Unruh earns excellence award

Farmington Hills crime prevention officer Bonnie Unruh was given the Community Policing Award of Excellence by the Michigan Association of Chiefs of Police on Feb. 8 at the groups indivinter conference in Lansing.

Unruh has not just put together a long list of achievements in five years in crime prevention, but has taken inspiration from a children's meal, which had a promotional tie-in with the Carmen Sandiego TV program, included a "decoder apple." Unruh decided the decoder apples would make a great addition to the "Crime Prevention Kids Club" she'd started.

So she got the manufacturer to send her the last remaining 2,000 decoder apples.

Kids in kindergarten through fifth grade who join the Crime Prevention Kids Club received ecoder apples along with membership cards and a quarterly newsletter. The newsletter (writher and produced by Unruh a

Vote On

Proposed City Charter

Monday

February 15th, 1926

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By Credited Farmington Hills
Police Chief William Dwyer for
encouraging creative thinking in
the department. "He proceeding
the department of the process
toout innovations that are going
total the process of the
tittens of Farmington Hills,"

A 12 year veteran of the Farmington Hills police force, Unruh
has a bachelor's degree in crimington Hills police force, Unruh
has a bachelor's degree in criminal justice from Madonna University. She was the VFW Police
Officer of the Year in 1991 and
was named Law Enforcement
Officer of the Year by the American Society of Industrial Securition 1994 and received the Presidential Award for Excellence by
the Crime Prevention Association of Michigan in 1999.
"Unruh is a great asset to the
Farmington Hills Police Department, to the city of Farmington
Hills and to Michigan communities noar and far. She is truly
deserving of the Michigan Assoication of Chiefs of Police Community Policing Award of Excellence."

munity Policing Award of Excel-

history framed

A little bit of Farmington history turned up at City Hall recently, as the people in the clerk's office were going through some files.

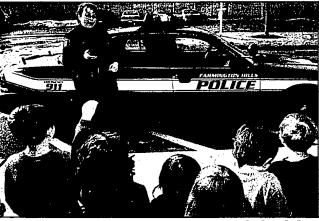
City clerk Patsy Cantrell said they found pages from the Jan. 29, 1926 Farmington Enterprise, which announced the vote to accept a new char-ter and become a city.

It took place on Feb. 15, 1926, 75 years ago. "We were just talking about the fact that this was the month the vote was taken," said City Manager Frank Lauhoff. "That's a pretty bir deal."

To preserve the four yellow-ing pages, Lauhoff had them taken to Framery One, along with a card certifying publica-tion. The front page shows; the others are enclosed.

Lauhoff complimented Framery One's work

pretty big deal."



Community policing: Farmington Hills Police Officer Bonnie Unruh speaks with pre-schoolers at Nardin Park Presbyterian Church.

COUNTY NEWS Farmington 1 4 1

Silver lining to storm clouds, exec says

BY PAT MURPHY STATE WHITE pmurph@co.homecomm.net Leave it to Oakland County's most vocal cheer-lender to make "storm clouds" seem like an opportunity.

That's what county Executive L. Brooks Patter-son did in his seventh annual State of the County

That's what county Executive L. Brooks Patterson did in his seventh annual State of the County Address delivered Thursday to an enthusiastic, invitation-only audience at the Michigan State Conference Center in Troy.

As he had in previous state of the county addresses, Patterson spoke glowingly about Oakland's economic success — which he insisted has been aided and enhanced by business-friendly government initiatives. In Thursday's 50-minute address, however, he acknowledged "storm clouds" on Cakland's horizon.

Roads are a serious problem, Patterson emphasized, enough to constitute a "significant crisis."

Patterson again called a change in the formula for distributing Michigan's sales tax on gasoline. He wants that revenue dedicated exclusively for roads, instead of being used for general government purposes.

The state must also convince Washington to open the spigot wider and let transit dollars flow back into Michigan at a more favorable rate, Pat-

terson said.

The executive also warned about expensive projects Oakland communities will be forced to undertake to clean up drains and lakes in order to comply with state and federal environmental regulations.

"We're talking billions of dollars to clean up our lakes, to clean up our rivers, to reconstruct our sanitary and storm water systems, to build new state-of-the-art treatment facilities, he said. This is not just wild speculation about what might be coming in the years shead. ... it's here.

"This is not a storm cloud," Patterson emphasized, "it's closer to a taunami."

The executive made fleeting reference to the economic slowdown.

nomic slowdown.
Instead, he insisted Oakland is "prepared" for whatever lies ahead.
Crities — especially Democrats — said Patterson's address ignored or underestimated the problems facing Oakland County.
"He didn't mention anything about the homeless or the working poor," said county commissioner Tim W. Melton (D-Auburn Hills), who has attended several of the executive's annual addresses.
Homelessness is so significant, Melton insisted, that the county board may consider appointing a task force to assess homelessness.



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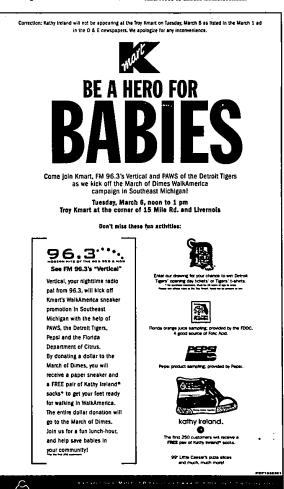
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