



On strike

Teachers at Hillel Day School began walking the picket line Thursday, after their contract with the parochial Farmington Hills school expired at midnight Wednesday. Above, Amalia Paris and her 2-year-old son Daniel, of Southfield, march in front of Hillel Day School Thursday. Issues for the 55-member unit of the Michigan Federation of Teachers include pay and erosion of benefits, according to Shula Fleischer, a teacher

who sits on the bargaining team. Teachers were to have reported for work Thursday, and students were scheduled to report Tuesday, Sept. 6. Fleischer said she hoped the contract would be settled in time for school to start. This is the fourth time teachers have gone on strike against the school. Bargaining with the Jewish day school began last April.

THOMAS ARRIET / Staff photographer

Reward offered to halt arsons

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hicles were destroyed by fire and more than 20 were broken into or vandalized in a Farmington Hills Collision storage yard.

After scaling a fence leading to the vehicle storage area, vandals proceeded to smash windows, slice tops, steal radios and set three fires that spread.

Fire destroyed a motor home and three cars. Another car was heavily damaged. A sixth car sustained surface damage only. Three of the cars were just a year or two old.

A construction trailer parked two lots east of Farmington Hills Collision, 32733 Folsom, also was vandalized and set on fire, said investigator Kevin Bersche of the Farmington Hills Fire Department.

THE RAMPAGE continued at 2:45 a.m. when tires were slashed on and

a smoldering fire was set in a car parked at Fendit Builders Supply, 22005 Gill, Krause said.

Later that morning, fire engulfed a detached garage behind a house on the 33300 block of Fendit. The garage was used to store roofing materials, a propane tank and a high-low.

The owner reported hearing a bang at 7:20 a.m., then seeing flames and thick black smoke rising from the garage, Bersche said.

At 12:30 a.m. the next morning, a Molotov cocktail in the form of a gas-soaked sock was found burning near a broken bottle on Lytle, near Farmington Village Cooperative.

A car was seen cruising a parking lot shortly before a Farmington Village Cooperative resident heard the sound of breaking glass, Krause said.

The vandals could face a penalty of 4-20 years in prison if convicted of arson and malicious destruction of property charges.

C'ville teachers OK contract extension

Teachers represented by the Clarenceville Education Association started school on time last week, after agreeing to extend their contract with the district to Oct. 30.

The Clarenceville Board of Education agreed to the contract extension Aug. 22, said Michael Shilber.

Both Shilber and union president Edna Rice agreed that it has been a pattern in recent years to extend the contracts, which expire Aug. 31, into fall, as both sides await word on how much state aid will go to the district.

Both Shilber and Rice declined to discuss outstanding contract issues. Rice said teachers are seeking "a better salary scale."

The salaries of teachers in Clarenceville and other districts dependent on state aid "are falling by the wayside," Rice said, compared to districts like the Livonia Public Schools and South Redford schools that do not receive state aid except for categorical payments.

Both sides agreed to extend the current one-year contract teachers are working under.

on the agenda

Below are highlights from agendas of government meetings this week. All meetings are open to the public.

Downtown Development Authority
Farmington City Hall
23600 Liberty
8 a.m. Tuesday, Sept. 6

A budget for holiday lighting will be considered, plus contracts for Phase II of the downtown redevelopment project will be discussed. Phase II includes street and sidewalk improvements along Farmington Road.

Also on the agenda is a report on projecting signs for downtown businesses.

Farmington Board of Education
Schulman Administrative Center
32500 Salawasee
7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 6

Bld openings, retirement of the

school attorney, appointment to a new position of director of media resources, and appointment of election workers are on Tuesday's agenda. Also on the agenda is an update from the city of Farmington Hills on a water retention structure.

Farmington City Council
Farmington City Hall

23600 Liberty
6:30 p.m. — special meeting
8 p.m. — regular meeting
Tuesday, Sept. 6

The council will interview three prospective attorneys or law firms to represent the city during a special session. Considered will be attorneys Kingsley Cotton, John Donohue, and the firm of Lapham and Doyle.

Road work totals \$1.1 million

The Oakland County Board of Road Commissioners has approved \$1.1 million worth of road improvement projects in Farmington Hills and Farmington.

The largest expenditure will be \$550,000 for two projects in Farmington Hills. Fourteen Mile from Farmington Road to Orchard Lake Road will be resurfaced and have

passing lanes installed at a cost of \$350,000. Also, there will be a \$200,000 widening of the west leg of Nine Mile Road at Farmington Road along with the addition of turn lanes.

In Farmington, \$75,000 will be spent to widen the east leg of Nine Mile at Farmington Road. Turn lanes also will be added.

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