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Jaycee rock concert fest riles residents

By C.J. RISAK

Four consecutive nights of rock concerts are the cause of apprehension by both Farmington Hills officials and residents.

The City Council has threatened to cancel the concerts if any trouble occurs Thursday night. It will meet at 8 a.m. Friday to make a decision.

Performing in the Pleasant Valley subdivision have made threats of legal action to obtain an injunction and stop the concerts. The site of the concerts, south of 12 Mile Road and west of

Drake, borders the subdivision.

The concerts are part of the July Fest, sponsored by the Farmington Jaycees as part of the Founder's Fest.

The shows are scheduled to begin Thursday night with Tilt as the opening night performing group.

Muggy will play on Friday night, with The Look on Saturday and Mitch Ryder Sunday. All will begin at 8 p.m., with the exception of Sunday's show, which will start at 7 p.m.

Jaycee president Jim Mitchell sites overreaction by the public as the only problem facing the concerts.

"Some people are concerned, because it's rock and roll and we're selling beer, that we'll have problems," Mitchell said. "But other Jaycees have sponsored this type of program and haven't had any problem."

"If beer becomes a problem, we'll just shut the beer tent down."

Local officials expressed concern over possible security problems during the concerts. Farmington Hills police Chief John Nichols claimed the force was not notified what the Jaycees were planning in adequate time to plan for security.

"WE MIGHT BE taking a pessimistic view of the whole thing," Nichols said. "We're taking the conservative view, we're not trying anything contentious in a small area, like this, which is traditionally an emotionally uplifting experience. We want to be on the safe side."

"We would just like to have gotten it planned as early as possible."

The site of the July Fest is 40 acres of ground which is completely fenced in, according to Mitchell. The area could hold 3,500 people, but "we're not anticipating crowds that large."

Security has been beefed up for the concert, as well as the rest of the Founder's Fest, according to Nichols.

"We'll stake as many extra officers as possible to handle the crowd and the traffic (at the July Fest)," Nichols said. "That's one of our main concern."

Additional security will be provided by the Jaycees, with all of the 190 members working at the Fest sometime over the weekend.

"The planning for this project has been done very well," Mitchell said. "We wanted to have it in an isolated area, and we are."

If advance ticket sales are any indication, overflow crowds will not be a problem. On Tuesday, only \$700 worth of ticket had been sold for the four performances.

Money the Jaycees do earn will, in part, go towards paying off a \$50,000 pledge made to the Farmington YMCA, located at 12 Mile and Farmington roads.

The July Fest, which will also feature games, rides and a midway, will be open from noon until 11 p.m., Thursday through Sunday.

2 are disqualified

Hopefuls crowd council ballot

Eleven candidates including four incumbents have tossed their hats into the political ring for four seats on the Farmington Hills City Council.

Candidates are vying for three four-year terms and one two-year term. The field will be cut to nine on the Sept. 11 primary. The general election is slated for Nov. 11.

All but two had filed by the 4 p.m. deadline Tuesday at the Farmington Hills City Clerk's office. Robert Anolovar and Alex Terzian III turned in the required petitions bearing 99 signatures just minutes after 4 p.m.

City Clerk Floyd Cairns determined their applications were invalid because they applied after the deadline.

Anolovar is president of the Homeowners Association of Farmington Hills. Terzian is that group's legal adviser.

Incumbents Jan Dolan, Cathy Jones,

Joanne Smith and D. Keith Deacon all cited the proposed government-financed senior citizen housing project as a major reason for seeking re-election.

"I have to see this thing through. I couldn't stop now," said Mrs. Dolan, who has served on the council five years.

She was appointed first to complete the final year of Judge Margaret Schaeffer's term, then was elected to a four-year term.

"SENIOR CITIZENS are the main project I'd like to see fulfilled, but there are other things: paved sidewalks on major roads, an economic development commission, zoning concerns," said Mrs. Jones, who has served on the council since January 1977.

Mrs. Jones is a teacher at Larkshire Elementary School.

"It takes a while to really know how to be a good representative and how to serve the people," said Mrs. Smith. "The senior housing issue has been simmering for 12 years and now it's at full boil."

"We've worked hard on behalf of so many. I think continuity is essential now."

Mrs. Smith has been on the council for four years. Prior to that, she was on the Farmington Hills Zoning Board of Appeals and subsequently served on the Farmington Hills Advisory Council.

Deacon is a 6-year council veteran.

"We're at the position where our 6-year-old city needs very solid plans. I still think I have something to offer," he said.

Others who are running include Shir-

ley Stadler, a member of the Farmington Hills Planning Commission; Terry Sever, past president of the Farmington Jaycees and current board chairman; and William Lange, a corporate attorney for Detroit Edison.

William Schaeffer, son of Farmington District Judge Margaret Schaeffer, and a graduate of the University of Michigan, has also filed.

Other candidates include Michael O'Hair, president of the Springfield LaMuera Civic Association; Jack Burwell, a Farmington attorney; and Don Wolf, legislative coordinator for Detroit Edison's community and government affairs division.

Haste makes fire in do it yourself service stations

By MARY GNIEWEK

"One of these days someone is going to burn himself and that will be the end of self-service gas pumps."

Those words spoken by Alex Fischer, who owns Fischer's Shell Station in Farmington Hills, seem to be the consensus of a sampling of a dozen gas station owners and attendants who regard the average self-service customer as careless and negligent.

"I just had a visitor who came late Monday afternoon in Farmington when a customer drove out of Knight's Mobil Service, 31233 Grand River, with a gas hose wrapped around the bumper of his car."

"The pump crashed to the ground. The glass window broke, sparks ignited and a fire started," said station attendant Bob Vogler, who was on duty.

Though no one was hurt, flames shot as high as the electric lights above the pumps. Another motorist who was filling his motorcycle's gas tank at the last pump escaped injury, but his bike caught fire.

"This was the third time in the two months that has happened out there," said Farmington police officer Joe Schornack.

"People pull in, their back bumper hooks the hose, and the pump falls down when they drive away."

SCHORNACK SAID in one of the previous accidents, Knight was cleared for a violation: the pump that was dragged down had not been properly repaired.

Owner Carroll Knight was not available for comment.

Schornack blames the recurring, potentially lethal, situation on both customer and station carelessness. He said Farmington Fire Marshal Norm Madelius will investigate the station.

"It never happens at other self serve stations," Schornack said.

Though other stations are not plagued with burning pumps, they have problems such as customers driving away with hoses in their cars, or crashing into pumps or oil can displays.

Some motorists overfill their gasolines because they pump too fast. If the pump has no automatic turn off, the fuel splashes out at them. And some people simply drive away without paying.

"People are generally careless. They get out of the car with a cigarette dangling out of their mouth. On weekends, they pull in drunk and try to pump gas," said Shell dealer Fischer.

"Or they stick the hose nozzle into their car, then put their gas cap back in, which cuts off the flow. They should hold it (the cap) or put it on the bumper."

Ron Benner, who owns Benner's Standard on Farmington and Nine Mile roads, feels more customers are going back to full service gas pumps since the gap between full and self serve prices is dropping.

"THEY PUMP too fast, which causes carelessness," said an employee of the Speedway gas station on Orchard Lake Road in Farmington Hills.

"They're always in a hurry. That's why they stop here," she said.

Speedway employees offered tips customers should keep in mind while pumping their own fuel.

"Park your car so that the gas cap is within easy reach of the hose so that the hose doesn't get knotted or twisted around the car's bumper.

Doug Buckley really does say, "Egad," "Curses" and "Gazooz" in his role as Cyril Bothingwell when the Farmington Players stage "Caught in the Villain's Web." Story and pictures of the old-fashioned melodrama are in today's Suburban Life Section. (Photo by Jim Holmstead)

Curses

Merchants are hot over federal energy proposal

By C.J. RISAK

When President Carter gave his energy address to the nation last week, one point he made very clear was that thermostats in all business and public buildings must be turned up to 78 degrees.

That intention, coupled with the president's proposal to strictly enforce the policy, isn't going over too big with Farmington merchants.

"Put it down in the paper — it stinks," was how Mark Bushing, manager of the Kmart store at 37175 Grand River, reacted to the president's proposal.

"People (shoppers) are complaining about it, but what can I say?" Bushing said. "I tell them we're complying with federal regulations. (I tell them) Write their congressman, or write Jim (President Carter)."

Most local businesses felt that increasing the temperature would affect their stores would have a definite effect on business. Both the Pier One Imports and Brands, two newly opened stores in the old Federal's building on Grand River near the Downtown Center, operate on the same thermostat. And both expressed the same feelings toward the temperature policy.

"When the air conditioning was out of order last week, people were just walking in and out of the store," said Margaret Delaney, manager of Pier One Imports.

LARRY DOODY, MANAGER of the neighboring Brands store, shared Delaney's feelings.

"When it broke down . . . we had our worst day of business in two months of operation at this location," Doody said.

Although he has no control over his store's temperature (the thermostat is in the Imports store), Doody feels their sales may not be able to go on with the high temperature.

"For competitive reasons, we may have to keep it down. But if everyone else turns it up, then we'd keep ours up," he said.

The energy-saving policy isn't anything new. For years, the government has asked people to voluntarily turn down thermostats in the winter and raise them in the summer. But Carter's plan to enforce the policy has several big companies scared.

Farmington's Kmart, Pier One Imports and Brands are all parts of larger chains of stores. All three managers commented that they had received notices from their chain offices to comply with the higher temperature policy.

The government threatened to fine stores that didn't comply, according to one source.

"I don't want to lose my job," was how Delaney explained it.

Enforcement of the policy by government officials has yet to happen. Local officials have denied any authority over businesses not keeping in line.

WE'VE ESTABLISHED a policy for setting thermostats (in our buildings) according to the president's address," said Farmington City Manager Bob Deadman.

"But the president is going to have to establish some enforcement procedure (for businesses). I imagine he'll try to go to the states and get them to enforce it, but I don't know."

Other public buildings are keeping pace and turning up the thermostats. The Farmington libraries, both the main and the city branches, have upped the temperatures despite not having to comply.

"Libraries and museums are exempt (because of possible damage to rare volumes or exhibits)," said Barbara Walker, head librarian at the city branch. "But we don't have anything that the higher temperatures will damage, so we felt we should comply."

Walker also pointed to closed curtains and turned-off lights "which normally aren't like that," as efforts to keep the temperature down.

The effect the heat is having on shoppers is only one of the worries Farmington merchants have expressed. Many feel the higher temperatures will have a detrimental effect on store workers.

Bill Zalewski, assistant manager of the A & P food store in the Downtown Center, summed it: "The people shopping don't notice it so much, but the workers do."

inside

ON THE GO?



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