

Bar porter's murder probed

Detroit homicide investigators have little information to go on in investigating the Aug. 13 murder of William E. Morgan, 39, a former Farmington resident, killed after-hours at Detroit's Winter Garden Bar.

Detroit Police Sgt. Jim Dowd says Morgan was killed by multiple gunshots in his chest sometime between 3-9 a.m. on Aug. 13 during an apparent robbery by two or more persons.

"It doesn't appear that there was a struggle," Dowd says.

A barmaid who opened the bar the following morning at 9:05 a.m. found Morgan's body along with a safe that had been forced open, said Adrienne Watt, public information officer for the Detroit Police Department.

It is not known how much money was taken in the robbery and police have no suspects in custody. The bar is at 22909 Eight Mile Road, between Lahser and Berg.

Morgan was working as a watchman and night porter at the club the last few months, according to the bar owner.

Morgan is survived by a daughter, Elizabeth Ann; parents, Mr. and Mrs.

William P. Morgan and a sister, Julia Fenner.

Services were conducted at the Henry-Sundquist Funeral Home in Farmington with the Rev. James Wright officiating. Burial was in Oakwood Cemetery.

Prior tabbed as sales chief

National Starch and Chemical Corp. has announced the promotion of John M. Prior to sales development manager for the Bondmaster Automotive Department, Bondmaster Division at the company's Farmington Hills facility.

Prior, who joined National in 1972 as a sales representative, previously served as a sales development specialist for the company. He received a bachelor of science degree in business administration from Loyola College, Baltimore, and is a member of the Detroit Rubber Group.

Islamic culture is preserved by group's local headquarters

By Mary Rodriguez editor

Flags of the United States and Canada fly over the Federation of Islamic Associations, headquartered in Redford Township.

The flags symbolize the North American unity of the Muslim community, according to Nihad Hamed, secretary general of the Islamic organization.

"Because Islam is exposed to misinformation and myth, as a federation, we are dedicated to clarifying the meaning of Islam as a faith and a way of life," he said.

"WE ARE UNITED to protect the ethics, traditions and values of the Muslim people."

Founded 31 years ago in Iowa by Americans of the Islamic faith, the non-profit organization today has 350,000 members in the U.S. and Canada, according to Hamed, an Egyptian native.

"Islam is everywhere in the world," he said. "We represent 14 Arab nations, also Turks, Ukrainians, Pakistanis, Filipinos. We are united to protect Islam."

Protection includes preservation of the religious and cultural beliefs that Muslims share. Housed at 25351 Five Mile Road, the FIA operates an anti-defamation office, publishes a monthly magazine

called the Muslim Star, has a Council of Imams (Islamic scholars or priests) who offer guidance for American-born Muslims, a pilgrimage committee, and non-voting representation in the United Nations.

Hamed's position, to which he was elected 1 1/2 years ago, is voluntary. A mechanical engineer who has lived in the U.S. 15 years, Hamed's FIA office reflects American patriotism as well as a dedication to Islam.

A COPY OF the U.S. Bill of Rights and Declaration of Independence decorate the walls near a photo of worshippers at Mecca. Sharing a library shelf with Islam's holy book, the Koran, is a Congressional directory.

Despite fraternal overtones, the organization takes political stands. A Telex machine is at the ready to transmit telegrams to the White House and the organization recently purchased a machine that makes bumper stickers. It's been utilized so far to produce a dozen political slogan stickers.

From the 31st annual convention held earlier this month at the Renaissance Center, the FIA mailed 10,000 postcards to President Reagan condemning the Israeli invasion of Lebanon and supporting statehood for Palestinians.

That convention drew picketing by

members of local Zionist organizations.

"WE PREFER NOT to take any political action but we can't stand idle with this (situation in Lebanon) taking place," Hamed said.

"Our humanitarian duty is to speak up and express our unhappiness. We feel that as Americans we have a commitment to our Constitution to speak up in order to prevent any future damage."

"It's in our national, political and

economic interest that we don't neglect our humanitarian goals."

Hamed says there are one billion Muslims worldwide and he sees the FIA as a tool for bridging the various factions.

"We must stand with them to enhance our interests all over the world."

The Redford site was chosen as national headquarters two years ago. An affiliate office is located in Toronto, Ontario.

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