

Farmington public safety officers Ernest Stafford (top, left), Mark Worch and Chris Guinan listen to pyschologist and former police officer Wayne Hill (right) during a recent session. Hill did a workshop for the entire Farmington department on under-



## Cops in 'new age of policing,' says ex-officer

HEY'RE MORE than a uniform

HEY'RE MORE than a uniform and a gun.
Police officers handle a myriacion of situations, including family crises, gristy crimes, and routine dealings with the public. They also face an increasingly frustrated public and much more violence on the streets today.
"Police officers are really social workers," explained Wayne Hill, a psychologist and former Dallas police officer who now counsels officers across the country on their interpersonal skills. "It's my feeling

we've entered a whole new age of policing — society demands a lot more." Hill recently completed training the entire Farmington Department of Public Safety on the public's perception of police. It is the first time the department has done this type of In-house training, though it spends between \$12,000 and \$16,000 each year to keep officers trained and updated on police and fire issues.

FARMINGTON OFFICERS learned skills to help them analyze the situations they face daily and understand people's approach to them and their reactions. Hill said all police departments, whether big or

small, "need a little adjustment" to help them understand the public they serve. For example, he said the videotaped beating incident involving the Los Angeles police could have been avoided. "If those Los Angeles officers had this program, they wouldn't have done that," he said. "They didn't know how to manage their anger."

FARMINGTON PUBLIC Safety Director Frank Lauhoff first met Hill at a simitor-Frank Lauhoff first met thit at a simi-lar seminar 10 years ago, and said was pleased to be able to bring him to Farm-ington. The two-day seminar was not de-signed to address any specific problem, he

said, but to help "both the officer and the community."
"This Isn't something you teach them,"
Lauhoff added, "This is something that each person will receive somewhat differ-ently. I'm looking for a way to provide tools for these officers.

"It gives them something they can use on a daily basis."

The first day of the seminar addresses basic behavioral theory, with the second day decreted to applying the theory to the police beat. Hill wants officers to understand what others are going through, so they can control their own behavior.

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"Mostly, when somebody gets mad, it's not at you," he explained. "It's about something else. The position you fill is what they're responding to."

Lauhoff said the idea of the seminar is to help keep police situations under control, at all times. Hill, now a resident of Traverse City,

Hill, now a resident of Traverse City, said his business allows him to do police work without policing, and share his many experiences on the beat.

"I feel really grateful that people will let me do it," he said. "I finally found a way to help. I'm always surprised it's made a difference."

## Michigan National again gives homeless a home

The doors of Michigan National Bank will open again this year to house about 30 homeless people for seven nights.

Bank employees cleared the second and final hurdle Tuesday before the Farmington Hills Zoning Board of Appeals in their quest to host the Royal Oak-based South Oakland Shelter at the bank, west of Inkster and north of 1-696, between Sept. 22 and Sept. 29.

"What helped us this year was the success of the plan last year," said Michigan National Bank attorney Liss Symula-Nahiklan. "We had no negative feedback. We had no police reports."

But the ZBA's approval to again give bank employees a temporary-use permit to house no more than 30 homeless people for seven nights was not unanimous. ZBA chairwoman Massie Kurzeja and member Jost Lang poposed the request. Last year, the ZBA took two votes the final one after the bank revised the "Kurzeja said." I said I was voting against it lasted all the reasons last. "We didn't make a big destated and the reasons last." Start on the souling I that anything in our zoning laws

year. I just couldn't find anything in our zoning laws that would allow it."

KURZEJA'S ARGUMENT against the temporary use permit is that the use — housing the homeless — is not in harmony with the zoning district of the bank, which is office. "It isn't an office use. They're sleeping there overnight."

overnight."
The Formington Hills Planning Commission recommended approval of the bank's request Aug. 8. This is the second year they've recommended approval.
Kurzeja said residents did not turn out to oppose or support the bank's plans this year. The 2BA, she said, received one letter of opposition and one letter of support.

port.
"I guess people have resigned themselves to the fact they are going to get" the SOS program at the bank,

it took two votes and a change in the bank's request—because members are more aware of the program and how it works within the bank's facilities.

"I think the program spoke for Itself," she said. "Once they knew of the program and that the public's safety, health and welfare would not be injured, but they have the program and that the public's safety, health and welfare would not be injured. The chark provided them with the means to do it," Symula-Nahikan bank volunteers will participate in the sevential property of the property of the

go to work."

Before the homeless people are bused to the bank they will be screened by SOS staff for drunkeness, drug use and any other problem that may be inappropriate

they will be screened by SOS staff for drunkeness, drug use and any other problem that may be inappropriate for the program. Supportive of the program, planning commissioners have tried to help clear the way for the bank's expected future requests. They agreed to allow the planning department to notify commissioners in the future of the bank's expected annual request.

If circumstances are not changed from one year to another, planning commissioners said, they would automatically pass it on to the ZBA for consideration. "At this point, we certainly hope it continues," Symula-Nahikian said. "Certainly as long as there's a need and existe among the volunteers, we'll probably do it."

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## Woman, 17, gets jail sentence in beating of 2 at fireworks

(AP) — A 17-year-old woman was sentenced to up to 15 years in prison on Wednesday for her role in the beatings of a pair of women — in-cluding Farmington Hills resident Joanne Was — that was videotaped during a fireworks display down-town

Laquita Glover, who pleaded no contest to the charges, was sen-tenced to 20 months to 15 years on

on one count of assault by Detroit Recorder's Judge Dominick Carno

Recorder's Judge Dominick Carno-vale.
Prosecutors said Glover would be eligible for parole in 20 months. Glover and five other women were charged with mugging Was, and Parmington Hills, and balanched from Hotel during the International Preedom Festival fireworks display.

An amateur camera operator vi-deotaped the June 28 incidents. Marie Springfield, 21, of Detroit was sentenced to 1 to 15 years for unarmed robbery and 1 to 10 years for assault with intent to great bodi-

Awaiting trial are Tangela McLemore, 19, and twins Cossandra and Cassandra Rutherford, 17, and a female juvenile.