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Washing up

Milan Atka, of Farmington, seemed to be a little bored while his father was getting the car filled up at the gas station on Middle Belt and Grand River last week. So Milan decided to

speed things up a little by cleaning the windows. Milan, 5, starts first grade in the fall. (Photo by Craig Newman)

Farmington Hills residents seeks Miss Michigan title

By FELICA KOSYLANSKI

As the entry blanks come in for next month's Miss Farmington pageant, the present titleholder will be in Muskegon, vying for the Miss Michigan crown.

Nineteen-year-old Susan Reed of Farmington Hills captured the local title last year in her first competition. The pageant was one of the activities in the Farmington Festival. "I entered the contest not knowing that it was connected to the Miss Michigan pageant," Susan explained. "In the past the winner became the Farmington Festival Queen. Last year was the first time they also made it the Miss Farmington pageant."

Winning the title made her eligible for the state competition which begins June 16. Contestants compete in swimsuit, evening gown and talent categories, as well as being interviewed by the judges.

Susan, who just returned from Miami's Institute and Fine Arts College of Fashion, has been busy sewing the evening gown she'll wear in competition.

The white chiffon and tulle gown with head bodice is just one of the many dresses that Susan designed and sewed herself.

"I REALLY feel that sewing my own wardrobe helped me in last year's pageant," she said. "A lot of the girls did sewing for the talent segment of the competition, but sewing the clothes I wore was an extra touch."

For the talent section Susan will perform the number that helped win for her last year—"The Laughing Song" from the operetta "The Pied Piper."

Susan will study voice next fall at Eastern Michigan University. Her scholarship from the Miss Farmington pageant will pay for the tuition.

Susan feels the scholarships offered have changed the image of beauty contests.

"Most people don't realize this, but they aren't called beauty pageants any more," she explained. "Now it's



SUSAN REED

the Miss Michigan scholarship pageant which means we're competing on the basis of our talent and intelligence...

Commission hears rezoning requests

FARMINGTON—The Farmington Hills Planning Commission will hold public hearings at 8 p.m. Thursday, June 19. Several rezoning requests are on the agenda. They include:

•A change from a one family residential (R-1) to special purpose (SP-4) for use as a skating rink. The property lies north of Freedom Road and east of Drake Road.

•The rezoning of a one family residential to a planned residential (RP-1) on 47 acres between Nine and Ten Mile and between Inkster Road and Old Farm Colony.

"I had to do a lot of research into women's lib, politics, religion—subjects I'd have to have a standpoint on in case the judges asked."

The Farmington Chamber of Commerce will sponsor Susan's trip to Muskegon for the pageant, and pay for her expenses while there. But competing in the contest will still be a costly affair for the Reed.

"We have to buy our own material for the production number outfits, to mention all the money spent on different clothes and accessories for the six days I'll be in Muskegon," Susan said.

"Also, I had to send a tape of my voice, and pay for pictures and an orchestra arrangement. Things like that all add up."

But if Susan comes home with the Miss Michigan crown, all the time and money will have been well spent. The winner of that competition receives a full scholarship to the college of her choice, and a trip to the Miss America pageant in Atlantic City.

•The request for rezoning a one family residential to an office service district at 39791 and 39713 West Ten Mile Road.

•A change from office service to Community Business District (B-3) on Grand River between Haledale and Drake Roads.

Two requests for special approvals are also on the agenda for the meeting. They are:

•The use of the northwest corner of Grand River and I-75 expressway intersection for open storage on a 1.1-acre site.

•The request to use location of 39444 Haggerty Road for outside storage of building materials and equipment.

Violence pervades society, experts say

By CORINNE ABATT

Like it or not, we are a society which sanctions violence. In doing so, we open ourselves up for crimes such as the recent killing of 16-year-old Joan Wagner of Farmington Hills.

Two psychiatrists, Dr. Joel Dreyer and Dr. Harvey Halberstadt, and psychologist Gary Ruderman, approach the problem of juvenile crime from slightly different angles but arrive at similar conclusions.

Halberstadt says the type of situation which could foster such a crime is a family which has a pathology of outbursts, hitting and threats of killing. The youngster has poor self-control, a vulnerability for violence, and a tendency toward "acting out."

When very young, a child watches cartoons on television with violence in them. Later, adult programs with violence attract him.

"This, in his mind," says Halberstadt, "becomes sanctioned behavior on television and also sanctioned within the home."

THE CHILD, given certain circumstances, could impulsively act out the violent behavior. Or the child could plan violence with sadomasochistic intent.

"From his point of view," Halberstadt says, "he has been sanctioned."

He adds firmly, "It's awfully damn naive to say that movie and TV violence has no effect and that we're getting away with this."

He quotes a documented study of a random sample of persons, male and female, broad economic and educational representation.

The types of programs they watched and the amount of TV per day were analyzed. There was an indisputable relationship between amount of television time and belief in what was seen and heard.

"We've gotta stop it," Halberstadt says.

Dreyer spoke of the violence in television and movies saying films of the two biggest box office draws, Charles Bronson and Clint Eastwood, "reek with violence."

Dreyer went several steps further in his analysis of a violent society—the Vietnam war, which had a terrible effect on our society," news of government approved assassinations, corruption at all levels of government, racism and drugs.

The total disenchantment of the country's youth is a result of the corruption and violence which they see all around them, he says.

"TO YOUNG PEOPLE and college students, it appears to be flames all over again. In my family, corporation or government, the problem starts at

'Certainly the trend to permissiveness starts at the top. The young people see our leaders take a buck, take a trip, order an assassination or two....'

—Dr. Joel Dreyer

the top. Every day they see corruption in government, people at all levels who are not competent, who do not have integrity.

"Certainly the trend to permissiveness starts at the top. The young people see our leaders take a buck, take a trip, order an assassination or two and they think what's good for the goose is good for the gander. It's a crazy hell game and it's time for new rules."

He gives examples of violence and the signs of disenchantment and despair which are steadily mounting—the Godfather movies, the Kent State riots which he says most people were unaware were over the bombing of Cambodia, archaic laws, lack of gun control and the growing popularity of George Wallace.

"The same George Wallace who stood on the steps of the school building and said 'no black will enter here.'"

AS FURTHER PROOF of the disenchantment he uses the fact that the

graduating class of Harvard chose Mohammad Ali for its graduation speaker and rejected offers of Henry Kissinger and President Gerald Ford. It is the complete lack of integrity at all levels of our society that troubles Dreyer. He compares it to the days of the Weimar Republic in Germany just before the Nazis took over.

"The phenomena we're seeing is not new. I'm not aware of statistics to validate an increased homicide rate among children, but the suicides are definitely up. In our clinic we are aware of more self-destruction and much more property destruction."

Psychologist Gary Ruderman agrees there is a relationship between crimes and exposure to violence.

"THE AMOUNT of violence people are exposed to, either written or visual, is directly correlated to the amount of violent behavior which comes from that group. There is no question the movies and TV have a awful lot to do with it."

Juvenile law needs change, Hand says

District Court Judge Michael Hand said the rising crime rate among juveniles means changes are needed in the criminal code.

It was recent murder of 10-year-old Joan Wagner of Farmington Hills by a 14-year-old youth which prompted his thought.

"A kid 14 can't even be tried on a felony, and the courts can't do anything until the legislature gives them the power."

The youth fatally stabbed the girl, if convicted, he could be held only until he is 19.

In calling for a reform of the juvenile criminal code, Hand also said society must be prepared to do something about a known potentially dangerous youth whose family fails to recognize the danger signals or fails to do something about them.

"Right now, we are not equipped to handle such a situation and that is awful."

Hand continues, "We're running into more and more juvenile violence. Did you know that there was almost \$300,000 in vandalism damage done to our schools last year? These are vicious, malicious acts."

It was Hand who announced this month that he intended to impose a special job assignment to youths found guilty of malicious destruction of property. In addition to the fine and restitution costs, the child is ordered during the guilty to work weekends cleaning up parks and roadways.

Several are already at work, Hand said adding "and when they have to hand an arm and a back to a task rather than just pay a fine, it makes a difference."

2 women show

By CORINNE ABATT

The glass recycling center by the Farmington Hills city hall is busier than ever. It has been a glass month according to Mrs. Nancy Kourlian.

The major portion of this message comes on Saturday mornings when the center is officially opened and named—go, woman!

Mrs. Kourlian, an outspoken environmentalist who backs up her personal commitment with action, is at the center each Saturday morning. She sorts by color—clear, green, brown—and removes the metal rings from the bottles. Heavy metal labels also have to be removed, paper ones can stay.

The Farmington Hills council put \$4,000 into the center for cement, paint and a car port. The Earth Alive group which fostered the project, so far, has been able to return \$200 of that.

THE GOING RATE for recycled glass is about \$30 per ton. During the week, a truck hauls the glass to Owens, Ill., for recycling.

While the glass recycling is a step in the right direction, Mrs. Kourlian favors a stronger attack on waste. She would like to see the state enact House Bill 4264 which bans the use of non-returnables known as the "bottle bill."

It bothers her that super market shoppers seldom have a choice of buying drinks in either returnable or non-returnable containers.

"There's practically no choice. The public has been forced to accept the throwaways."

She attended a waste reduction conference in Washington, D.C. last April

and her beliefs in the conservation of energy and resources.

"The EPA (Environmental Protection Agency) is backing waste reduction including the bottle bill."

She says that ideally the total use of returnables would be planned in a period of time, so workers in industries affected could be directed to other jobs. In the course of the plan, some jobs would be dropped and new ones created.

While Earth Alive may sound like the kind of an operation to which hundreds would belong, it is practically a two-woman organization. The other half is Mary Johnston who headed the papermobile project no longer in action.

"THE MAIN FUNCTION of Earth Alive," says its president, "is to distribute information and make the public aware of environmental problems."

Earth Alive also clips rings from

bottles, and moves heavy containers around the center. Workers end up with what Mrs. Kourlian calls "recycler's elbow."

But, for her, it's all worth it. The cars do line up on Saturday mornings, energy is being saved, the city is slowly being paid back and people are getting involved.

WHEN SHE isn't working at the glass recycling center, the energetic Earth Alive founder is running a busy household with five of eight children still living at home, and working toward a degree in anthropology at Oakland University.

Earth Alive was organized on the first Earth Day in the spring of 1970. It has not been an easy task to keep it breathing, but now, finally, Mrs. Kourlian thinks she is getting the kind of awareness and cooperation on the part of the public that she has been after for so long.

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Wild flowers in Farmington? A Farmington subdivision has wild flowers galore. For a look at the flowers and their fanciers, turn to Farmington Life, Page 18.