

Firms honored for employing the handicapped

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ers in the Farmington area who should be recognized."

It's taken more than a year, but Dolan checked and found businesses in the area that employ workers with handicaps. On Monday, those employers were honored. "You've given these people the opportunity to reach their potential," Dolan said. "We're proud of you."

THE CEREMONY coincided neatly with "Investing in Ability Week," which is this week, Oct. 1-7. The Michigan Commission on Handicapper Concerns is sponsoring special theme days this week "to increase public awareness and promote understanding of the handicapper community," according to Gov. James Blanchard.

Michigan has about 521,000 working-age people with handicaps. Yet a great many are unemployed. That's why Dolan saw fit to honor Farmington-area employers who have hired workers with handicaps.

"You've done it, so it is possible to be done," said Jody Soronen, executive director of the Farmington-Farmington Hills Chamber of Commerce.

Soronen related her experience — as well as Dolan's — of recently taking to a wheelchair as part of Botsford General Hospital's Community Wheelchair Accessibility Program. She says she quickly learned the difficulties.

"Certain things, like you can only eat food off the first two shelves in a supermarket because you can't reach it," Soronen said. "We have only a very small idea . . ."

The program, in which 22 area businesses were honored, concluded with the honoring of Mary Wagner, who established the Community Living Centers in 1988, to provide people with developmental disabilities a chance to live an independent life.

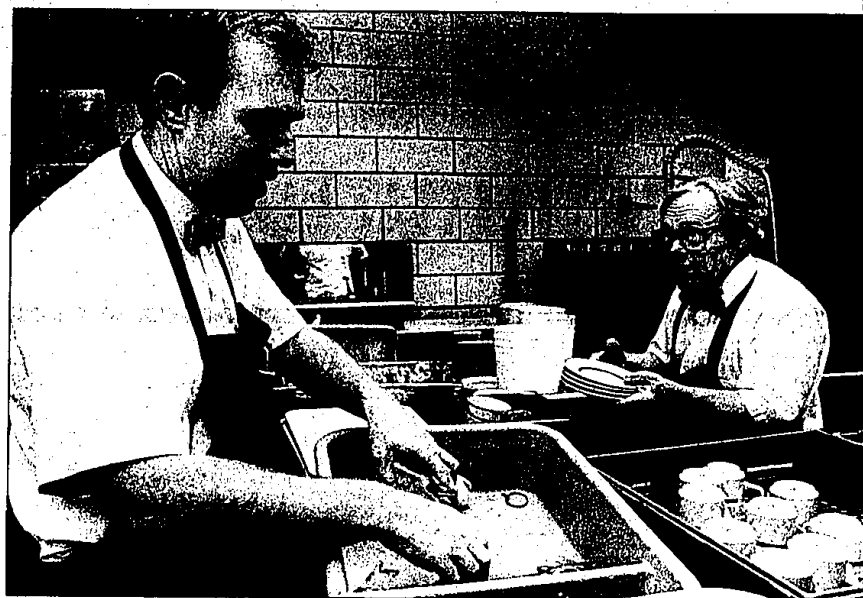
"This is the woman who has done the most to the Farmington-Farmington Hills community to make us aware," Dolan said of Wagner.

WHILE PRESENTING each employer with a certificate, Dolan named the addresses as a means of encouraging the community to frequent the businesses.

"I hope people will listen and patronize the stores. It helps us all to acknowledge what these employers are doing," Dolan said. "I hope next year at this time you'll see this place filled with employers of the handicapped."

Businesses that were honored Monday include:

- K mart, 30800 Orchard Lake Road, and 37157 Grand River.
- Crowley's, 33250 12 Mile.
- Bill Knapp's, 27925 Orchard Lake Road, and 38650 Grand River.
- Arbor Cafe, 34505 12 Mile.
- Mama Locricchio, 30685 12 Mile.
- Fireman's Fund, 27555 Farmington Road.



SHARON LeMieux/staff photographer

Randy Hutchinson (left) and Billy Druckery are bus and kitchen help at the Bill Knapp's restaurant, 27925 Orchard Lake Road, Farmington Hills. The restaurant was one of more than 20 businesses in the Farmington area honored for employing workers with handicaps.

- Kroger's, 25788 Middlebelt, and 2955 Orchard Lake Road.
- Big Boy restaurants, 20788 Farmington Road, and 27810 Grand River.
- St. Vincent and Sarah Fisher.

- Center, 27400 12 Mile.
- Denny's restaurant, 24250 Sinclair.
- Perry's drug stores, 33330 12 Mile.
- Farmington Hills Senior Adult

- Center, a Farmington Hills-sponsored program.
- Farmington Nursing Home, 30405 Folsom.
- Farmer Jack supermarket, 2218 Farmington Road.

- McCauley's on 11 Mile.
- Bonanza restaurant, 38350 10 Mile.
- Daniel J. Salon, 29977 Orchard Lake Road.
- Phoenix Group, 34115 12 Mile.

Flag-burners could face charges

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Police also found a knife in its sheath that belonged to one of the 15-year-old youths.

Police are continuing to investigate and are asking any businesses

in the Freeway Drive-Research Drive area to contact police if they are missing their flags.

Six flags were reportedly found in the car, police added.

THE TEENS and the young adult

could face charges of arson and possession of incendiary devices.

One of the teens could also face a concealed weapons charge for the knife. The 17-year-old also could face a charge of resisting arrest, police said.

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FRIDAY, OCT. FIFTH • SATURDAY, OCT. SIXTH

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Friday, October 5th

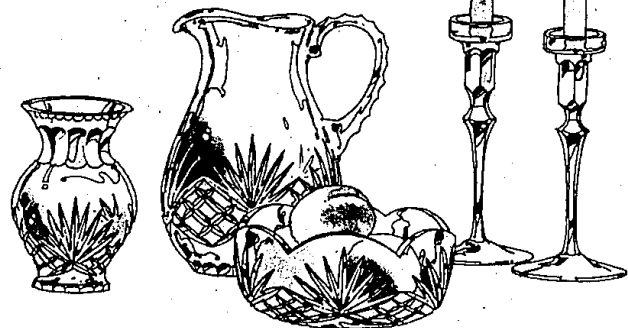
- 12:00 - 9:00 Sidewalk sales
- 12:00 - 9:00 Character balloon display
- 5:00 - 9:00 Ragtime Banjo music
- 6:00 - 9:00 Hot air balloon display

Saturday, October 6th

- 12:00 - 9:00 Sidewalk sales
- 12:00 - 9:00 Character balloon display
- 2:00 - 5:00 Scottish Clan Alliance
- 5:00 - 9:00 Ragtime Banjo music
- 6:00 - 9:00 Hot air balloon display

Miss Carole's School of Ballet
Farmington Civic Theatre
Suzy Ran's Science of Slimming
Maple Drug Stores
Hair Oasis
Hadley Arden
Farmington Shoe Repair
Farmington Insurance Agency
Executive Office Supply, Inc.
Entertainment Time Video
Thayer-Rock Funeral Home
The Sweet Connection
The Rocking Horse
Ray Interiors
The Lawyers' Building:
William E. Matz
Ronald G. Oglesby
Patricia A. Brennan
The Art Alcove
Page's Food & Spirits
Clothes Encounters
Dr. Bruce D. Lowen
Victorian Lace Elegance
Dimitri's
Dublin Optometric Clinic, P.C.
One Hour Motophoto
K & R Office
The Baker's Loft
This N That
Donovan's Country Store
Elegant Nails
Dress Barn
Hot Dawg & More
City Limits

Books Aboard
The Pella Window Store
Heaney Sundquist Funeral Home, Inc.
The Lace Curtain Shop
Pictures & More
The Village Mall
Cowley's Old Village Inn
Harmony House
Golden Fleece
Village Clippers
Wooden Heart
Chars Unlimited
CZ's Boutique
Dagwood's
Grace Agency, Inc.
Encore! Encore!
Korner Barbers
B & B Jewelers
Bon Ton Shoppe
Foto-one
Century 21 Hartford
Rosen Vision Clinic, P.C.
Focal Point
Damman Hardware
Marco's
Warren's Country Corner
Children's Shoe Mart
The Total You
Merle Norman
John A. Allen Architect, Inc.
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Hair Team
Metrobank
Precious Commodities



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