

Concerts bring back
the tie-dyed '60s, '60s



Collegiate
Wrap, 1C

German food,
beer, pretzels, 1B



Farmington Observer

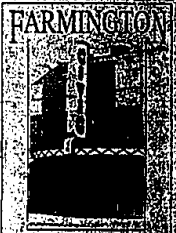
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Farmington, Michigan

50 Pages

Fifty Cents



FOCUS

BOB GILLETTE is a local power house and so are the citizens who call him "Boss" or "Boss Gillette".

As of Thursday afternoon four days after the power was still out in the downtown area north of 10 Mile Road.

The residents — average age 83 — were wandering the deserted halls with flashlights in hand. Laundry was soaking and meals "gone" and the power was out. And Gillette, who was the "boss", was not a happy man.

The residents are taking it like real troopers, he said, but I'm just a little upset. It's been four days. There's a point where you say, "This is ridiculous." It's hard for me to remember Detroit. Edison. I know they're having their problems right now, but we just must have a few people in the area who would've had some sense a long ago.

Gillette said he had no idea how much extra he was paying for the meals and activities. He said he really is the issue here.

THEY'RE SMILING in the Downtown Development Authority's and there's at least one happy landlord in town.

"Residents have been complaining that high visibility on Grand River and Farmington Road — downtown's premier corner. The building had been empty since February.

Books Abound, a used book store which apparently does a good business on Grand River, will expand into the Farmington Road side of the building, said Wendy Strip-Sittamer, executive director of the DDA. The new store will be called Books 'n' Less.

The book store, owned and operated by the husband and wife team of Skip Rosenthal and Alice McCoy, moved to Farmington from Royal Oak several years ago.

It's possible that an art gallery may occupy the other part of the building, though plans have not been finalized, said a representative of Thompson-Brown, the leasing agent.

The DDA's Strip-Sittamer should be happy with these types of tenants. "We can count on good window displays," she said. "That's important in a location like that."

MEMORY LANE — From the July 19, 1991 Farmington Express: Robert Burch was named varsity basketball coach at Farmington High School. He replaced Robert Hutton, who resigned to take a coaching position in Romeo. Burch had coached the FHS reserve teams.



DAN LIPPITT/staff photographer

They love a parade!

Darrel Suhre of Redford Township is all smiles as his grandson Matthew, 1, enjoys an ice cream cone — despite the mess. They were among the many who lined Grand River Avenue Saturday morning to watch the

27th annual Farmington Founders Festival Parade. A slight drizzle didn't seem to dampen the spirits of parade-watchers. For a story and more photos of the parade, please see page 3A.

Exam to resume Tuesday in Hills apartment killing

Policeman describes murder scene

By Marilyn Yaquinto
staff writer

The handsome, blue-suited defendant, Ray Florian, occasionally scribbled notes into a lime-green notebook during his preliminary examination Friday.

But he sat motionless when the medical examiner described the path of the four .22-caliber bullets as they must have ripped through the victim's body.

Florian, a 27-year-old ex-Marine, is accused of murdering Dan Magon, 40, in the first degree on the afternoon of July 3 in the Farmington Hills apartment they shared.

His examination on the charge began Friday before Judge Margaret Schaefer in Farmington's 47th District Court. It continues at 1:30 p.m. Tuesday.

Since his arrest moments after a telephone call to police saying he was involved, Florian has been held without bond in the Oakland County jail.

the phone — and I saw some type of rifle lying in front of the door.

THE OFFICER said he spotted a body lying on the floor and asked Florian "how long the victim had been shot." Skrzycki and another officer then arrested Florian and attended to Magon's body — "but it had no pulse."

Prompted by defense counsel, Skrzycki told the court that he hadn't informed Florian of his Miranda rights while making the arrest.

According to the police report, Florian bought a rifle at Meijer Thirty Acres in Novi an hour before Magon was shot.

"I wanted to serve justice. I did what I thought was right," he told police.

One of the store's managers told the court he remembered Florian buying the Marlin .22-caliber semiautomatic rifle.

Better idea?

Woman replaces lawn spray with ladybugs

By Joanne Maliszewski
staff writer

Janet Emmert of Farmington Hills has a better idea. She bought 1,500 ladybugs and let them loose in her yard.

"They'll eat other bugs," said the Hunters Pointe subdivision resident.

That eliminates her need for commercial insecticide, especially the type many homeowners have sprayed during the growing season to protect their lawns, plants and flowers.

"It has troubled me," Emmert said, as she watches commercial lawn spraying companies pull up to homes for applications of insecticides or fertilizers.

Emmert recalled the day recently when she was upstairs in her house while a lawn spray company was in her neighbor's yard.

"The windows were open and it (the spray) just came right in. My eyes started to water. My nose began to burn," said the six-year Farmington Hills resident.

EMMERT IS troubled enough by the lawn sprays and chemicals that are commercially applied to rid the suburban landscape of pests and weeds that she has asked the Farmington Hills City Council to consider doing something about it.

"I request that a city ordinance be passed that prohibits spraying of fertilizer and weed killer," Emmert

wrote to the council. "Longer term, I would like to see these lawn care companies be required to switch to safer, natural products for fertilizing and for weed control if they wish to remain in business."

The city council asked city attorney John Donohue to study the issue. The federal Environmental Protection Agency regulates chemicals used by lawn spray companies. But the companies do not need EPA approval to operate, Donohue said.

"Theoretically they are supposed to use EPA-approved chemicals," he said.

Donohue referred to an ordinance adopted in Milford requiring registration, posting and notice by commercial users of pesticides. Milford ended up in the 6th Circuit Court of Appeals, which held that the ordinance was regulatory and preempted by existing federal regulations.

But the U.S. Supreme Court has agreed to hear arguments on whether local governments may regulate the use of pesticides.

MEANWHILE, EMMERT is waiting to hear the final word from the city. She gathered neighbors' signatures on petitions that urge a local prohibition on lawn sprays. "We don't have any way of protecting ourselves," she said.

Lawn spray companies may disagree.

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Cops raid clinic in search for boy

Parents reject cancer treatments

By Marilyn Yaquinto
staff writer

Farmington Hills police Friday raided a medical clinic on Orchard Lake Road while searching for a 10-year-old Wisconsin boy who suffers from bone cancer.

Police believe the boy is being hidden by his mother to avoid conventional treatment for bone cancer.

After being notified by Wisconsin police that the mother may have taken the boy to Nutricec Inc., a preventive medical clinic, Hills police found records showing Lucas Derksen, 10, had been treated by the clinic's doctor on June 29 for "a broken leg and osteo sarcoma."

According to clinic owner Crystal Gray, her physician treated the youngster, giving him Tylenol 4.

"Then our doctor told them to go back to their own oncologist because it's cancer," Gray said. "Lucas" was in a lot of pain. He looked awful."

GRAY SAID she believes Carol Derksen, Lucas' mother, brought her son to the clinic looking for alternative healing methods after hearing

Gray's Christian radio show. "But we're a clinic that does eating profiles based on specific body chemistry," she said. "It's preventive medicine. We're not into the radical treatments."

Police Chief William Dwyer said the parents have been rejecting traditional cancer treatments on religious grounds, ignoring the recommendations of Wisconsin state medical authorities.

Earlier this year they retreated to Mexico to seek alternative treatments which "had no impact," said Dwyer.

After returning to Wisconsin and continuing to refuse traditional cancer treatment for their son, charges were filed against the couple.

Roy Derksen, the father, was arraigned last Friday in Green Bay, Wis., on two felonies — interference with custody by parents or other, and physical abuse of a child.

Carol Derksen, who also is being charged with physical abuse, is still at large with her son. Dwyer said after police searched her parents' home in Hudsonville, Mich., near Grand Rapids last Friday they found Lucas' clothes and his wheelchair.

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