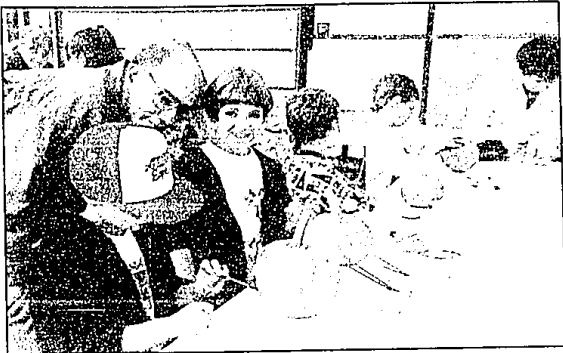


Pumpkin painting



Sign up: McFarland Florist of Farmington Hills and Detroit will kick off its Sixth Annual Kids Halloween Pumpkin Painting Event at 10 a.m. or 1 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 17, at McFarland's Farmington location. Kids of all ages (grownups too) are invited to attend. Kids will have the opportunity to create and paint personalized Halloween pumpkins and demonstrations will be given before each session. A \$5 materials fee, payable in advance, includes pumpkin, painting lesson, supplies and goodies. Everyone should wear appropriate clothing. Reservations are required and groups are welcome. Call 474-7750.

Parent expresses concern about hypodermic find

In Farmington police said they think a hypodermic syringe left on the property of an area residential care facility was an isolated incident, but said they want to be notified "immediately" if it happens again.

A 6-year-old boy found the needle near a Dumpster on the property after he, a brother and a friend climbed over a security fence behind Integrated Health Services, formerly The Greenery, at 34225 Grand River.

The boy kept the needle for several weeks until his mother found it and gave it to Mary Kress, the mother of the friend, who lives behind IHS. She

turned it over to police.

Kress expressed concern about children becoming infected by such a needle and was frustrated that several public agencies she contacted did nothing. She said she has told the boys not to climb the fence, "but you know what happens when you tell kids not to do something. You can't watch them 24 hours a day, seven days a week."

Deputy Public Safety Director Mike Wiggins encouraged her to "immediately report it to us" if a needle is again found "and we'll take it from there."

"If it happens again, it could be a problem," he acknowledged,

but added, "It's been a long time" since any previous incident, "if it has (ever) happened before."

The law requires proper disposal of such items - usually, he said, in a locked Sharps bag that is then picked up by a special medical waste truck - "but we don't know if the syringe was really theirs."

"It could be someone just using their Dumpster. It could have been a perfectly legal use of the needle," he said.

He said he informed IHS officials. They are "aware and concerned and we're confident" they will be keeping a close watch on disposals, Wiggins said.

Goldberg from page A1

run. I said if I can, I'll do it next time."

Next time is here and Goldberg is raring to go, despite not having her favorite adversary, Farmington Hills Councilman and GOP hopeful Terry Sever will do. The election is Nov. 3.

Since Wolf threw her interest, Goldberg started attending county commission meetings again. She used to go regularly when she lived in Oak Park.

Goldberg is not a county commission cheerleader.

"I'm saying to myself, 'This is not good government; this is a one-party system,'" she said. "I don't think things were meant to be this way."

Goldberg doesn't think being a Democrat is an anchor, but an untapped turbo in the perceived wave of Republicanism.

Unlike the Democratic hopeful in two previous commission races, Goldberg is running a vigorous campaign. She believes she can carry the city of Farmington, which voted Democrat in the 1996 presidential election.

The 18th District includes all

of Farmington, southern Farmington Hills and a precinct in Southfield.

"I'm not running against Terry Sever; you'll not hear me saying negative things about Terry Sever," she said. "I'm running against the Republican Party."

Goldberg is tired of the GOP, she said, which calls for tax cuts at the expense of services. Such a dogmatic approach has stalled such things as renovating 911 equipment.

"What decision do they have to make on that? All they have to do is buy new equipment," she said. "But no, it's not that easy."

The county commission should take a leadership role on issues like the 12 Towns Drain, she said.

In her opinion, mental health services need to be fully funded. Otherwise, the county should disband the mental health authority, she said.

More so, Goldberg wants the commission to be more user-friendly. She suggests a satellite office for Farmington and Farmington Hills residents. She'd also

keep regular office hours.

Commission meetings need to be telecast, she added.

"You're going to make the commission more understandable," she said. "You're going to start playing towards your audience. We need them to start playing to their audience."

Though she's not held office, Goldberg is no political neophyte. She's vice chairwoman of the Farmington Democratic Club and has been a longtime advocate for people with physical disabilities.

She is married to Gerald. The couple has four grown children and three grandchildren.

Goldberg's also serving on the Michigan Association of Realtors political action committee. "I sit up there and decide who gets money," she said in typical candor.

Her contacts with several generations of lawmakers has taught her one lesson. "I don't sit there in awe of them. I look at them as someone who is supposed to help," she said.

Rage from page A1

Bureau. "Right now, there's this 'me first' attitude. No one wants to be courteous. No one wants to let anyone merge."

Salsbery died after his Mercury Sable tangled with a Chevy pickup truck and careened across the grassy median on I-275 where it collided with a meat truck traveling north.

Witnesses said the crash happened after the drivers of the Sable and pickup truck battled over a lane of southbound I-275 while traveling at speeds of 80 miles an hour.

While darting in and out of traffic, the truck came in contact with the rear of the Mercury Sable, causing the driver to lose control. The driver of the Chevy pickup, a 30-year-old Dayton, Ohio, man returned to the scene an hour later?

Michigan State Police questioned and released the man pending further investigation. He could face charges of negli-

gent homicide or involuntary manslaughter.

State police are expected to submit their report to the Oakland County prosecutors office this week.

Both drivers appear to be at fault, said state Trooper Gregory Stevens. Witnesses report the Mercury Sable moved in front of the pickup, which caused the truck's right bumper to be clipped by the car's driver side wheel well.

Police found markings on the truck bumper. The pickup driver told police the two were trying to merge into the same lane.

"Versions of this thing are starting to match up," Stevens said. "The finer points of whether they moved over one lane or over two lanes ... this is where the stories are not corroborating."

The pickup driver sped up to prevent the Mercury Sable from changing lanes, according to wit-

nesses said. "You don't intentionally prohibit someone from making a lane change," Stevens said.

Yet, according to police, motorists are increasingly doing just that.

"Personally, I come in to work from Brighton every day. I see the same type of behavior, the tailgating, the constant changing of lanes," Green said. "In a typical 25 mile trip, the best you're going to do is get a half mile ahead. Is it worth it?"

Even police are not immune to the rash of reckless driving. Farmington Hills police surveillance units and semi-marked cars are often cut off on the road.

Officers pull over the offenders or radio ahead to a fully-marked patrol car for help. Motorists who are not in law enforcement have little recourse, though.

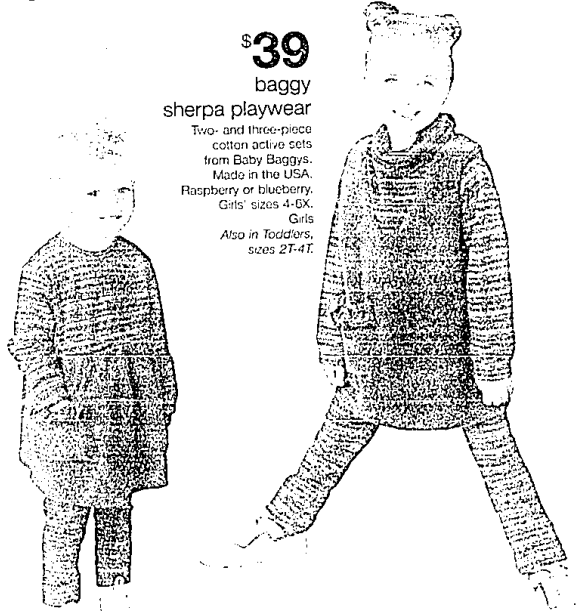
"The roads are not getting wider and traffic is increasing everyday," Green said. "I don't know what the answer is."

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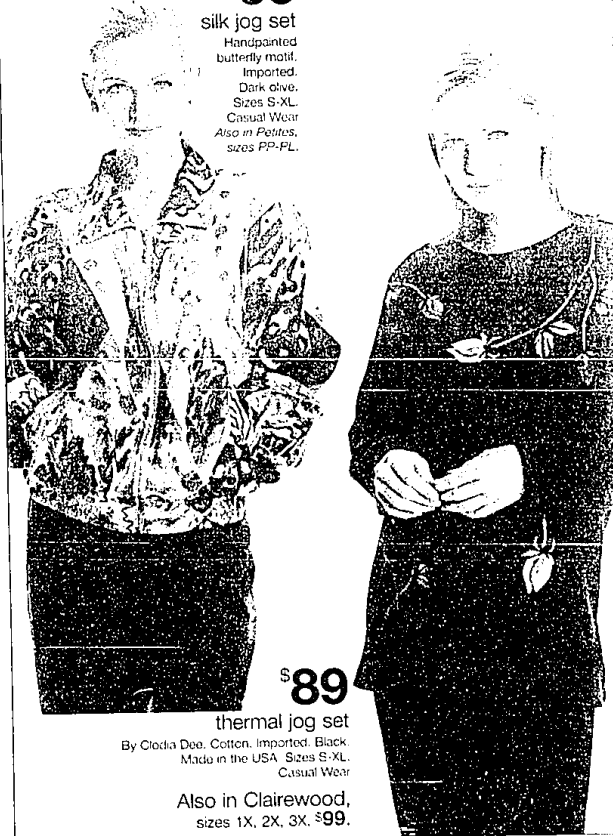
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