

Beam me up, Scotty,
to Phazer Land, 1C



Digging
it, 1B

Seniors miss mobile
post office service, 3A

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Fifty Cents



Innkeeper drops Botsford's price

Hopes a buyer will honor its history

By Casey Hane
staff writer

Innkeeper John Anhut still greets people in the lobby of the 155-year-old Botsford Inn with a "welcome home" salutation and a firm handshake.

But as much as he enjoys it, Anhut would welcome a newcomer with a love of history to step into the role he has played for the last 40 years.

The Anhut family has dropped the price on the historic inn on Grand River in Farmington Hills, which has been for sale since 1990, and is eagerly pursuing a buyer as promises of a stronger economy sit on the horizon.

Anhut said the inn is now listed at \$2.3 million, down from the \$3.5 million the Anhut family was asking just 1 1/2 years ago. The price includes the inn, its property and all personal property including the numerous antiques on site.

"I think we can safely say no reasonable offer will be refused," he added.

Hiring a new on-site manager during the past year did not bring the added business Anhut had hoped, so he is actively searching for a buyer through a continued real estate list-



SHARON LAMIEUX/staff photographer

John Anhut has been the innkeeper at the Botsford Inn in Farmington Hills for 40 years, and the Anhut family is now trying to sell the property. Local history officials are watching the situa-

tion carefully, concerned that the 150-year-old plus inn be preserved and maintained.

Think positive Hills mayor discusses priorities

By Joanne Maliszewski
staff writer

Positive public relations is a number one priority in 1992 for Farmington Hills Mayor Jonathan Grant.

"I pledge to this council and to all of our residents that I will represent this city with integrity, honesty, no games, no hidden agendas," Grant said.

Monday night, the first city council meeting of the year — was an evening of ceremony as Grant and mayor pro tem Nancy Bates were sworn into their new posts by City Clerk Kathy Dorman Monday night.

Now I know how Mr. (Mikhail) Gorbachev felt Christmas Day when he made his resignation speech," Vagnozzi said before he handed over the ceremonial reins of power — and the mayor's gavel — to Grant.

Vagnozzi, who will continue to serve as a councilman for the remaining two years of his term, spoke of leadership.

Quoting the late President John F. Kennedy, Vagnozzi said the success or failure of offices held by public officials will be measured by answers to four questions:

"First, were we truly men and women of courage? Second, were we truly men and women of judgment? Third, were we truly men and women of integrity? And finally, were we truly men and women of dedication?"

GRANT ALSO lauded Vagnozzi's tenure as mayor.

"Serving under the leadership of Aldo Vagnozzi in-

... My agenda will unfold as the year progresses, and the residents of our city make known those issues and projects on which you place high priority. Those too will become my priorities. . .

— Jonathan Grant
mayor, Farmington Hills Mayor

still hope that there are those in government who are there for the right reasons."

When it came to Grant's turn to talk about the future under his leadership, he made it clear he has no predetermined agenda of his own for the coming year.

"I came to this council two years ago with no specific agenda, and I remain of the mind that it is not my place to develop the agenda for Farmington Hills."

"As I take over as your mayor, my agenda will unfold as the year progresses, and the residents of our city make known those issues and projects on which you place high priority. Those too will become my priorities and I will do my best to lead our city in those directions."

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Property taxes frozen at last year's prices

By Joanne Maliszewski
staff writer

If you're grinding your teeth waiting for your annual property tax assessment notice to arrive in the mail soon, forget it. It's not coming.

That's right. Your assessment notice — the piece of paper that informs you whether the assessment on your house or property has increased, decreased or stayed the same — won't be sent out this year thanks to a freeze slapped on property assessments by the Michigan Legislature.

"Whatever your assessment was last year it will be this year," said Dean Babbs, Farmington Hills assessor. "Unless you are one of the excepted classes, you're frozen."

Here's what will happen for all types of real property, including

commercial, industrial, office, apartments and residential.

• Property tax assessments on all real property will be frozen for one year as of Dec. 31, 1991, for the 1992 tax roll.

• The Farmington Hills Board of Review will be limited in the type of appeals it can hear this year.

• Assessors, such as Babbs, will be prevented from considering 1991 sales for the 1992 assessment.

THE ASSESSMENT freeze can either help you or even hurt you, depending on your particular situation.

First of all, there are exclusions to the freeze. They include property splits or property combinations, property changes with new construction, such as adding a deck or

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Two men arraigned in coach's murder

By Joanne Maliszewski
staff writer

Two Detroit men face murder charges in connection with the shooting death of a 21-year-old Farmington Hills man in Detroit Dec. 31.

Earlando Carter, 25, and Myron Williams, 21, were arraigned on first-degree murder charges in 36th District Court, Detroit, Jan. 2. Both stood mute to the charges and not guilty pleas were entered on their behalf. Preliminary examination on the charges is scheduled for Friday, Jan. 10.

Carter and Williams are accused

of shooting to death Cary C. Moore in a parking lot behind La Renaissance Motel, 18850 Woodward, Detroit, according to a Detroit Police spokesman.

Police said Moore's body was found about 3:20 a.m. on Dec. 31. He died from multiple gunshot wounds. Moore was reported missing to Farmington Hills police by his father, Bud Moore, of Farmington Hills, about 7:30 p.m. later that day.

Moore had been missing since the evening of Dec. 30, when he reportedly dropped a friend off at a Farm-



Cary C. Moore.

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