

OBITUARIES

Richard C. Phillips
Services for Richard Clark Phillips, 76, of Novi will be held at 10 a.m. Monday, April 21, at Our Lady of Sorrows Catholic Church in Farmington with the Rev. Ronald Browne officiating. Burial will follow at Oakland Hills Memorial Gardens in Novi.

Mr. Phillips was born May 20, 1924, in Grand Rapids and died April 16, 2003, at Henry Ford Hospital in Detroit. At an early age, he had a desire to learn to fly. He worked planes at Grand Rapids Airport in exchange for flying lessons from the pilots.

Mr. Phillips joined the R.O.T.C. at Central High School and when World War II broke out, he and his R.O.T.C. classmates were ordered to secure Grand Rapids airport. He enlisted in the Army Air Corps in June of 1942 and earned many medals which included the good conduct medal, the victory medal, American theatre ribbon, the Asia Pacific theatre ribbon and two bronze battle stars, two overseas service bars and one service strip.

After the war, Mr. Phillips graduated from the University of Michigan School of Engineering and began his career in aerospace with Lear Corporation.

He left Lear for a career in manufacturing with Lebow Associates and distinguished

himself as an inventor and was awarded a U.S. patent.

He was a member of the Farmington Genealogy Club, the American Legion - Grand Rapids post, and a past member of the Society of Automotive Engineers. Mr. Phillips had a great interest in computers and the latest technology.

He is survived by his wife, Beverly; son, Richard (Lisa); step-daughters, Michelle (Patrick) Cosman, Jill Drayle and Paula (Kenneth) Winn; twin sister, Mary Smith; eight grandchildren; and several nieces, nephews and cousins.

Memorial contributions may be made to the American Diabetes Association.

Arrangements made by Heenev-Sundquist Funeral Home in Farmington.

PARKING

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Farmington Road, where his valets are stationed.

The public doesn't have to frequent his business or say where they are going. Cowley said he made the "no strings" offer as an immediate short-term solution.

It's taken time for the word to get out. Patrons of the historic Civic Theatre on Grand River have used the valet service, Cowley said.

DIFFERENT VIEWS

Mike Nowak, who owns nearby Legato, suggested Cowley move his valet service to a center island in the parking lot or provide, at his expense, additional valets, who are paid by the hour at the other end of the lot. Cowley said he wasn't willing to do all that.

Nowak shared with the board a Power Point presentation with numerous photos, pointing out some specific problems. He also distributed the results of a questionnaire asking businesses to record information like the number of day and night shift employees and challenges they face.

Nowak organized a business coalition called C.O.P.P.E.R. which stands for Coalition of Partners Parking Efficiency Remedies.

Cowley said he hasn't been invited to the C.O.P.P.E.R. meetings to present his side. He's working with the city to place signs informing the public of the available complimentary parking.

"We've tried to create a destination environment," Cowley said. "We've seen a 20 percent reduction in gross sales since

the first two weeks and it is leveling off."

Cowley's is a boon to the Farmington community, city officials say.

Farmington Public Safety Director Gary Goss said his department has tried to address parking issues. "We need to get some time under our belt," he said.

Goss said the community needs to know the city has been working on addressing the parking situation by paying close attention to where employees and delivery trucks park.

More meetings involving all parties are in order, Goss said.

ONGOING ISSUE

He pointed out that parking has been a difficult situation for all the 25 years he's worked in Farmington. The City of Farmington did a downtown parking analysis in 2000. This year, between April 10 and 14, police did a time lapse study using their in-car cameras.

"We did not find any back-ups on Farmington Road," Goss said. "We did not find valets parking in the municipal lot."

The city had asked valets not to stage cars in the municipal lot.

"Cowley's and Legato is doing a very good job of keeping their employees out of the lot," Goss said.

The parking problem will be exacerbated when Farmington Road construction north of Grand River to Shiawassee begins in July, Nowak said. He advised maximizing the lot at Masonic Temple, changing traffic patterns and training customers to use the valet service to reduce the pressure on the lot north of Grand River.

"Parking is considered by this board a lot," said Danae Reynolds. "Wait and see what happens is the right approach during this six-week process. This board can't deal with something until we know what it's leveling off."

The board is also dealing with a paradox related to human nature. People who

shop at Twelve Oaks Mall don't have a problem parking a quarter mile, Reynolds said. "They come to downtown Farmington and they want to find a space in front of a business as soon as they get there."

During the 2000 traffic study, the city found a parking structure would cost at least \$10,000 a space, Goss said. "A 100-space parking lot would cost us a million dollars. When we looked at it, we got sticker shock. If we were going to look at that, we would need help financially."

There's also the issue of where a structure would be placed, he said. "We're going to run into, 'Not in my backyard.'"

Board Member Bob DeCorte, who works with the Traffic Improvement Association, encouraged more discussions with the Cowley organization. Consolidating Dumpsters at one end to free up space is an excellent idea, he said.

"I cover all of Oakland County. I have looked at downtowns in Northville, Plymouth, Bloomington, Birmingham and Brighton. They all have traffic problems. The businesses love the traffic problems. The businesses hate the traffic problems. We will work on this as a unit because we all have different perspectives."

David Judge, who worked on a project to build a downtown Pavilion, urged the board to study the parking situation further because similar problems may happen when the Pavilion is built in July. Anything that draws more people downtown will lead to the need for more parking. "We need a long-term solution," Judge said.

"Cowley's is the best thing that has happened to this community since David Judge and I invented the Pavilion," said resident Walt Gajewski. "The alternate solution is to pony up and build a parking structure."

Gajewski suggested finding a consultant or a skilled grant writer.

MORE CONCERN

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FARMINGTON COMMUNITY LIBRARY NEWS

The following Farmington/Farmington Hills residents winners in the annual Farmington Community Library Teen Creative Writing Competition for 2003:

Poetry, 11-14 years
1st place - *The Celestials* by Maria Elkins, Power Middle School
2nd place - *Hot Red* by Mark Duszkiewicz, Power Middle School
3rd place - *Family Photo* by Lauren Wolff, Dunckel Middle School

Poetry, 15-19 years
1st place - *Paper* by Karen Kudelko, Mercy High School
2nd place - *Routine* by Megan Myers, Mercy High School

3rd place - *I Never Loved Holden Caulfield* by Natalie Gerald, Mercy High School

Prose, 11-14 years
1st place - *The Muffin Man* by Steve Tomkovich, Dunckel Middle School
2nd place - *Midnight Flash* by Maricelle Temkin, Dunckel Middle School
3rd place - *The Wings of a Dream* by Melah Bansil, Detroit Country Day School

Prose, 15-19 years
1st place - *John's Dragster* by Kevan Ventura, Harrison High School
2nd place - *Cold* by Cynthia Okochukwu, Farmington High School
3rd place - *Stuck in the*

Moment by Jodi Orloff, North Farmington High School

Essay, 11-14 years
1st place - *A Star in the Waters* by Megan Pryce, St. Fabian School
2nd place - *Stuffy* by Eric Ingroy, Our Lady of Sorrows School
3rd place - *Demom* by Corrin Sitto, Dunckel Middle School

Essay, 15-19 years
1st place - *The Odyssey or the Odious* by Sophie Best, North Farmington High School
2nd place - *Racism: Social Suicide* by James Dwyer, Farmington High School
3rd place - *Dutiful Daughters* by Elizabeth Williams, Mercy High School

Looking for new decorating ideas? Read the At Home section every Thursday in the Observer.

Embarrassed By Your Smile?

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Arthritis Today
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FOOT PAIN

You might think that the reason for sudden foot pain is easy to find. Sudden and intense pain in the foot is not. But that isn't true. To qualify as gout, the pain must be at the base of the first toe. If the pain is anywhere else in the foot, the cause is not gout. The properties of the joint at the first toe, called the first MTP (Metatarsal-Phalangeal), are such to make that joint the targeted one for gout. The first MTP is far enough away from the body's core temperature to cause gout crystals to cool and aggregate, and the joint is big enough to support the number of crystals needed to cause pain.

Another cause of foot pain is tendinitis of the peroneal brevis tendon. This condition occurs because the tendon anchors into the base of the fifth toe. This site is closest to the shoe. If your footwear is tight against your foot, the shoe will rub at that point; the irritation can cause sudden pain in the tendon that looks and feels exactly like gout.

Sudden and intense pain can result from a neuroma between your toes. In this condition a normal nerve ending becomes enlarged and hypersensitive. Slight pressure against the enlarged nerve causes intense pain.

Physicians are aware of these other reasons for foot pain. Do not be surprised that your doctor doesn't treat you for gout even though your pain looks and acts like it. Nature is at once obvious and deceptive.

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