

'Picassos' excel at plaster art, 1D



Tourney win, 2C

Agendas for Hills council, 1B

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TONGUE in cheek. After hearing Farmlington Hills Mayor Jody Soronen, on the city council's behalf, laud outgoing city clerk JoAn Reynolds at her retirement party July 28, city manager Bill Costick regained the mike and teased: "It's great the city council admires its clerk so much. I wish they'd admire the city manager that way."

STILL on the table. Decisions regarding a downtown traffic study are expected to be reached at the Aug. 15 Farmlington City Council meeting.

The Old Village Association last week asked for more time to review the study. The homeowners group pushed for the study because of speed and noise problems downtown.

VOTING early. Nearly 5,000 Farmlington-area voters voted in absentia in Tuesday's primary, 4,120 in Farmlington Hills and 866 in Farmlington.



RANDY BORST/staff photographer

State House candidate Michael Bouchard (left) and campaign operations manager Marc Herron remove a political sign near Clairview and Northwestern Highway in Farmlington Hills Thursday. Bouchard said he took pains to assure his signs were not in the right of way and did not pose a safety hazard. His favora elections where candidates agree not to use "billboard type" signs. Other unsuccessful candidates in the primary also were taking down signs last week.

Election sign usage angers councilman

By Casey Hans staff writer

Some city council members believe the issue of political signs in Farmlington Hills should again be reviewed, and one said he will raise the issue at tonight's meeting. "It is awful," said councilman Joe Alkateb, referring to political sign problems associated with the recent primary election.

"Everything in the world was violated. It was an absolute shame. I'm going to push very hard for creating a (political) sign ordinance." Alkateb said he plans to add an agenda item this evening for discussion. He will propose the city staff design an ordinance that could require candidates to register with the city.

He said right-of-way violations, signs obstructing views and candidates placing signs on private property without permission all occurred during the primary election.

Councilwoman Jean Fox also believes a review is needed. She said the council "needs to act in plenty of time for November (the general election)."

She said larger, "billboard-style" signs are not appropriate but that smaller, lawn signs are acceptable. "I think the little lawn signs are lovely," she said, adding that the smaller signs allows you to know who is supporting what candidate. "They mean something. They give you the freedom of speech. I don't think we need the big billboards to get people out for the election."

MEANWHILE, THE head of a Farmlington Hills citizens group is pleased with this year's increased political activity and interest, and the use of candidates' signs to increase awareness.

His group is proposing a survey of residents so politi-

cal awareness — and the impact of things like political signs — can be determined.

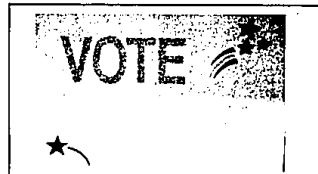
David Haron, a Hills resident and head of the Voter Participation Committee, was one of the residents who brought the political sign issue to the forefront in the Hills in 1986.

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Missing: 5 Hills 'vote here' signs

Whoever took five of the city's 40 "Vote Here" signs used to mark Farmlington Hills voting precincts in Tuesday's primary is asked to return them, no questions asked.

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This is an example of the five "Vote Here" signs.

Memory lane

50 years ago this week: Farmlington Township residents await news from WPA headquarters regarding proposed plans for a new Township Hall.

After wrangling and a heated discussion, the Township Board authorized Supervisor Arthur Coe to sign the project as submitted by architects Lyndon and Smith.

Although the clerk generally signs such a proposal, Harry McCracken refused, saying he had received legal advice that the proper procedure was not followed. He said he had been advised a site should be chosen before plans are submitted. He also said he saw no need for such a large hall.

— Farmlington Enterprise, 1938

Russian-born artist loves America

By Amy Reas staff writer

To Yuri Kolesov, America is everything he dreamed it would be and more.

Kolesov knows about dreams. All his life, the 40-year-old artist thought of nothing else but leaving the oppressed and restricted confines of the Soviet Union for freedom and democracy in the United States. It has been 19 years since Yuri left his native Moscow for a quiet home in Farmlington Hills. But he still greets each new day with the thanks



that he can live his life any way he chooses. When asked if he has seen anything in the last 10 years that has wavered his opinion about his new homeland, he said, "You probably wouldn't believe me if I told you no." Then he smiled and said in perfect English, "I love this country. I guess I am always looking for the good

things, so I don't notice the bad." It was a lot easier for Kolesov to adapt to life in America than it was to get here. He said he fought the Soviet legal system for two years before his application was approved. Finally, without warning, he, his brother and father were allowed to leave, while his mother and sister decided to stay behind.

KOLESOV CAME to the Detroit area because a Resettlement Service in Southfield was able to offer him assistance in beginning his new life. The service, part of the Jewish Fam-

ily Service, helped him get on his feet by providing him with an apartment, helping him find a job and teaching him English.

Fitting in with Americans was "easy," he said, "because this is a country of emigrants."

"If you move to France, you will always be a guest. Here it is fantastic. It is easier to find your dream."

When Kolesov first arrived, knowing only a smattering of English, he was able to get a job as a jeweler in Bloomfield Hills. Because he learned



Yuri Kolesov Soviet emigrant

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Neighborhood House fulfills need

By Louise Okrutsky staff writer

Whether it's finding a twin bed for an elderly woman or an apartment for a family evicted from their home, Neighborhood House wants to help.

Operating from the Salvation Army on Shilawasee at Inkster since June, the clearinghouse matches Farmlington and Farmlington Hills residents in need with appropriate services and agencies. It's an umbrella service born out of the frustration of volunteer or-

ganizations like the Goodfellows as well as the Salvation Army. "We had a hard time tracking down agencies to help in various situations," said Lt. Jonathan Rich of the Salvation Army Community Center in Farmlington Hills. "We saw really quickly that

there was a real need for coordinating."

Although the service aims specifically at the Farmlington and Farmlington Hills community, it won't turn away non-residents, according to Cheryl Carter, Neighborhood House executive director. Its present location is across the street from Southfield.

Since opening June 7, Neighborhood House has connected 20 people with appropriate agencies. The organization can be reached around the clock at 477-1361. Its office in the Salvation Army Community Center is open Mondays, Tuesdays and Fridays.

Neighborhood House board members hope that Farmlington and Farmlington Hills will give the organization seed money to help with administrative funding. Eventually, it will establish an advisory board reflecting the area's diversity.

YET THE Neighborhood House board of directors doesn't want its role to become prominent in the community. "We want it to stay a low-key operation," said Farmlington Mayor Richard Tupper, Farmlington Area Goodfellows executive director. "We're not trying to be a prominent entity in the community." "I just don't want us to become the best-kept secret in Farmlington Hills," Carter said. Neighborhood House's const-



RANDY BORST/staff photographer

Farmlington Mayor Richard Tupper (right), Salvation Army Lt. Jonathan Rich (center) and Neighborhood House executive director Cheryl Carter discuss plans for a clearinghouse of information about social services and aid for the elderly and poor.

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Electricity use hits new high

By Louise Okrutsky staff writer

Things really heated up for Detroit Edison customers in Farmlington/Farmlington Hills last week. As temperatures soared into the 90s, equipment broke down under increased demand and heat.

Between Tuesday and Friday, 4,700 customers in the Farmlington area were without electrical power for varying amounts of time. They had plenty of company throughout Oakland County.

About 23,000 Oakland County customers lost power last week, according to Detroit Edison spokesman Dan Vecchioni. Throughout the Detroit Edison service area, 85,000 customers lost power last week. The utility kept 178 staff members assigned to Oakland County handling problems related to power outages. "It's not been a normal operating week for us," Vecchioni said Friday. "It's been an unusual week. These were the five peak days of customer demand in our history."

Among the hardest hit were residents of an area roughly bordered by Orchard Lake and Farmlington roads and 15 Miles and 13 Miles.

That Farmlington Hills area.

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