



# Farmington Observer

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Farmington, Michigan

28 Pages

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## Farmington Focus

If you have a news item or an idea for a feature story or an action picture with a Farmington area connection, send a note to our downtown office at 33203 Grand River, Farmington 48024.

**STALWARTS** in math. Seventeen Farmington Public School students scored in the top 5 percent of 25,000 high school students who took Part I of the annual Michigan Mathematics Prize Competition.

Bob Clark, Mike DeLiso, Sanjay Ghosh, Kurt Lingberg, Kim Maki, Alex Packard, Gordon Richel, Mark Schiefky, Dave Siegal, Jeff Simontoni, Allan Sponseller, Ken Stein, Mark Tennenbaum, Julia Ulsch, Dan Walden, Brett Willis and Dan Woytowich were among those taking Part II.

Part II will determine the state's top 100 math students, half of whom will receive college scholarships. The competition is sponsored by the Michigan Section of the Mathematical Association of America.

**HELPING** hand. Cloverdale Training Center staff selected, wrapped and tagged gifts for each of their 82 students. Santa will hand out gifts after the school's holiday dinner.

A substantial check to buy safe and stimulating toys for each student's special need comes to the school every year from the Farmington Lions, who also bring Santa to the party.

**MOVING** up. Eric Smith of Farmington Hills was promoted by the U.S. Air Force to airman first class. He is an aircraft maintenance specialist at Laughlin Air Force Base, Texas, with the 47th Organizational Squadron.

**IN THE** spotlight. Angelo Mancuso of Farmington Hills presented a paper at this year's 90th annual convention and scientific seminar of the American Osteopathic Association. Mancuso's paper, entitled "Injectable Collagen," was presented at the American Osteopathic College of Dermatology session in Atlanta, Ga.

**TWO** students from the Farmington area were among recent degree winners at Aquinas College, Grand Rapids. Jeff Greenleaf of Farmington received a bachelor of business administration degree in business. Anthony Doman of Farmington Hills earned a bachelor of arts degree in communication arts and political science.

**LITERARY** talents of two Farmington Hills seniors were recognized by The Midwest America. A piece called "Winter's Beauty" by Billie Hatty and one called "My Thanksgiving" by Florence Leuchter were published in the November issue of the magazine.

**CHANGING** course. Kenneth Lynch, a 1983 North Farmington High School graduate, entered the Air Force's Delayed Enrollment Program. His entry allows the Air Force to assign him for basic training and to a job or skill area.

He will enter the Air Force March 25.

**HE'S** appointed. Farmington City Council has appointed Michael Brumgold as a Democratic Party representative to the board of canvassers. He will serve a four-year term beginning Jan. 1.

**FOOTNOTES:** The present Farmington High School opened in 1953. North Farmington High School opened in 1941. Farmington Harrison High School opened in 1970.

## Conspiracy in robbery now alleged

By Bob Sklar  
staff writer

A third man has been charged in the armed robbery of three people in Farmington Hills shortly before a Jelfries Freeway shoot-out which left a Livonia patrolman wounded and another suspect dead last May.

Arraigned Dec. 17 before District Judge Michael Hand of Farmington, George Frederick Leland, 34, of Inkster pleaded not guilty to one count of conspiracy to commit armed robbery

and two counts of armed robbery. Conviction of the felony charges could bring a maximum penalty of life in prison. Hand set a cash bond at \$100,000 pending a preliminary examination in 47th District Court.

Appearing before Circuit Judge Frederick Ziem Nov. 7, James Douglas Barton, 23, of Inkster pleaded guilty to three counts of armed robbery, one count of felony firearms possession/second offense and one count of habitual offender/third offense.

Casimir Edward Bagacinski, 20, of Westland pleaded guilty to two counts of armed robbery and one count of felony firearms possession/first offense.

Felony firearms possession/second offense carries a mandatory five-year prison term. Felony firearms possession/first offense carries a mandatory two-year prison term.

SENTENCING IS pending for both Barton and Bagacinski. Barton also faces parole violation hearings. He was on parole from Southern Michigan Prison at Jackson at the time of the May robbery and subsequent shoot-out.

Barton has not yet gone to trial in Wayne County on charges of assault with intent to commit murder and felony firearms possession/second offense in connection with the shooting of Livonia Patrolman Gregory Henderson May 6.

The robbery occurred after 11:15 p.m. May 5 at a house on 9 Mile Road. Police allege that Barton, Bagacinski and a third man bound and terrorized two brothers and a woman for 3 1/2 hours during a robbery. "We believe the object of the robbery was drugs or money," Farmington Hills Sgt. Charles Nebus said.

After brandishing a sawed-off shotgun, the three men tied up the two brothers and assaulted the girlfriend of one of them. The men then demanded drugs, money and other possessions before ransacking the house. They drove away shortly before 3 a.m. One of the brothers then drove the woman to Redford Community Hospital and notified Farmington Hills Police, Nebus said.

Police allege that Leland recruited Barton and Bagacinski to rob the occupants of the house. The day before the robbery, police allege, Leland met Barton and Bagacinski at a Farmington Hills restaurant and drove them to the house, where Leland described its layout and who would be there.

"Investigation indicated Leland was supposed to get a cut of the profits," Nebus said. Police believe Leland chose not to enter the house "for fear of being recognized by one of the three victims," Nebus said.

**DISTRICT JUDGE** Margaret Schaeffer of Farmington issued a warrant for Leland's arrest the afternoon of Dec. 16. He was arrested in Garden City early the following morning by Farmington Hills Special Patrol Operation (SPOT) members in cooperation with the Garden City Police.

The arrest came after SPOT members followed Leland from his girlfriend's house in Inkster, Nebus said.

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## He's a Rhodes scholar

By Casey Hans  
staff writer

Gregory Abowd had only four hours to make his choice. Would he accept a Rhodes Scholarship Trust to Oxford University or the similar Marshall Scholarship to Cambridge University?

The 21-year-old qualified for both — a first in the opinion of one Rhodes official. "The prestige of the Rhodes won out," the Farmington Hills resident and Birmingham Brother Rice graduate said.

He begins his studies in England in October 1986, following graduation from the University of Notre Dame in South Bend, where he is a senior majoring in mathematics and physics.

WITH THE scholarship, two years of study are guaranteed with the possibility of a third-year sponsorship depending on performance, he said.

Abowd will study mathematics and has set his goal on a doctor of philosophy degree. He hopes to return home and continue post-graduate work in computer science, he added.

Seven Notre Dame students were nominated for the Rhodes this "fall" October. Abowd was one of 20 men and 12 women from 21 colleges and universities named for the honor Dec. 16. He competed through state and regional interviews with 1,238 total applicants.

The first Rhodes scholarship was awarded in 1904. It was established in 1907 by Cecil Rhodes, a British diamond and gold developer and imperialist.

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## Water meters will be replaced

Nine mercury-type water meters in Farmington Hills will be due for retrofits, ridding them of all mercury measuring devices, according to local officials.

Although Farmington Hills and Oakland County have not received this "official word," the city of Detroit has reportedly approved the retrofitting of 163 mercury-type water meters at a cost of \$1 million. Nine of 11 water meters in Farmington Hills use mercury measuring devices.

Hills' meters would receive immediate attention because of recent mercury leaks discovered in water mains along 14 Mile, according to Donald Ringler, manager of the Oakland County Sewer, Water and Solid Waste Department.

Tap water in the Hills was declared

safe by the state health department Dec. 9.

NEITHER RINGLER nor Farmington Hills Director of Public Works Thomas Blasell have received official notification, but both have verbal indications the retrofits were approved. Oakland County is the city's agent for water system maintenance. Farmington Hills uses Detroit city water.

A Dec. 13 statement was reportedly filed from the Detroit Water and Sewerage Department indicating the project would take 12 to 18 months and would not cause higher water bills, according to recent news reports.

The decision to retrofit was officially made last week, according to Dorothy Mann, public relations representative for the Detroit Water and Sewerage Department.



RANDY BOST/Staff photographer

Salvation Army employee Fran Bollino sorts and packs donated food, which will later be distributed to needy families in the Farmington and Southfield areas.

## Helping hand Army marches to different drummer

By Casey Hans  
staff writer

Each Christmas Eve, at least one crying mother shows up on his doorstep.

But there's more to helping these people than handing them a bag of food or some Christmas toys, according to Capt. John Crampton, commanding officer and co-pastor for the Salvation Army Corps Community Center based in Farmington Hills.

"We try to give them hope," he said. "Food and clothing are only temporary."

Crampton meets personally with each arrival at his Inkster and Shiloh church to give financial counseling and additional help.

Although there is a 365-day-a-year need, communities become more aware of their not-so-fortunate neighbors during this "season of giving," he said.

The Salvation Army is recognize-

**"We try to give people hope. Food and clothing are only temporary."**  
— John Crampton  
Salvation Army captain

able to the public through its "red kettle drive," held from Thanksgiving through Christmas Eve at six locations in the Farmington/Farmington Hills area.

THIS YEAR'S goal is \$30,000. "We're a little bit behind last year at this time, but we're entering our biggest week," Crampton said. Last year, \$26,378 was raised in this area.

Some of the bell-ringers are minimum-wage workers, while other individuals and local service club members volunteer their time. The

Farmington Kiwanis Club is an active participant, according to Crampton.

Church members held their twice-a-year League of Mercy Sunday recently, in which 1,000 residents of area nursing homes were visited. They also do this at Easter time.

Though 300 families, or 1,100 individuals, have been served by the facility this year, Crampton estimates another 100 will be served before the Christmas holiday. The communities of Farmington, Farmington Hills, Northville, Novi and Southfield west of Telegraph Road are part of this Salvation Army Corps Community Center.

When the facility opened 12 years ago, people questioned the need for a Salvation Army in the Farmington area, Crampton said. Today, he calls this area a "tremendously giving community." Farmington Schools recently completed a coat and boot

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News line . . . 477-5450  
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### EARLY DEADLINES

Due to the holiday, we will be closed Wed., Dec. 25. To place your classified ad in our Thursday, Dec. 26 edition, please call Mon., Dec. 23 before 5:00.

**OAKLAND COUNTY**  
844-1070  
**ROCHESTER**  
652-3222  
**WAYNE COUNTY**  
591-0900

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Happy  
Holidays!