

Man races with nature in a hot-air balloon, 1D



Hawks win division, 1C

At age 81, coach's still in the swim, 3A

Farmington Observer

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farmington FOCUS

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On the hot seat. The Farmington Democratic Club has planned a forum for the seven Farmington City Council candidates to air their views and for the community to ask questions. The candidates might will be at 7:30 p.m. Thursday at the Bolsonford Inn, 28000 Grand River, Farmington Hills.

ROAD aid. The Oakland County Road Commission approved a traffic light at the intersection of Farmington Road and Shilawassee in September. The long-awaited signal is scheduled for installation this winter. The city will pay \$21,373 to install the signal, approved by the Farmington City Council this year after traffic concerns were raised about the downtown residential area.

Memory lane

25 years ago: Farmington was given something to talk about last Friday as word filtered slowly in from the Olympic Games in Tokyo that Warren "Rex" Cawley had won a gold medal with his performance in the 400-meter hurdles.

A Farmington Township candidates night featured Supervisor Curt Hall, trustees Tom Duke and Earl Opperhauser, all Republicans, and their Democratic rivals, Aldo Vagnoni, and Martin Gluckstein and Bernard Kahn.

— Farmington Enterprise, Oct. 22, 1964

This week

BOTH Farmington and Farmington Hills will host their annual beautification award programs Thursday. Businesses, homeowners groups, places of worship, schools, offices and organizations are among those to be honored.

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SUBURBAN LIFE'S MONTHLY ALBUM

SPECIAL SECTION IN TODAY'S ISSUE

March leader eyes Lansing rally

7 arrested at peace rally, 7A

By Casey Hans staff writer

Derwin Success said Sunday's peace march and rally for racial harmony in Farmington was a stepping stone to a similar effort he plans for Lansing next May.

A book is also in the works, he said. "Farmington is not big enough for us," he said. "We need a bigger state, we need all the state." Those curious about his surname, which he changed to Success in 1987, or other information about him could "read my book," he said.

Success' support at the afternoon march and rally ranged from the local — Farmington High teacher Jerry Young and student Dave Clnard — to the national, with civil rights activist and Atlanta city council member Josea Williams taking part. More than 18 people spoke or sang at the event, sponsored by Success and his grassroots Love Force United.

"We have absolutely no racism at all," Clnard said about his school. The freshman said he was angry after receiving a flyer at school last week, handed out by members by a radical group advocating anti-racist violence. "We all get along and that's how it should be with adults. I believe we can do it together."



Farmington resident Derwin Success (left) leads Sunday's peace march with Southfield resident Leon Hayes. Starting out with about 20 marchers from Success' house, city officials estimated the march swelled to 200-300 people as it approached the rally at city hall.

Success, who is black, and his wife, Diana, and two children, who are white, say they have been victims of racial slurs since moving to Shilawassee Street four years ago.

While about 50 people paid close attention to the rally on the city hall lawn, others grouped in the rear, chanting, waving flags and bibles, playing recorded music and arguing. Others came out to watch for a short time and left the scene. Police estimated some 400 people attended the 2 1/2-hour event.

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Hills to assess drain costs citywide

flood control debated, 2A

By Susan Buck staff writer

Many Farmington Hills residents whose homes were flooded during a June 21 downpour will benefit from improved storm drainage.

Every property owner in the city will pick up the cost of the improvements, which consulting engineers Hubbell, Roth and Clark of Bloomfield Hills peg at \$18.3 million.

That amount breaks down to: \$12.2 million for the Kendallwood and Westbrook Manor subdivisions in the Minnow Pond District; \$5.6 million for the Franklin Knolls subdivision-San Marino Golf Course in the Pebble Creek District; and \$161,000 for the Heritage Park area in the Upper River Rouge District.

"The method we have used in the past is to spread the cost of storm drain improvements at large through the community through the property tax," said William Costlek, city manager.

He expects all areas of the city to benefit, as well as part of the city of Farmington. On Oct. 10, the council voted to ask the coun-

"To this day, many of the people in our area live in what can best be described as utter terror whenever the skies cloud over . . ."

— Max Simon
Dunford resident

ty drain commission that petitions be prepared to establish storm drain improvement projects.

Max Simon, who lives on Dunford in Westbrook Manor, spoke positively of the improvements before the city council's unanimous decision. His home was severely damaged by the flood.

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Max Simon and his dog, Scruffy, next to the creek that runs behind his house on Dunford in Westbrook Manor subdivision.

Grand jury returns indictments on 4

By Pat Murphy staff writer

The subpoena powers of Oakland County's special grand jury proved to be crucial in three indictments returned last week, according to the man who initiated it, Oakland County Prosecutor Richard Thompson.

"These (three) cases were at a dead end," Thompson said at a Friday press conference. "But the grand jury's power to compel witnesses to answer questions" led to these arrests.

Thompson made the assessment after announcing that the 17-member grand jury returned indictments against four men believed to be involved in three separate crimes, two murders and a cocaine delivery case.

THEY WERE THE first indictments returned since the jury convened in early September, the county's first grand jury in 17 years. The defendants were arrested

Thursday or Friday and arraigned before Judge Robert C. Anderson, presiding judge of the Oakland Circuit Court.

They are: Michael Thornesberry, 30, of Pontiac and Mark Schiffman, 31, now in the Leland Correctional Facility on charges of unarmed robbery.

Both are charged with first-degree murder in the November 1985 strangulation death of Virgil Shiek, 78, a businessman whose body was found in the trunk of his car in Groveland Township.

Thompson believes Thornesberry, who worked for the victim, and Schiffman, Thornesberry's friend, killed Shiek as part of a robbery plot. Both were sent to the Oakland County jail pending preliminary examination in District Court 52-2 in Clarkston.

Gary Redd, 36, of Southfield, charged with first-degree murder in

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This isn't year of attack in Farmington politicking

By Casey Hans staff writer

Competition is normally key to local politics, but this year in Farmington, city council candidates are downplaying any sense of that. There is little criticism of the current city government, or of any political newcomers, as candidates gear up for the Nov. 7 election with attitudes of cooperation.

Challenger Robert Walker says he's simply "trying to get a seat on the council, not to move anyone out," while challenger JoAnne McShane wants to "bring a breath of fresh air" and "innovative solutions" to the council table.

Incumbent Shirley Richardson, appointed to fill a vacancy on the council three years ago, told voters she is "pleased you have the choice" this year.

Current Mayor Richard Tupper said the city council has always had "team players" who work together efficiently.

Incumbent Arnold Campbell said he has a "desire to follow through" on a number of city programs.

Challenger Robert Walker says he's simply 'trying to get a seat on the council, not to move anyone out.'

the first time in four years an incumbent has been challenged in the city. Incumbents Richardson, Tupper and Campbell are running to retain their seats against challengers McShane, Walker, Joanne Fellenberg and John Kenney.

The top two vote-getters Nov. 7 will win four-year terms; the third-place finisher will win a two-year term.

Thursday, five of the candidates attended one of several candidates nights scheduled during the next few weeks. Fellenberg and Kenney were absent from the forum, sponsored by the League of Women Voters, Farmington/West Bloomfield. It was taped for future cablecast.

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BUT THINGS are quietly heating up in this race —