

**Show-stealers**



Musical masters: "Kid-ing Around," the recent Farmington Musicale program at the Farmington Hills Branch Library, was a day for showcasing mostly young musical talent. In the above photo, Melissa Mikhjian, 9, of Rochester performed a violin duet with her grandmother, Virginia Mekhjian of Farmington Hills. At right, 8-year-old Daniel Silverman shows his talent on the piano.



STAFF PHOTOS BY ANN HEALDY

# Two taxicab companies earn license renewals

Need a cab? Two companies serving the Farmington area were given clearance to take residents for a ride.

Northwest Transport Company and ABC Cab Company, both based in Livonia, were granted license renewals by the Farmington City Council Tuesday.

Northwest Transport, which owns Suburban Checker Cab and Yellow and Red Cab, has been doing business in Farmington since the 1950s. Council authorized 11 taxicab licenses for Northwest and three for ABC.

Tom Peterson of Northwest Transport estimates 30 percent of his business comes from Farmington.

"A lot of seniors find it easier to take a cab than to cross the street," Peterson said.

Northwest also participates in the Dial-a-Ride program, which serves Farmington and Farmington Hills as well as Livonia, Northville and Plymouth.

Seniors 60 and older and handicapped individuals can use the cab services at a subsidized rate

■ **'For a lot of them, it's repeat business. They go to A&P, the senior citizen building . . . Wherever people go.'**

Robert Clark  
ABC Cab

from 6 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday through Friday.

The user pays \$1.60 for the first three miles; \$1.20 for every mile thereafter.

"Basically, they can use it to go anywhere in those six communities," said Sue Wagner, administrative assistant for the City of Livonia, which oversees the program.

ABC Cab has operated in the Farmington area for eight years. The company has applied for an occupancy permit to set up operations in Farmington Hills.

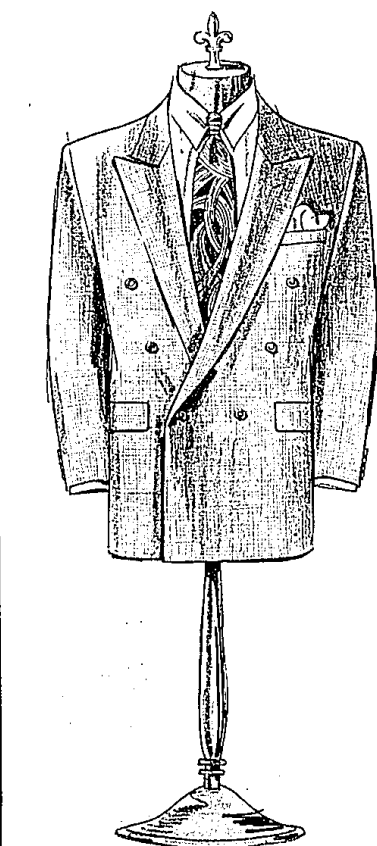
Robert Clark of ABC said 40 percent of his business comes from the Farmington area. Of

that, nearly half are seniors.

"For a lot of them, it's repeat business," Clark said. "They go to A&P, the senior citizen building . . . Wherever people go."

Farmington Public Safety Department inspected vehicles of both companies. Meters have been validated by licensed meter companies or by the Livonia Police Department.

According to City Manager Frank Lauhoff, the public safety department has not received any complaints regarding either company. Farmington Hills does not license taxicabs, according to a member of the city clerk's office.



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