

Farmington Observer

Volume 96 Number 65

Thursday, May 23, 1985

Farmington, Michigan

78 Pages

Twenty-five cents

©1985 Suburban Communications Corporation. All Rights Reserved.

Anti-drink campaign founders

By Joanna Maliszewski
staff writer

Mike Bistorek hopes several hundred parents will attend a meeting about drunk driving at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, May 29, in the Farmington High School auditorium. The meeting is sponsored by Farmington High School Students Against Driving Drunk (SADD).

Last week, North Farmington's SADD chapter attracted just 30 people to a similar meeting. "Some parents are just unaware of what their kids are doing," Bistorek

said. A graduating senior, Bistorek is president of Farmington High's SADD chapter. He organized the SADD chapter earlier this year. "I am hoping to have several hundred people there."

BUT FRANCINE Green, the president and founder of North Farmington High's SADD chapter, had hoped she would have a few hundred parents and students turn out for the school's big public meeting last Friday.

No dice though. "We had been working on it all year," Green said. "Only about 30

showed up. That's nothing compared to 1,400 students (in the high school)."

"The hurt that I am feeling no one can know about," she said of the small turnout. "I've devoted all my life this year to SADD."

THE FAILURE of the North Farmington meeting followed what Green called a victory earlier in the day.

Friday, May 17, was "SADD Day" at North Farmington. The day culminated in an all-school assembly. "I totally felt a victory," Green said of the assembly.

Later that day, her elation turned to disappointment and anger when parents failed to attend the evening meeting.

"Parents always say teens don't care," Green said. "But here are a bunch of teens who care about each other. And parents don't care and don't show up."

Although angry about last week's public meeting, Green plans to continue her fight.

Please turn to Page 4

12 Mile plan stalls

By Joanna Maliszewski
staff writer

A Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) study of possible interchanges off the I-696 corridor must be completed before Farmington Hills officials can consider moving forward with a proposed financing scheme for improvements along the 12 Mile office strip.

But any implementation of the city's proposed Tax Increment Financing Authority (TIFA) is still a time away because MDOT officials don't expect to complete recommendations on possible I-696 interchanges until at least October, said Farmington Hills City Manager William Costick.

"The missing factor is the cost projections because the state does not know the cost of the interchange and improvements in that area," Costick said. "So until I know those things we have been holding up our plans."

State, county and local officials met in early May to discuss the status of the I-696 study. Farmington School District officials were also on hand for the informational meeting. The proposed TIFA plan was not included in the discussion.

WHILE BOTH state and city officials are certain at least one more interchange is needed off I-696, the MDOT study of possible interchanges between Orchard Lake and Novi roads is still "inconclusive," Costick said.

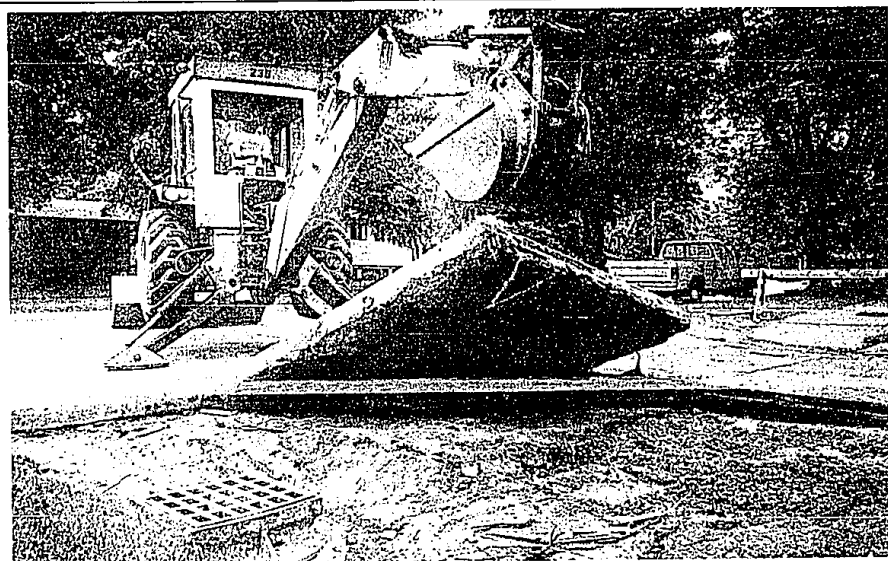
"They are focusing in on Haggerty," he said. "That seems to be their preferable location."

When cost estimates and firm recommendations for the Farmington-area section of I-696 are available from the MDOT, city officials will be able to determine the total cost estimates that are needed for getting TIFA off the ground, Costick said. Officials are certain any improvements along the Farmington Hills section of I-696 will affect the 12 Mile corridor.

Under TIFA, city officials can create a special taxing authority and district to provide money for road and drainage improvements along the city's 12 Mile "growth corridor."

Although as indicated this week by Superintendent Lewis Schulman the 12 Mile corridor "is a key area," school officials are opposed to the TIFA plan. "We have some real questions," Schulman said.

Please turn to Page 17



This piece of pavement, at the intersection of Doreen and Leyte in Farmington Hills, had to be removed, due to the elevation of the catch basin. Dale Begay operates the back hoe. The broken concrete is then removed. "We've got a landfill it's taken to," said Dan Rooney, Farmington Hills' assistant to the director of public services.

crete is then removed. "We've got a landfill it's taken to," said Dan Rooney, Farmington Hills' assistant to the director of public services.

Road work

They maintain highways and byways

By Julie Brown
staff writer

Keeping your own driveway shoveled during the long months of a Michigan winter can be a challenge.

Imagine, however, having the responsibility of keeping 270 miles of roadway safe and snow-free. Farmington Hills officials have that amount of roadway to take care of, year-round.

Of that amount, approximately 42 miles are of major roads, with the balance consisting of local roads.

Maintenance and repair of the city's public streets extends beyond snow and ice removal. A variety of activities take place throughout the

'We've had success with our paving program. We've paved quite a bit of roadway, and that helps a lot. The gravel is very difficult to maintain.'

— Dan Rooney
Hills administrator

year.

Spring/summer activities for the Department of Public Works — one of three divisions of the city's Department of Public Services — include grading and dust control, ditch work and road repair.

Since 1981, the city has paved 24 miles of gravel roadway and resurfaced five miles of hard surface roads.

"We've had success with our paving program," said Dan Rooney, assistant to the director of public services.

"Since 1981, we've had a lot of progress in that area."

"WE'VE PAVED quite a bit of roadway, and that helps a lot. The gravel is very difficult to maintain."

Year-round emergency services are also provided, by working in conjunction with the Police Department, he said.

Summer-time emergencies might include a tree being knocked down, or "perhaps some minor flooding that needs barricading, something like that."

Farmington Hills' 1985-86 annual budget recommendation proposes a

Please turn to Page 4

Party law is passed

By Julie Brown
staff writer

Farmington Hills Police Chief William Dwyer is pleased with the city's new ordinance on serving alcohol to teenagers at open house parties.

"I think it's something that's obviously needed," he said Tuesday. "Certainly, from the feedback I've received, it's wanted by the community at large."

"I think some of the parents recognize the need for this," the police chief said. "It gives them a helping hand to deal with this."

Introduction of the ordinance was approved by the Farmington Hills City Council in a 4-to-3 vote at the May 13 meeting. Council members Monday approved enactment of the ordinance, which will take effect June 10.

The ordinance states that "No adult having control of any residence shall allow an open house party to take place at said residence if any alcoholic beverage or drug is possessed or consumed at said residence by any minor, and where adult failed to take reasonable steps to prevent the possession or consumption of alcoholic beverage or drug."

PENALTY PROVISIONS within the ordinance include:

- For the first violation, a fine not exceeding \$500 or imprisonment in the county jail for a term not to exceed 30 days, or by both fine and imprisonment.

- For subsequent violations, a fine not exceeding \$500 or imprisonment in the county jail for a term not to exceed 90 days, or by both fine and imprisonment.

Farmington Hills police will enforce the ordinance, "based on using discretion and common sense," Dwyer said.

The department will respond to complaints that are phoned in by neighbors concerning parties, he said.

"I think through enforcement and education, we can curtail and make an impact on a serious problem. It's a helpful tool, coupled with all the other actions."

In addition to a crackdown on open house parties, other enforcement actions Dwyer cited include:

- Patrolling of the city's streets;
- A crackdown on teen-age drinking in such areas as parks and school parking lots;
- Surveillance of licensed establishments selling liquor to minors;
- Alcohol education efforts, both for teenagers and for adults.

oral quarrel

Why did parents balk at SADD meeting?

North Farmington High School's chapter of Students Against Driving Drunk (SADD) worked almost all year to put on a big public meeting last Friday, May 17. Flyers notifying parents of the meeting were sent home with the school's approximately 1,400 students.

Only 30 people turned out for the meeting to show support of SADD members' attempts to change teens' attitudes about drinking and driving.

Today's Oral Quarrel question is: Why aren't parents showing support for their teens' work in establishing SADD chapters and attempts to reduce alcohol-related accidents? What would you suggest to get parents involved?

To answer this question, call 477-5498 before 1 p.m. Friday. To see how your neighbors responded, see Monday's Observer.

what's inside

Cable Connection . . . 14A
Club Circuit . . . 4B
Community Calendar . . 3B
Editorials . . . 18A
Obituaries . . . 14A
Recreation News . . . 8A
Creative Living . . . Section E
Sports . . . Section C
Suburban Life . . . Section B

Due to the holiday, we will be closed Mon. May 27, 1985.

EARLY DEADLINES

Real Estate Display
Fri., May 24, 4:00 p.m.

To place your classified ad in the Thursday, May 30 edition, please call Tuesday, May 28 between 8 a.m. and 5:30 p.m.

OAKLAND COUNTY 644-1070
WAYNE COUNTY 591-0900
ROCHESTER 852-3222

Have a happy and safe
MEMORIAL DAY

Parks and roads dominate budget

By Julie Brown
staff writer

Chances are Farmington residents won't have to face overwhelming increases in their city tax bills this year. The city's 1985-86 recommended budget does not include a millage rate increase for either the operating or debt service accounts of the General Fund.

"The millage rate's been quite stable," said Farmington City Manager Robert Deadman. The rate for 1985-86 is 11.74, the third year at that level.

"If you look around the Detroit metropolitan area, we're still in our histor-

ical position, which is in the low quartile," Deadman said.

The recommended budget for 1985-86 totals \$6,416,864, including the following expenditures:

- General Fund expenditures, \$3,628,935

- Water and Sewer Fund expenditures, \$1,228,825

- Highway Fund expenditures, \$558,504

A public hearing on Farmington's 1985-86 recommended budget was held Monday night. The city charter requires that the city council adopt the

Please turn to Page 16