

Community Corner

This week's question:
How have you reacted to the recent rash of "carjackings" in the Detroit area?

We asked this question at the Crossroads A&W restaurant in Farmington.



"I'm scared a little . . . even more so for my wife and women in general."

— Pete Basil, Livonia



"I try to be alert and I drive with my doors locked. They might not get you if you look alert."

— Abbey Cross, Northville



"I feel more apprehensive about coming over (from Canada) and I take precautions."

— Sylvia Harris, Windsor, Ont.



"I actually lock my doors now. It's a scary situation."

— Lori Elby, Novi



"It's really made me think. I'd never drive alone at night now. Two weeks ago I would have thought nothing of it."

— Valerie Montello

Redford Township

"I try to travel in areas with lots of people . . . nothing remote."

— Al McLeod, Farmington Hills

Activities promote anti-drug awareness

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grown," said Sue Dolesh, president of the parent drug education group, Farmington Families in Action, and chairman of the anti-drug program. "We've kind of branched out and tried to reach more and more people."

"Three years ago, if I had said I was president of FFIA, they would have thought I was a future farmer," she added. "Now more than 50 percent say 'oh, you're the drug group!'"

A committee that has been working on the program since February selected the alcohol abuse theme because it is the number one drug of choice," Dolesh said. "It's the one most people do."

"A lot of people tend to deny there is a problem — we're just trying to make people aware of it," added Khal Hanna, director of student activities at OCC's Orchard Ridge campus and publicity coordinator for the program.

The month starts off Oct. 1, when upwards of 40,000 red ribbons will



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— Sue Dolesh

be distributed to the community and at schools throughout the area and anti-drug flags will fly at each city hall, the YMCA and at all school buildings. A kickoff breakfast will be held at Glen Oaks Oct. 2, where television personality John Gross will be keynote speaker.

OTHER HIGHLIGHTS OF THE

month include:

- A rap music contest for students in grades 4-8.
- A religious weekend Oct. 5-6, where special programs will be held at some 27 congregations in the Farmington area.

- A walk/run at the Farmington Area YMCA on Oct. 26 at 9 a.m.

- An Alcohol Awareness Week at Oakland Community College's Orchard Ridge Campus, which will include a speakers series, a reception and community awareness.
- On Oct. 30, people in the community will be encouraged to wear red to make an anti-drug statement. Oct. 15, red tulip bulbs will be planted at all the Farmington Public Schools.

- Businesses are also getting into the act. Oct. 9-13, the Little Professor Book Fair will be held; mention FFIA when making a purchase and a 15 percent donation will go to the group. That same weekend, local Domino's Pizza will put red ribbons on all pizza boxes and make a donation for each pizza purchased.

- A Valentine's Weekend will be held Oct. 18-19 when \$3 per oil change will be donated to FFIA and anti-drug promotional items will be distributed.

• A long list of other help groups, agencies and other volunteers are also participating.

Two new programs being introduced this year are: Students at Rock Scholarships through FFIA, which will encourage achievement by at-risk students; and Talking With Your Kids About Alcohol, a parent education class scheduled to begin in November.

The TWYKAA classes are designed to teach parents what to say to their children about drugs and alcohol and how to say it. The YMCA will host the class on the first four Sundays of November from 1:30 p.m. and the Farmington Community School will host it on the first four Mondays of November from 7:30 p.m.

For more information on any of the anti-drug programs being offered, call FFIA at 851-8565 or call the OCC Student Activities Hotline at 711-7590.

Underground railroad topic of program

A talk on "Tracking the Underground Railroad" will be presented by Farmington Hills historian and councilwoman Jean Fox for the Detroit Black Women's Club at 5 p.m., Wednesday, Sept. 25.

The presentation will be at the Philbrick Tavern, home of Dr. Lee Juliano on Power Road and 11 Mile.

The Philbrick Tavern is purported to be a Civil War underground site — which cannot be documented — aid fleeing former slaves as they made their way north.

A half-mile east of the Philbrick Tavern is a documented site of the underground railroad, which was the home of former slaves who settled there following the Civil War.

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- 16 Oct. 13 Enter to win a deluxe family portrait from McElhaney Photography. Enter in the center court area. McElhaney Photography is now open in the Laurel Park Place Office Building.
- 21-22 Livonia Artists Club Show. Don't miss this wonderful display of fine art. Featuring the work of talented local artists including VAAI.

"FASHION PANEL" PHOTOGRAPHIC EXHIBIT
Meet the members of Laurel Park Place's 1991 Fashion Panel in this exciting photo display in the Center Court area — courtesy of McElhaney Photography now open in Laurel Park Place.

For your listening pleasure, enjoy **PIANO IN THE PARK** each Friday, 5:30 p.m.-8:30 p.m., and Saturday, Noon-5 p.m., in the Center Court area.

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