

Parade day!

Drizzle can't keep 'em away from this special event on Farmington's Grand River

By Casey Hans
staff writer

DRIZZLE DIDN'T dampen the spirits of those lining Grand River Saturday to view the biggest ever Founders Festival Parade.

They just enjoyed the pleasant temperatures and put up umbrellas as needed.

"Here it comes — I hear music!" little Erin King called out from her curbside seat where she anxiously awaited the parade, which boasted 70-plus floats, marching bands and various groups who all came out to wave the flag and salute the red, white and blue — the Founders Festival theme.

Erin came downtown Saturday with her sister Arnie, mom Marilyn Watson King, and aunt Cheryl Logan to share a bit of small-town Americana that has become the Founders Festival.



FARMINGTON/FARMINGTON HILLS
27TH ANNUAL
FOUNDERS FESTIVAL

For Watson King of Redford and Logan, who lives in Illinois, the visit was a return to their hometown — both are Farmington High School graduates.

AS WITH of the festival, a corps of volunteers helped to put on Saturday's parade, including longtime members of the Farmington Area Amateur Radio Club who kept communications open along the parade route between the Target store parking lot and downtown.

Saturday morning began with a bed race between four teams to benefit the Muscular Dystrophy Association. After trying for three years, the Farmington Hills Fire Department team won the event in a photo finish, beating out the World Wide TV and Appliance team, which was the reigning champ. Other teams included Forest Pointe and Botsford General Hospital.

Firefighter Bill Mulrooney, the team engineer, said he made "a few modifications" this year to streamline the team's bed.

The Farmington/Farmington Hills Chamber of Commerce, which sponsored the Saturday morning events, also gave away parade trophies. Winners included:

- President's Award went to Colonial Car Wash, which best showed the festival theme "Hurry for the Red, White and Blue."
- Queen's Trophy for the best original concept went to Botsford General Hospital.

- Commercial float awards included: Colonial, first place; Botsford Hospital, second place; and Network Real Estate with a Robin Hood theme, third place.
- Organization float awards in-



Members of the Farmington Hills Fire Department's bed racing team certainly aren't snoozing as they break the tape to win the event at the Festival Parade Saturday.

After trying for three years, the Farmington Hills Fire Department won the bed race in a photo finish.

cluded: Downtown Farmington Business Association, first place; Farmington Hills Beautification Commission, second place; and Farmington Head Start, third place.

- The Elks won best Motorized Drill Team award.

- For baton corps, Derek's Twirling Dynamos won first place and the Washington Steppers took second place.

- Farmington High School groups took the first two top slots for precision drill team awards. The Farmington High cheerleaders took first place, with the school's pom-pom capturing second. The Farmington Rockets cheerleaders took third place.

Businesses also got in the act. Prest Sales Co. donated hundreds of yellow ribbon pins that were handed out along this year's parade route to tie into this year's patriotic theme.



A Shriners unit dressed in distinctive costumes provides music during the parade.



The colors are shown by parade marchers in Civic War-era uniforms.

police/fire calls

Listed below are some of the Farmington-area police incidents, fire calls and court cases reported during the past week:

WOMAN INJURED

A 78-year-old Farmington woman remained hospitalized in fair condition Friday following a car-pedestrian accident in downtown Farmington last Wednesday, July 10.

Helen Rutlia was crossing Grand River at Grove Street at about 12:45 p.m., when a car turned from Grove Street, striking her and knocking her to the pavement. She complained of pain to her lower back area, and was transported to St. Mary Hospital in Livonia where she was admitted for treatment.

A St. Mary's spokeswoman said Rutlia remained in fair condition Friday afternoon. Farmington police have not charged the 23-year-old driver from Brighton, but continue to investigate the accident.

ASSAULT REPORTED

A 31-year-old Farmington woman was sexually assaulted as she walked along Lakeway.

According to Farmington public safety Commander Chuck Lee, the victim was walking northbound on Lakeway near Shilawasse at about 8:25 p.m. when she was grabbed from behind by a man, who crossed his arms in front of her and fondled her breasts.

Lee warns residents they should always be aware, even though such things are rare. "It's extremely rare here, but you can't let your guard down," Lee said. Police continue to investigate.

The man is described as white, with blue eyes and wavy blonde hair in his mid-20's.

SHOOTING REPORTED

A Farmington man was treated

for a gunshot wound early Friday morning after having an argument and shooting himself in the leg at a house on Laurelwood in Farmington.

Initial investigations show the man and his girlfriend pulled off the street in the parking lot of an Elementary where they were fighting, then took the argument to the house where the victim threatened to shoot himself in the head. He then moved the gun to his leg and pulled the trigger, said Commander Chuck Lee of the Farmington Department of Public Safety.

The shooting occurred at about 3:35 a.m. and involved a .26 caliber semi-automatic gun.

He was treated at St. Mary Hospital in Livonia and released at about 9:30 a.m. Friday. Police are presenting information to the Oakland County prosecutor's office for warrant consideration.

APARTMENT THEFTS

A rash of breaking and entries continue at Independence Green Apartments at Grand River and Halsted roads. Approximately \$1,175 cash was reported stolen from an apartment on Lincoln Court, July 1-3. From another apartment on Jefferson in the complex approximately \$2,000 in coins was reported stolen, July 5-9, according to Farmington Hills police reports.

BUSINESS THEFTS

Two business incidents at 33986 Eight Mile Road were broken into July 7-8, according to Farmington Hills police reports. From Lendrum Construction, a typewriter valued at \$600 was reported stolen. From Crisis, Husband & Parr CFA, a facsimile machine valued at \$1,000 was reported stolen.

FIGHT REPORTED

Two Novi men ages 25 and 23

were assaulted by a group of 5-6 men outside Denny's restaurant, 24050 Sinclair Court, July 1, according to a Farmington Hills police report.

The two men were in the restaurant and began talking to two women. A group of men became upset and later followed the two out to the parking lot.

As the women were getting in their truck, the group of men assaulted them with a baseball bat, fists and feet. An estimated \$500 damage was done to the truck. The men sought their own medical treatment.

THEFTS REPORTED

A 1986 Chevrolet valued at \$7,000 was reported stolen from Bob Saks Jeep, 35300 Grand River, July 8.

An AM/FM stereo cassette, amplifier and speakers valued at \$910 were reported stolen from a 1984 Chrysler parked at D. Dennison Seafood Tavern, 27909 Orchard Lake Road, July 9-10.

Jewelry valued at \$33,700 was reported stolen from a house on Rockridge Lane, July 8-9.

Jewelry valued at \$550 was reported stolen from a house on Livingston Circle, June 29-July 5.

Wheel covers valued at \$600 were reported stolen from a 1991 Oldsmobile on Orchard Lake Road, July 10.

At the same location and day, wheel covers valued at \$625 were reported stolen from a 1987 Oldsmobile.

Cash totaling \$3,046 was reported stolen during a break-in at Tax Car Wash, 31500 Grand River, July 9. A door and safe at the business were also damaged during the incident.

DAMAGE REPORTED

A mailbox on Arden Road was blown up by firecrackers, July 10. Damage was estimated at \$10.

Leewards

SUPER SUMMER CRAFT SALE!

T-Shirts
only

2 for \$6

First Quality - No Seconds
50% cotton/50% polyester. Adult sizes M-L. Reg. 4.99

Plus

Children's sizes 6-8, 10-12 & 14-16. Reg. 3.99

2/5

100's of items all over the store are on sale this week. Here are just a FEW!

- New Fall Floral Decorations
- Great kids Projects

Kids!

Make-it & Take-it Day - Sat. July 20

only **\$2** per project

Call store for details

\$1 off

All Instruction Books.

Reg. 2.49-19.99

25% off!

Appliques & Buttons

Reg. 1.99-3.99

2 for \$1

Plastic Suvivors.

To decorate. Reg. 5.99

99¢

32" Straw Broom

Reg. 1.99

1.99

4 oz. Eucalyptus. Red, Green, Brown. Reg. 2.99

88¢

12 oz. Fiberfill. Reg. 1.99

Leewards

On sale 7/14 thru 7/20 1991

STORE HOURS: Mon.-Fri. 9:30-9. Sat. 9:30-6. Sun. 11-6

• WAREHO. 11140 E. Grand River 273-8300

• FARMINGTON 11000 E. Grand River 273-8300

• WANNING 35743 Warren Rd. 274-6400

• E. LANSING 2751 E. Grand River 351-6200

• NOV TOWN CENTER 641 Southland Center Dr. 427-1900

• FARMINGTON 11000 E. Grand River 273-8300

• LANSING 2751 E. Grand River 351-6200

• ROCKFORD HILLS, Lansing, Novi & Ann Arbor, Saturday 9:30-7

• BOWLING GREEN 2641 Rockford Rd. 427-1900

• ANN ARBOR 10111 E. Liberty 963-1100

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Kids' swap meet is Wednesday

Got a pocket full of baseball cards or some books you've already read?

A swap meet and sale for kids will highlight the sixth week of a 10-week Summer Fun Series in downtown Farmington Wednesday, when kids are encouraged to come to buy or swap books, games, sports equipment and other items.

Scheduled for Wednesday, July 17 from 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. the event called Swap/Sell will be held under the green and white striped tent at Grand River and Grove street. This event, and the entire summer

series, is sponsored by the Farmington Downtown Development Authority.

A number of kids who pre-registered will have tables under the tent, where visitors can stop and haggle or buy. Although adults are welcome, DDA executive director Wendy Strip-Sittsamer said the program is intended to be mainly for kids.

The summer series has drawn hundreds of people to downtown Farmington each Wednesday. For more information about the program, call the DDA office at 473-7276.