



# Farmington Observer

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Monday, July 25, 1988

Farmington, Michigan

48 Pages

Twenty-Five Cents

## farmington FOCUS

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**E**LECTION changed. The date of a fall school bond election has been changed to avoid conflict with Rosh Hashana, the beginning of the Jewish New Year, according to Farmington school district spokeswoman Pam O'Malley.

Approval from the state Board of Education will allow the district to hold its election Monday, Sept. 19.

The bond issue will ask voters to approve \$27 million over 16 years for a new elementary school, new early childhood center and building improvements.

**HELPING** hand. John Farquharson, a Farmington Hills CPA, was elected treasurer of the Arthritis Foundation Michigan chapter board of trustees.

**ON** camera. Alan Lovry of Farmington Hills is a first-place winner in the ninth annual Michigan Renaissance Festival photo competition, judged by Detroit Free Press chief photographer Tony Spina. He'll be honored Aug. 14 during the festival's Royal Lunch for his work with color photos.

**CHANGING** trends. The Farmington City Council is expected to review the city's sign ordinance in the near future. Concerns have arisen involving mansard-type building facades, and what are appropriate signs for these buildings.

**TEN-YEAR** Award. The city of Farmington will receive an award for 10 years without a pedestrian fatality. The Pedestrian Safety Award is given by AAA of Michigan and is expected to be presented at a council meeting in September. "There are few communities in Michigan of our size that have established a safety record similar to Farmington's," said city manager Robert Deadman.

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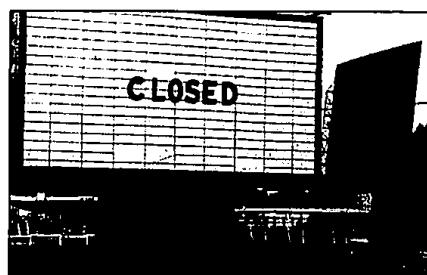
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## Stores to replace closed drive-in



RANDY BORST/staff photographer

The large closed sign signals the end of an era in Farmington Hills for the more than 40-year-old Grand River Drive-In. Owners Tom and Fred Goldberg are planning to open a 300,000-square-foot shopping center in its place.

## Tough alarm rule in effect Aug. 8

By Joanne Maliszewski  
staff writer

Too many false alarms and too much police officer time and expense has forced Farmington Hills officials to toughen the rules on residential and commercial security and fire alarms.

The new ordinance goes into effect Aug. 8 and requires:

- Larger fines for false alarms;
- Alarm permits and fees;
- Alarm installers' state licensel;
- Automatic shut-off devices.

"We're doing this to try to reduce the number of false alarms that we have. Ninety-six percent of the alarms are false, which is really

kind of a nationwide average," said Lt. Richard Murphy of the Farmington Hills Police Department.

Police are projecting a 20-percent increase - or at least 6,000 - false alarms this year with accompanying expenses of more than \$80,000. Farmington Hills had 4,858 false alarms in 1987, which represented a 23.4 percent increase over 1986. Last year false alarms cost the department approximately \$76,000 in wages, dispatch services and billing, said Sgt. Dennis Green, crime prevention division.

**POLICE ESTIMATE** there are 8,000-10,000 burglar alarms installed in Farmington Hills. Police respond to an average 16 false alarms a day, with two officers responding to each call, Green said.

"If we reduce the number of false alarms, the better the service we can provide to the city," Murphy said.

The new ordinance allows one false alarm per calendar year, excluding false alarms caused by inclement weather or power outages. A \$20 fine will be levied for the unrecorded false alarm. The third will carry a \$40 fine. The fourth and subsequent false alarms will carry \$100 fine each. The existing fine is \$20 for each false alarm.

The ordinance also requires late charges on fines not paid within 30 days. For example on the third false alarm, the \$40 fine will increase to \$50 if not paid on time.

"AS IN THE past, for those alarms not paid within a reasonable amount of time, they will be taken to small claims court," Murphy said.

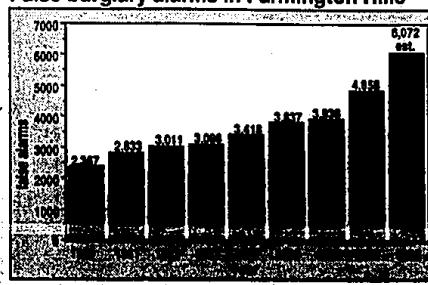
"But by and large, the majority of folks pay."

All existing residential and commercial alarms, including those in rental units, must be registered with the police department by Jan. 1. Registration includes alarm installer's name, state license number and the names of three people to be con-

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## False burglary alarms in Farmington Hills



By Joanne Maliszewski  
staff writer

A 20-year-old Livonia man who is awaiting retrial in an attempted murder case in Farmington Hills has been charged with assault and battery in the beating of a 24-year-old man.

Paul Anthony Dober, 20, pleaded not guilty on July 14 in Livonia's 14th District Court to assaulting Gregory Walters of Livonia early on the morning of June 23 at the Taco Bell on Farmington Road.

Dober was released without bond because he had voluntarily surrendered earlier to police, said Livonia police.

Three years ago, Dober, then a 17-year-old senior at Livonia Stevenson and captain of the football team, was charged with shooting an arcade game in Farmington Hills.

Two days after an argument with another guard at the arcade.

Dober was found guilty of assault with intent to commit murder and possession of a firearm in the commission of a felony by Oakland Circuit Judge James Thornburn during a bench trial in April 1987.

**AFTER NUMEROUS** delays, Dober was sentenced in June 1987 to 5-18 years for assault and battery two-year sentence for possession of a firearm. He was sent to the Michigan Training Unit Correction Facility in Ionia.

After serving less than six months of the sentence, Dober was released in November when the Michigan Court of Appeals ordered a retrial because court records do not show Dober had waived his right to a jury trial. He was rearraigned on the shooting charge last December.

Dober, who is seeking a court-appointed attorney in the latest charge, has retained Southfield attorney Richard Lustig to defend him during retrial on the shooting charge. No trial date has been set.

"This is the first I've heard of this. I have not been told. I don't know anything about it," Lustig said when asked about the new charges.

A .31-caliber bullet traveled through the security guard's hand and forearm before lodging in his shoulder. It had not worked since the incident and had surgery nine times, said Farmington Hills Police Sgt. Charles Nelson, one of two officers in charge of the original investigation.

Dober said in trial testimony he did not pull the trigger the night of the shooting but would not say who

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## Awaits retrial Man, 20, charged with assault

By Janice Brunson  
staff writer

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