

# Rogers keeps important lunch date - with Bush

**BY PAUL R. PACE**  
STAFF WRITER

Oakland County Commissioner Mike Rogers, who represents the 14th District, was invited to lunch with a special guest Friday - none other than President George W. Bush.

"It was a great honor," Rogers said via cell phone after the ceremony that was part of a Black History Month celebration.

Rogers said he was among 30 guests invited to lunch with the president and Secretary of State Colin Powell, as well as other high level dignitaries in Washington, D.C.

Rogers, a Republican, said Bush talked about the possible war with Iraq and terrorism.



Rogers

"He said he is trying to exhaust every possibility before going to war," Rogers said. "He also talked about North Korea ... It was like a briefing of things happening in the country."

Rogers said the lunch was informal; guests enjoyed a shrimp appetizer then beef tenderloin with vegetables and later ice cream and pastries with coffee.

Rogers is also in Washington this week attending the National Association of Counties conference. He said he is spreading the message to federal leaders about the importance of providing assistance at the county level.

"We need help within our community," he said.

"We will talk about the budget difficulties we are having and the need for additional dollars," Rogers added. "We don't want to lay off people."

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# 'Schoolhouse Rock' auditions scheduled for March 10 in Hills

This spring begins an exciting new Youth Theatre series, with an opportunity for young thespians to take part in a live musical performance.

The City of the Farmington Hills Special Services Department's Cultural Arts Division, along with Sky's the Limit Productions, will be presenting the on-stage version of the classic 70's educational cartoon, School House Rock.

Open auditions will be held at 6:30 p.m. Monday, March 10 at the Costick Center in Farmington Hills. Young actors of all levels between the ages of 5 and 17 are welcome to audition. Audition pieces will be assigned that evening.

The School House Rock theatre class production will give children hands on experience working on a theatre production from beginning to end. Anyone cast in the performance will automatically be qualified to enroll in the theatre performance class.

Rehearsals run Monday, March 17 through May 7. Performances will be held at 7 p.m. Thursday, May 8 and 1 p.m. and 7 p.m. Saturday, May 10. All children in the cast will receive four complimentary tickets.

Enrollment is limited. For more information, call the Farmington Hills Cultural Arts Division at (248) 473-1857.

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# Halsted Association members prepared to help each other

**BY PAUL R. PACE**  
STAFF WRITER

Donald Millington's subdivision may be small, but residents there know how to help each other in time of need.

If a tornado or severe storm ever affected their subdivision, there's a plan among the residents who are members of the Historic Halsted Homeowners Association, located north of 12 Mile.

"It's something everyone should be doing," Millington said.

He serves on the Farmington Hills' Local Preparedness Committee, a group of city officials and residents who are coming up with ways to help get the word out about how residents can help themselves in times of trouble.

With federal officials urging residents to be prepared for terrorists attacks, keeping a three-day pack of survival gear is recommended along with the popular duct tape and plastic sheeting supplies.

Local officials have also encouraged neighbors to look out for one another, and Millington reiterated what's been said in the past: when disaster strikes, police and fire personnel can only be in so many places at once.

"The key is planning ahead and working together," said Millington, who is also a former planning commissioner.

"We have a phone tree," he said of his neighborhood association. One person will call two neighbors inquiring if they need help, then those two people call two more people and so on, until the list is complete.

The list also contains back-up numbers for family members away from the area.

"We're also getting a list together of what people have as far as equipment like chainsaws," said Millington. "Instead of wasting time, we know we'd be able to help each other."

Simply put, he said, "We have a matrix of helping one another."

He also showed two bags of supplies that could easily support his wife, mother-in-law, and himself for three days.

Millington said being prepared for emergencies is simple once you start the process.

"Self-help transcends to helping your neighbors," he said. "You should get to know who they are and know them better."

Millington said he can be reached at (248) 553-3353 by homeowners association members interested in starting a preparedness program in their neighborhood.

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Don Millington is prepared for potential disaster.



Don Millington's disaster preparedness kit contains a radio powered by turning a crank on a built-in generator. Sixty turns powers the radio for one hour.

# Foundation created for Maybury Farm

The Northville Community Foundation has created an Endowment Fund for the Maybury Farm.

In light of the recent fire at the Farm, the Northville Community Foundation has begun this fund to help rebuild the barn, replenish animals, and for the basic upkeep of the Maybury Farm.

The Friends of Maybury president, Ed Pierce, felt this endowment might encourage more people to donate especially since the Foundation is State Certified which allows for an additional 50 percent tax credit.

To donate please send checks payable to the Northville Community Foundation - Maybury Farm, 321 N. Center, Ste. 130, Northville, MI 48167.

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