

# Training improves police proficiency

By Joanne Mallazewski  
staff writer

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— Ernest Miller  
police inspector  
Farmington Hills

IT'S NOT just in the movies and television where police officers gather at the firing range pumping rounds of ammunition into the black-and-white silhouettes 75 feet away.

"It's important because of officer safety and the safety of others," said Detective Darrell Krause of the Farmington Hills Police Department.

Twice a year, officers are tested on their marksmanship. To maintain their qualifications, an officer must

obtain a minimum marksmanship score of 70 percent or receive 425 of 600 total target points.

"We want them to be proficient in their use of their guns. We don't want them shooting rounds in just any direction," said Krause, assistant range officer.

The new police building's firing range and firearms training is only a facet of the department's continuing emphasis on officers' training.

"On the average, an officer in this department will receive a minimum 40 hours of training a year," said Inspector Ernest Miller, in charge of department training.

The department sends officers to special programs and brings in experts in certain fields to help train officers, in addition to training at a police academy.

ON THEIR return from the academy, recruits are put through an in-house training program, under the direction of certified training officers, which is yet another training program started in early 1987.

Specialized training also is available to officers who want expertise in evidence gathering, arson investigation or narcotics, for example.

"We want to bring our officers along," Miller said.

Officers today are younger and more educated than in the past. The average age of the department's 88 officers is 33 and average education is 2 1/2 years of college.

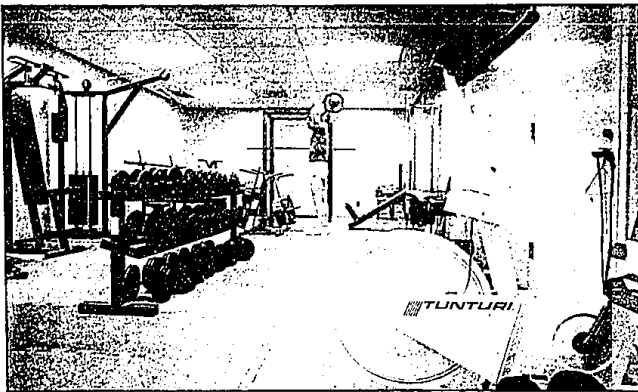
"We have people here who have pretty high expectations. The training is to make them better officers and it will help them personally. We're committed to putting the best officers humanly possible on the streets," Miller said.

Liability also plays a role in the need for continued training. "We even instruct on how to handcuff people," Miller said.

Suicide prevention, cardiopulmonary resuscitation and first aid are examples of some training programs.

"It's not a knee-jerk reaction," Miller said, referring to liability. "We are pro-active. We're doing it before it's necessary."

POTENTIAL FOR liability also plays a strong role in firearms training.



RANDY BORST/staff photographer

Gary Mallouf, a Farmington Hills police officer for seven years, works out in the department's fitness room.

"People look at the firearms program, and they might say we are training for expert shots. But we want them to be trained for a variety of circumstances — subdued lighting, for example," Krause said.

"You have to know your own limitations. We teach for proper quick decisions," Krause continued.

Firearms training involves more than target practice. The department uses "shoot-no-shoot films," which put the officers in real-life situations. Filmed scenarios provide the officers training in making a split-second decision of whether to shoot.

"The officer walks in on a hold-up," Miller said, describing one of the films. "A person on each side of the counter has a gun. Which one is the robber? Do you shoot or don't shoot?"

Officers train with shotguns as well as in subdued light and dark or night shooting. Training also includes the use of off-duty weapons. "So at least they are familiar and qualified for the weapon they are carrying off-duty," Krause said.

The department's outdoor range provides officers the chance to train

in what's called stretch shooting. Because real-life situations rarely allow officers the same ideal conditions as an indoor firing range, they are trained in marksmanship while having to jump or run, Krause said.

"We're developing programs on an on-going basis," said Patrolman Tim Connor, who coordinates training programs. "To a certain extent, we're still getting off the ground."

THE DEPARTMENT'S drunk driving enforcement techniques training, for example, has been certified by the Michigan Law Enforcement Officers Training Council. Other agencies send officers to the Hills department for the training, which includes the preliminary Breathalyzer test (PBT).

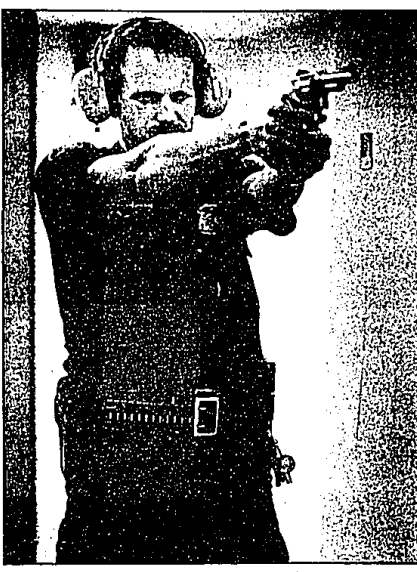
Officers are required to be certified in certain skills, such as the PBT. Others include firearms, first aid and radar operation, Miller said. "Some certifications are yearly, others aren't. They vary. But they all are no more than three years," Miller continued. "There is a move afoot where the state is going to require a certain amount of training for officers each year."

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LAURA CASTLE/staff photographer

Doug Anderson, a Farmington Hills police officer for 14 years, trains at the department's indoor pistol range.

## business briefs

If you recently opened a shop, captured an award, earned a promotion, are planning a new venture or project, or have information about other business-related happenings — and there's a Farmington-area connection — we'd like to hear from you so we can share your news item with other Observer readers. Send items to Business Briefs, Farmington Observer, 33203 Grand River, Farmington 48024.

**NAMED MANAGER**  
Joseph Zielniski of Farmington Hills was named plant manager at Orland Machine Products, a division of Royal Oak Industries. Currently under construction, the Orland, Ind., plant is scheduled to open in 1988. Zielniski is currently plant supervisor at Royal Oak Machining, a division of Royal Oak Industries. He joined the firm as a machinist in 1971, when the company was formed.

**BUSINESS MIXER**  
The Farmington/Farmington Hills Chamber of Commerce will host an after-hours business mixer 5:30 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 28, at the Holiday Inn of Farmington Hills, 38125 10 Mile. Business professionals from Novi and Livonia also are invited. Complimentary hors d'oeuvres and a cash bar are planned. The event provides a chance to exchange information, ideas and knowledge in an informal setting. Tickets are \$5 per person. Exhibit tables can be rented for \$25 each. For reservations, call the chamber: 474-3440.

**PURCHASES APPROVED**  
Farmington Hills City Council has approved the following purchases:  
• Three five-yard dump trucks with salt spreaders and underbody scrapers, from GMC Truck Center, Pontiac, for \$195,900.  
• A copier with a 30-bin collator from IBM for \$11,534.  
• A concrete floor for the San Marino Golf Course polo building from Mattoli Cement Co., Pontiac, for \$10,120 (\$2.30 per square foot).  
• 57 bumper blocks for Heritage and Pioneer parks from Nu-Cast Step and Supply Co., Redford Township, for \$3,860.

Slag and crushed limestone for ball diamonds from Hayball Trucking, Livonia, and Suburban Transport, Milford, for \$8,200 and \$8,360, respectively.

**HONOR AWARDS**  
Winners of the Masonry Institute of Michigan's 1987 Honor Awards Program for Excellence in Masonry Design will be honored at an awards banquet Feb. 20 at the Northfield Hilton Hotel, Troy. The Masonry Institute is based in Farmington Hills. Thirty-eight member firms of the Michigan Society of Architects submitted a total of 63 entries in this 13th annual competition. Five winning projects were selected by a distinguished award jury from Chicago. Over the years, a total of 78 Michigan projects have been selected to receive recognition for their excellence in masonry design by juries of prominent architects from major cities outside Michigan. The winning projects will be announced at the banquet. Cast-bronze "M Awards" will be presented to their architects and owners. Recognition will be given this evening to winners of the October Technology/Masonry Institute of Michigan Student Masonry Design Competition. The 1987 competition was open to all third and fourth year architectural students enrolled in the LIT's School of Architecture. Banquet tickets are priced at \$80 per couple and include cocktails, hors d'oeuvres, prime-rib or fish dinner and dancing. For details, call the Masonry Institute at 478-6455.

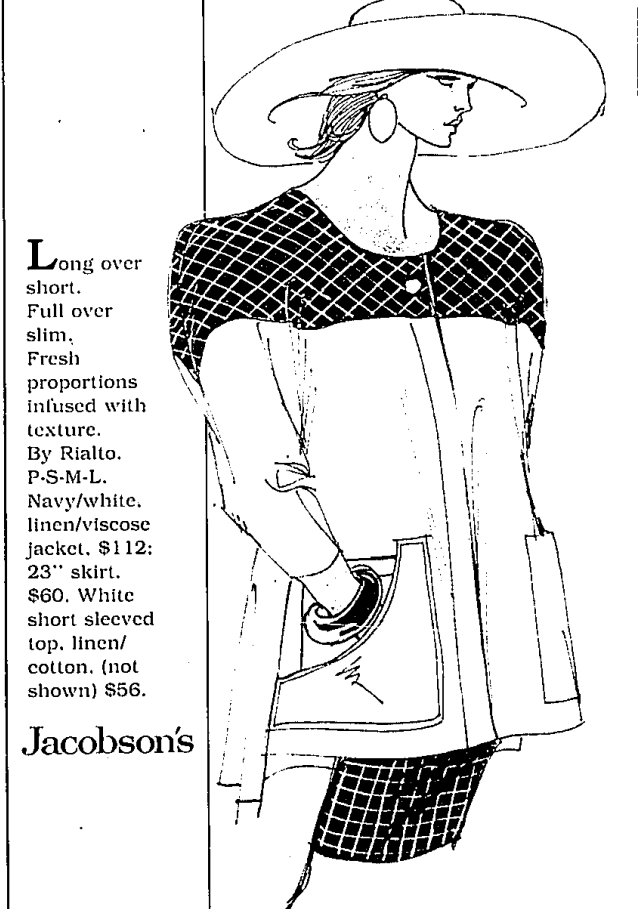
**CHOOSER PR FIRM**  
The Southeastern Michigan McDonald's Operators Association has chosen Farmington Hills-based Hermannoff & Associates as its public relations agency. Hermannoff & Associates, a public relations firm, will be responsible for all McDonald's public relations and publicity in southeastern Michigan, as well as Ronald McDonald House activities. "We're looking forward to a long and mutually beneficial relationship with Sandy Hermannoff and her staff," said John O'Sullivan, president of the Southeastern Michigan McDonald's Operators Association.

**HEALTHY OUTLOOK**  
Hiring for sales, sales management and marketing shows a slight but promising increase for the first part of 1988, according to a national survey of 1,400 executives by Sales Consultants, a national search firm of sales, sales management and marketing professionals. Of those surveyed in the North Central Region, 33 percent planned to expand sales and marketing staffs during the next six months. About half planned to maintain current staff and 15 percent planned reductions. This is a 1.8 percentage point increase from the last six months for staff additions and a 1 percentage point decrease in staff reductions. Mary Walsh of Sales Consultants of Farmington Hills said even though this increase in staff additions was slight, it bodes well for the region's 1988 employment outlook. She said that it appeared unlikely that the October market crash will affect hiring plans.

**NEW IN TOWN**  
Gerald H. Slutsky, a certified public accountant, has opened a new office at 11312 Northwestern Highway, Farmington Hills. The telephone number is 851-1824.

**DREAM SWEEPSTAKES**  
Some lucky local residents can win a \$15,000 Dream Kitchen thanks to a Farmington Hills kitchen dealer who handles Elkay stainless steel sinks, faucets and accessories. More than 1,000 other prizes will be awarded. Bergstroms, 18845 Orchard Lake Road, is participating in the \$15,000 Dream Sweepstakes, sponsored by Elkay, the largest manufacturer of stainless steel sinks in the world. To enter, go to the dealer, fill out a form and complete the sentence: "Elkay looks better. . . ." The Sweepstakes will continue until May 1, when all entries must be in. An independent judging firm will select the winners. Awards will include the \$15,000 Dream Kitchen Grand Prize complete with Elkay sinks and faucets and deluxe accessories. The Grand Prize winner can choose any Elkay sink with the Lasting Beauty finish from an extensive line of stainless steel sinks. In addition to the Grand Prize, there will be 50 first prizes of kitchen faucets from the Regency Collection. Second prizes will be 100 hot water machines, which provide instant hot water for coffee, tea, soups, etc. at the kitchen sink. Third prizes will be 1,000 copies of the book, "The Frugal Gourmet Cooks with Wine" cookbooks by the famed chef, Jeff Smith.

## S I G N A T U R E C O L L E C T I O N



Long over short. Full over slim. Fresh proportions infused with texture. By Rialto. P-S-M-L. Navy/white. linen/viscose jacket, \$112; 23" skirt. \$60. White short sleeved top, linen/cotton. (not shown) \$56.

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