

Halloween from page A1

freedom of movement. Masks should be avoided. Costumes should be light-colored or have reflective strips.

- Insist that your children stay in their own neighborhood and on an agreed upon route. Get to know your neighbors before the trick-or-treating season. Join neighborhood watch.
- Keep your own outdoor lights on so children can see where to walk safely. Remove objects, such as garden hoses, sprinklers, bicycles, from the yard to prevent tripping.
- Be cautious if driving on

Halloween. Children tend to dart out from between vehicles. Never drink and drive.

- Open alcohol is prohibited on the streets and sidewalks of Farmington. Be a positive role model.
- Check all treats for signs of tampering. Although the Farmington Department of Public Safety doesn't inspect or X-ray candy, anything suspicious should be reported to your local law enforcement agency.

Tips for children

- Stay with your group and

keep on your route.

- Only go to homes with porch lights on welcoming you. Adults like this night just like the children do.
- Cross the roadways only at the corners and use flashlights for assistance.
- Do not go inside anyone's home and never get into a stranger's car. As always, stay away from strangers.
- Do not eat any treats until inspected by your parents or another adult.

Mural from page A1

Hoffman said, "I just decided to do a rocket with the school's name on it."

Brown chose a star. "My favorite shape is a star," she said. "It resembles a superstar."

Eagle Principal Arnie Rubin spoke highly of the accomplishment, which some said couldn't be done.

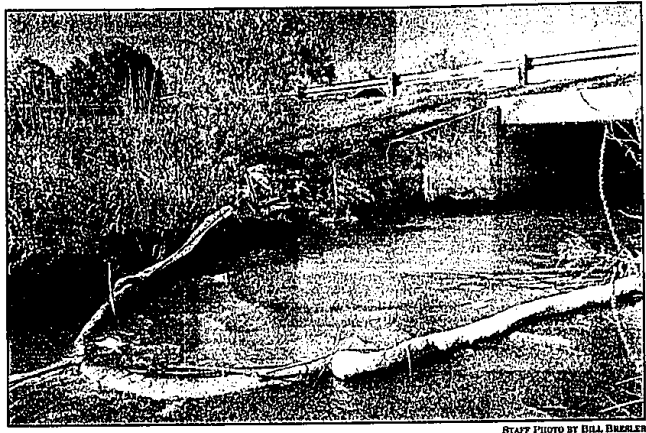
"They kept saying, 'We couldn't do it, we couldn't do it. It will cost you a million dollars,'" Rubin said.

Ben Watson, a carpenter, who works for the school district proved them all wrong, Rubin added. "We asked, 'Ben can you do it?' and he said, 'Yes.'"

Watson worked on the wall

during the summer.

"The kids saw it on the first day of school coming back. They saw it both as little tiles and in the classroom being done. On the first day of school it was up," Rubin said. "It's a nice thing. Ten years from now, 20 years from now, they can always point out their tiles."



Clean-up: An absorbent boom lies across the creek surface, to soak up contaminants.

Oil from page A1

The Penske company has a contract with Safety Clean, which collects used oil that is recycled or used for fuel.

A lab analysis performed for the Penske Company later showed that the majority of material was water, with some solid debris probably from the parking lot, Beck said. "There was minimal oil."

Beck estimated the amount of oil to be about two gallons. Friese wouldn't estimate an exact number of gallons, citing maybe 20. "The volume of oil wasn't particularly large," Friese said.

A Farmington police report mentioned 40 gallons.

"The DEQ supervised the cleanup of 225 feet of 12-inch sewer line and four catch basins," said Mike Wiggins, Farmington Deputy Director of Public Safety, in a report. "They removed about 40 gallons of motor oil from the system. They finished the cleanup at about 3 a.m. Saturday morning Oct. 13. The Penske auto repair shop, located within the Kmart store, was identified as being responsible for the release."

An "absorbent boom" about

eight to 10 feet high was used to absorb the oil which comes across the water, Friese said. "It looks like a huge white sausage."

A concerned resident

Police were originally notified by an unidentified Britany Hill resident who pointed out "oil within the river," according to the police report.

The police officer had the police desk contact the MDEQ. Friese considered the incident minor in comparison to other situations the MDEQ investigates and said the oil could be attributed to a number of sources, not just the Penske store. That could include parking lot runoff, homeowners who might pour used oil into any open drain, as well as customers who might purchase oil at the auto center and fill up their cars in the lot.

Friese wasn't prepared to blame it on one facility. "There was no 100 percent guarantee that Penske was 100 percent responsible," he said. "We've done a cleanup, and we were satisfied."

The MDEQ has no charges pending, but may require Penske to file a Waste Manage-

ment Plan.

"Oil operations aren't particularly pristine," Friese said. "You will obviously get a buildup. The sewer was subject to a migration of oil for some time. This was an open roadway with a parking lot."

However, Kevin Gushman, the Farmington Department of Public Services director and its chief building official, said this type of oil situation isn't a common occurrence in Farmington. Gushman was out of town the day of the incident, which was handled by another DPW employee.

"A resident spotted an oily sheen on the creek," Gushman said. "Typically we don't see oil in the waterway around here."

A Farmington DPW worker found the source of the spill. That source was the Penske Auto Center, Gushman said.

"Penske did not dispute it," Gushman said. "We looked for where there is an outlet which shows signs of oil. It is a matter of chasing it down."

Gushman said the City of Farmington may be able to seek financial reimbursement for his department's time and vehicle use estimated to be about \$200.

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