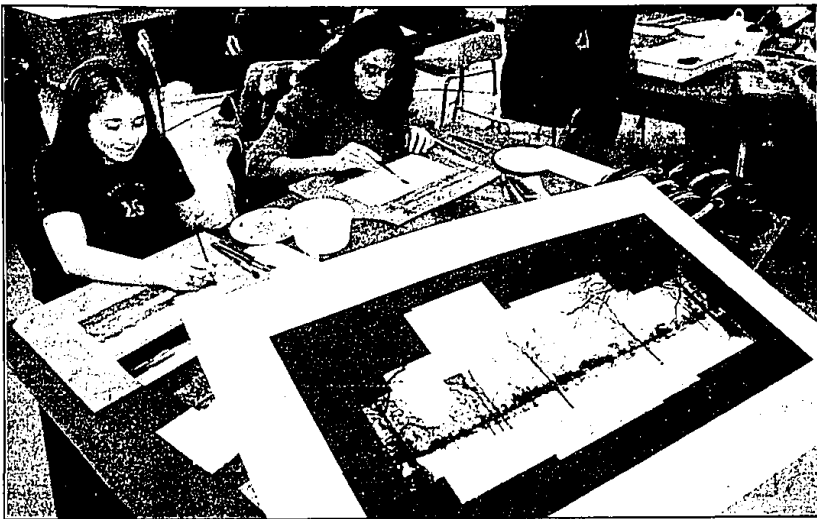


FOREI



Final touches: Danielle Miller and Kristel Stricker work on golf course watercolors. Danielle created the photo collage of a scene at Western Golf and Country Club, located in Redford Township.

STAFF PHOTOS BY BILL BRIDGES



Golfscapes artist: Heather Friedli created this watercolor.

Student art work displayed at Golf Show

When golf lovers stream into this weekend's Michigan Golf Show, they will view the artistic renderings of Farmington High School students.

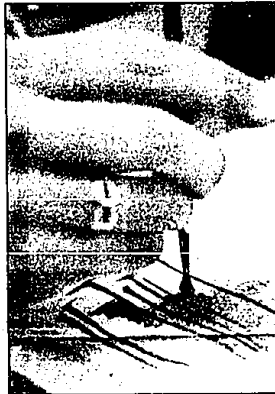
To be displayed at a booth for South Lyon-based Cattails Golf Club will be watercolor golf course paintings and other themed works, created in the art class of FHS teacher Gail Piepenburg.

Requesting that students do the art was Frank Hickey of Farmington. He is a retired teacher who occasionally subs as a hall monitor and teacher at FHS and also works part-time at the Cattails,

where he coordinates group golf outings. "This is a chance to give exposure for students that they don't normally have," Hickey said.

The Michigan Golf Show is Friday through Sunday at the Novi Expo Center, located at I-96 and Novi Road. Show hours are Friday, 4-9 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.; Sunday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Golf aficionados from throughout the area will have a chance to check out displays of "the latest and greatest in golf equipment," top resorts and courses and a new club demo area.



Brush work: A watercolor scene takes form with Jessi Halliday's delicate brushwork.

Education change passes

BY TIM SMITH
STAFF WRITER
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An ordinance amendment to lower minimum educational standards for potential Farmington Public Safety Department officers' candidates was adopted, as expected, during Monday night's city council meeting.

It reduces educational requirements for candidates from a bachelor's degree to an associate's degree (or equivalent number of credit hours).

With the change, the department will have a wider pool of candidates to choose from when attempting to fill vacancies. Farmington's previous standard of a bachelor's degree resulted in losing potential officers just out of two-year colleges to other area departments.

Currently, the Farmington Public Safety Department has

19 full-time officers, even though it is authorized to carry up to 22.

"I'm in favor of the minimum standards because it will open the door to a wider range of recruits," said councilwoman JoAnne McShane following Monday night's meeting.

Farmington's 20-year-old requirement of a bachelor's degree had put the department at a disadvantage in the area of recruitment. Only about 2 percent of law enforcement agencies in the United States still require a bachelor's degree, which was the level of education recommended in the 1987 President's Commission on Crime.

The amendment was introduced at the council's Feb. 19 meeting. That evening, Public Safety Director Gary Goss said recruits would still be encouraged to continue college education and other police-and-fire

Learn more about disabilities

The Farmington/Farmington Hills Multicultural/Multiracial Community Council will present "Responding to the needs of People with Disabilities," a workshop featuring Ron Bachman, on Thursday, March 8.

Bachman, a native Detroit, was born with a congenital birth defect that required his legs to be amputated at the age of four. His positive nature and a determined spirit allow him to tran-

scend his disability.

He will talk about what it's like to grow up with a disability and illustrate how kids and adults might better reach toward the ideal of human diversity appreciation.

The event will be held at the Farmington Training Center, Room 1, 33000 Thomas Street in downtown Farmington, north of Grand River.

Schools of choice meeting slated

The Farmington school board will conduct its annual discussion concerning interdistrict schools of choice at 6 p.m. Tuesday, March 13.

The meeting will be at the Lewis Schulman Administrative Center, 32500 Shawwassee in Farmington. Public comment is welcome.

Each year the school board states its intention regarding the acceptance of non-resident students.

Michigan law allows local

school boards to decide whether they will accept students who live outside the local school district boundaries but within the Intermediate School District boundaries or those students who live in surrounding school districts but are part of another Intermediate School District.

In the past, the Farmington school board has decided not to participate in interdistrict schools of choice after hearing comments from interested citizens.

Harrison, GC, Cooley plan exchange

Harrison High School is embarking on an exchange program with Detroit Cooley and Garden City high schools.

The purpose of the program, sponsored by the National Conference for Community and Justice, is "to promote unity and understanding between students from different districts."

On Tuesday, March 6, students from Cooley and Garden City high schools will visit Harrison.

The second part of the program is Thursday, March 8, when Harrison and Garden City students go to Cooley for the day.

Homeless from page A1

just bad luck."

Pelon remembers a man who came to the church two years ago and hadn't seen a dentist in 16 years. Although the man "was not really brave about going to the dentist," the volunteers talked him into it.

One of the dentist volunteers started an extensive amount of work on the man, who disappeared after a portion of the work was done but resurfaced recently. He phoned the dentist, Pelon said, to say he'd gotten a job and wanted to finish the den-

tal work with his insurance.

Dinners are cooked at home and brought to the church. Breakfast is cooked at the church. And lunch is carry-out.

Three parishioners are volunteering dental services; two others will cut hair on Friday.

Tabled from page A1

ple who wanted to have a say wouldn't have been able to say anything."

The special meeting was called last week, after officials reviewed the draft PUD agreement at a Feb. 26 study session. Tabling added another two weeks to what has been a protracted process toward getting some kind of commercial/residential mixed development in that area of the city.

"I've been on council 12 years, and this has been under discussion all that time," Mayor Nancy Bates said.

The plan presented by Grand/Sakwa Acquisitions included a mixed use "lifestyle center," in Phase II. Not all land for it has been acquired, and the agreement only made a commitment to develop Phase I.

The current site plan includes features the city and residents had asked for, like breaking up the "big box" look with architectural features. He said he had always been up front about the fact that the partnership didn't have control over all the Phase II properties.

"Tonight is only, as we see it, a conceptual approval," Sakwa said.

A traffic study has already begun, as has a study of drainage concerns, including recurrent flooding at Orchard Place Condoms, located north of Glen Oaks Country Club. Grand/Sakwa Acquisitions has

made a \$2.5 million commitment to drainage solutions and a \$3.5 million commitment to road improvements, Sakwa added.

A drainage pond on the south side of Phase I could be expanded to meet drainage needs in Phase II, if and when the development. That level of uncertainty stuck with councilman Jerry Ellis, who said he'd been watching the proposal shift around since its inception.

"It's continued to fluctuate so much. I'm having substantial difficulty with it at this point," he said. "It upsets me because I was looking at a unified project."

Lowe's Home Centers, which had been mentioned in previous discussions but had not officially signed on to the PUD agreement, has announced plans to offer its own plan for an adjacent property. Sakwa has said his company is also negotiating with a competitor, which could put two home improvement centers in close proximity, which didn't appeal to officials or residents who testified.

Sakwa said a home improvement center would have to be part of Phase I and that the partnership had already agreed to a lifestyle center.

"This is not a surprise, what we've brought to the table tonight," he said. "It is your job to enforce whatever you want, where you want it."

City attorney John Donohue cautioned officials regarding the possibility of competing home

centers.

"The city can't favor one over the other," he said. "You're looking at land uses."

Councilman Jon Grant said, "I am looking at land uses, and that's exactly what's making me nervous. Do I want to be involved in a race to see who gets their shovel in the ground first? No."

Donohue said officials would still have the power to veto street vacations necessary for any development in Phase II if neighbors object, and that could frustrate any "big box" development.

Residents who spoke said there were good things about the draft agreement, but they were troubled by the lack of commitment to develop anything beyond Phase I. Andy Nickelhoff, an outspoken opponent who has testified at a number of hearings, urged officials to take their time and said he had heard talk of residents seeking a referendum to stop the project.

If the agreement is approved, Donohue explained, residents have 21 days to file an intent to petition, which requires about 460 signatures. They could delay the project with somewhere between 5,000 and 4,000 signatures, under the existing ordinance.

Grant moved to table the decision until the council's March 19 meeting. Councilwoman Vicki Barnett and councilman Barry Brickner opposed the motion.

THE DOCTOR IS IN: CRITTENTON INTERNAL MEDICINE



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