# Police seize marıjuana

A 28-year-old Detroit woman and the two men police say served as her armed escorts were arrested in Farmington Hills Wednesday night, after officers seized 69 pourds of marijuana, an M-14 rifle and a semi-auto-

an M-14 rifle and a semi-auto-matic hand gun.

Hills Police Chiof Bill Dwyer said the arrests were made by officers from the South Oakland Narcotics Investigation Consor-tium, which consists of officers from Farmington Hills, Novi and West Bloomfield, the Oakland County Sheriff's Dopartment and Michigan State Police.

A uniformed Hills officer

stopped a 1990 Buick Regal and a 1999 Cadillac Escalade at 10 Mile and Beech, after undercover officers watched the cars leave a home on Moran Street that they had been wretching in prepare.

### FORFEITURE **PROCEEDINGS**

Conspiracy Intelligence Unit and Homicide Section, both of which worked with SONIC to Intercept the drugs, which have a street value of about \$83,000.

"SONIC will initiate forfeiture proceedings for the Moran Street residence, a boat, motorcycle and the vehicle used to transport the drugs." Durse added.

drugs," Dwyer added.
Hills detectives were expected to present a request for warrants to the Oakland County Prosecutor's Office late Thursday.



STATE PROTO ST BILL BARRIER
Nabbed: Confiscated suspected drugs nearly filled a conference room at the

## Center is a dream for arts advocates

By Joanne Maliezewski Byapy Weiter

Right now it's just a dream, but area cultural arts advocates are hoping one day to have a center.

center.
"I'm just curious if anybody has thought about that again," said Mike Wiese, president of the Farmington Community Pand

Band.
It's not that anyone wouldn't want a center, but the emphasis today is on coordinating and publicing the many arts groups in the community, members of a steering committee said.
Committee member Markows

Committee member Marlowe Belanger, for example, said it's still premature to consider devel-opment of a cultural arts center

terch in the soluli mouth is thirty-two, some people have more than this runther of more often energy terms are the solution of the solution of the solution of the princy ("shely) testh. The most common type of earls took is a small supernumer-sy before talled a "mestoders" (or "middle took!), which crops up between the upper sylvation of the solution of the solution of the energy to produce supernumerary testh seems to be tabertied. And, owing to the fact that they may be both unightly and cause orthodoxite problems, they are usually up extracted. This, of course, leaves a space

**Orthodontics** 

by Josephine Finazzo, D.M.D. ONE TOO MANY

while the emphasis remains on getting people involved in arts activities.

"Our hope is to encourage the new development of organizations," Belanger added.

Belanger and 14 other steering committee members heard lots of praise of the area's arts activities and organizations, as well as hopes and dreams for the future as part of a public hearing Wednesday night on a proposed cultural arts master plan.

The steering committee has in the recent pant developed a survey and tabulated results, and held focus groups with different segments of the community in preparation of the master plan, which is not yet complete.

Nancy Coumoundouros, com-

munity cultural arts director, moderated the hearing and invited an audience of about 20 pepte to offer their comments.

"Our focus right now is on the arts," said Farmington Hills Mayor Nancy Bates. "Things are happening without a center."

Bates, however, said community officials continue to "touch base" with other communities about a cultural arts center. "I do think is will be the only way it will be affordable."

Bea Scalignee of the Farming-

will be affordable."

Bea Senglione of the Farmington Musicale, however, pointed
out that storage space for arts
organizations such as hers is
needed for productions.
"We need a home. We have so
much stuff," she said.

much stuff," she said.

Well-known potter John Glick said he is thankful the community allows home occupations, such as his. He also complimented the community on its attitude toward the arts.

"It's a real smooth and articles."

Southfield, for example, engaged businesses in promoting and supporting the arts for its center. "If we become more organized and involved in the arts festival (for example), people would soon recognize the arts are an important factor in our community." Belanger said, adding the public would then recognize the need for a center. Tima Theeke of the Farmington Community Library said sho was surprised the results of the cultural arts survey showed that respondents still do not think of the library as a center for cultural arts.

al arts. Belanger drove home her point

Belanger drove home her point that arts in the community continue to need citizen involvement, as well as publicity. "It is our job as citizens of this community to go out and talk about the arts," Belanger said.

Steering committee member Paul Barber, Farmington Public School music director, said that organizations are growing together and media coverage of activities continues to help.

toward the arts.

"It's a real growth and nurturing positive attitude," he added.

Steering committee members
said it is time to encourage corporate sponsorship of the arts in
the community. The city of

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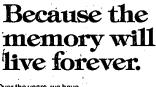
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## City council says court equity fund needs revamping

FATAY WHITES Jubred 2000.

Farmington and Farmington Hills residents pay for a third class source, and they're getting third class the same of the sam

Ellis.

Dave Walsh, administrator for the 47th District Court in Farmington Hills, explained the Court Equity Fund, established in 1996, requires all 52nd Division District courts to contribute fees and fines. Those funds, along with courty tax dollars, support second class courts like the 62nd District, which has divisions in Troy, Rochester Hills, Clarkston and Novi.

Troy, Rochester Hills, Clarkston and Novi.

In Michigan, Walsh explained, courts are divided into three classes, Most outstate counties maintain first class courts, which serve the entire county, Second class courts receive county tax dollars, city revenues, and now, Court Equity Funds.

However, third class courts are supported entirely by their communities.

"Third class district court

are divided into three ciasses.

units receive no (equity) funds," Walsh said. While the initial idea was to give courts in smaller commu-nities additional support, while the small near was to give courts in smaller communities additional support, some – particularly in the northern portion of the county – have grown substantially. Oakland County also differs from others in the state, Walsh said, because its communities support far more third class courts, while maintaining accord class courts.

The Hills resolution will go to Oakland County officials, who are looking at a redistribution of equity funds that would include third class courts. Walsh haan't heard whether a specific formula has been determined, but he's heard a number of percentago numbers bandied about.

He said third class courts currently contribute about 63 percent to the Court Equity Fund, with no return on those dollars. The issue is doubly important in this area, Mayor Nancy Bates said, because growth is pushing the need for a new court building.

Once residents begin to look at the costs, ahe said, "We'll really begin to understand the inequity."

While he considers the county's action important, Walsh said lawmakers in Lansing should take notice as well.

"I think, long-term, what it leave

Lansing should take notice as well.

"I think, long-term, what I'd like to see happen is this issue be considered at the state level," he said, "but this is a good step."

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