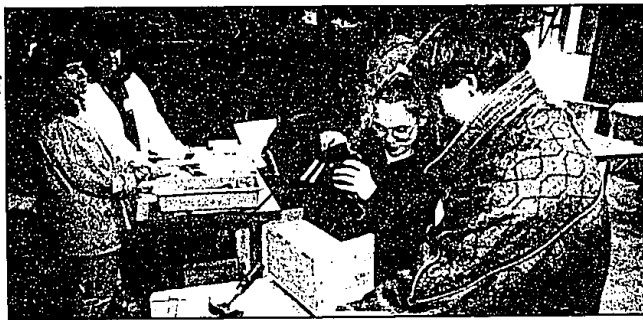




Prey tell: Above, Kathy Frantz of the Howell Nature Center introduces her birds of prey. At right, Special Olympians make bluebird houses. Sheryl Stumbaugh drills holes as Chris Chogar holds the box, with (left) Betsy Stoe and teacher Darcy Dombrowski.



Wild art: Heiner Hertling of West Bloomfield was one of the wildlife artists at the Earth Day event in Farmington Hills.

Town gathers to celebrate Earth

BY BILL COUTANT
STAFF WRITER

Farmington Hills' first Earth Week Festival at Heritage Park was a blooming success.

The event, which raised awareness about nature and the environment, also raised about \$1,500 for Team Farmington, the Special Olympics squad.

Todd Lips, Team Farmington coach and one of the event organizers, praised the athletes who took part and all those who helped bring off Saturday's day-long event.

"This is an idea that is only about two months old," Lips told Farmington Hills City Council members. "It's amazing that we could bring it off."

Lips credited Don and Mary Teets, owners of Backyard Birds; naturalist Joe Derek; the Farmington Hills Fire Department; and the mayors and administrations from both cities for their support of the event. About 1,000 people took part in the celebration.

Saturday's events included wildlife art exhibits, a silent auction, wood carvers, the sale of bluebird boxes, demonstrations of building bird houses and birdfeeders by Special Olympians, a concession stand, a bake sale, a display and seminars on "Birds of Prey" and "Owls" by the Howell Nature Center, semi-



Gone fishin': Jordann Burns, a 4 1/2-year-old Farmington resident, tries to land a magnetic fish to win a prize.

nars by Derek on "Butterflies and Hummingbirds" and "Backyard Habitats," and several children's activities. The fire department put on safety demonstrations and "clowned around" with Sparky the clown.

Lips said he hopes the next year's celebration will be a two-day event.

Team Farmington will also take part in the "Welcome Back Ernie" celebration scheduled for May 8 at noon at the Uptown Plaza on Grand River in Farmington.

School board candidates to appear in televised forum

Lights, camera . . . candidates. All nine candidates running for the Farmington School Board June 14 will have the opportunity to participate in "Candidates' Night" taped 7:30 p.m. Thursday, May 20, in the Southwest Oakland Cable Television Studios in Farmington Hills.

The Farmington Branch of the American Association of University Women and League of Women Voters, Oakland Area, will participate.

Each candidate will be allowed

1 1/2 minutes for an opening statement. A question-and-answer session will then take place, followed by closing remarks. Candidates will be allowed one minute for closing statements.

Time is of the essence with nine people running. "I know we will have time," said Shelley Paros, who is president of the League of Women Voters, Oakland Area. "They'll each have equal time."

Questions are submitted in advance from impartial observers and prior to the taping. A moderator

will provide an opportunity for rebuttals, time permitting.

Paros hopes all nine candidates will participate. If not, she said, "That would be disappointing."

Those running include incumbent Helen Ditzhary, and challengers Bobbie Feldman, Terry Fobbe, Julia Glazer, Joel Marwill, Susan McKendrick, Charles Remus, Ken Stein and David York.

An open seat exists on the board. Trustee John Cotton is not seeking re-election.

POLICE/FIRE CALLS

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

AUTO THEFT
A 1992 red Oldsmobile worth \$18,000 was stolen from the Twelfth Estate Condos on 12 Mile in Farmington Hills April 22-23.

A 1991 black Honda Accord EX worth \$13,000 was stolen from Sunshine Acura on Grand River in Farmington Hills April 22.

A 1984 white Pontiac Sunbird of unknown value was stolen from 'Tradin' Times on Folsom in Farmington Hills April 23.

A red 1991 Ford Mustang worth \$15,000 was stolen from the Winemere Apartments on Jefferson Court in Farmington Hills April 23-24.

A red 1990 Chevy Blazer worth \$9,000 was stolen from a residence on Middlebelt in Farmington Hills on April 23 and recovered April 24 with a broken window that resulted in \$200 in damage.

A brown 1979 Chevy station wagon worth \$1,000 was stolen from the Botsford Terrace Apartments in Farmington Hills April 25-26.

A steering column was found broken, causing \$200 worth of damage, in a possible car theft April 25 at Kensington Manor Apartments.

VANDALISM
Windows of a 1990 Pontiac were broken at a residence on

Rensselaer in Farmington Hills April 24, causing \$500 in damage.

The convertible top of a 1990 red Geo Tracker parked on Woodridge Circle in Farmington Hills April 22-23 was slashed, causing \$550 in damage.

A 4- by 6-foot window at the Botsford Hospital on Grand River in Farmington Hills was smashed April 23-24 causing \$600 in damage.

A gunshot to the right front fender of a 1993 red GMC Blazer parked on Fiddler's Green in Farmington Hills caused \$200 in damage April 23. The truck belongs to the Farmington Hills Fire Department.

THEFT
A Hewlett-Packard laser printer worth \$1,300 was stolen from a 1989 white Ford Tempo parked at the Kmart on Orchard Lake in Farmington Hills April 24.

A black leather jacket worth \$200 was stolen from Kim's Hair Salon on 13 Mile in Farmington Hills April 17.

A car phone worth \$75 and a portable "boom box" stereo worth \$100 were among items stolen from an apartment on Timber Ridge in Farmington Hills April 23-24.

An AM/FM Pioneer stereo and speakers worth \$250 were stolen from a 1979 Chevy van parked on Harlowshire in Farmington Hills April 25-26. A vent window was broken, causing \$10 in damage. A VCR worth \$169 was stolen from the Farmington Area Advi-

sory Council on Middlebelt in Farmington Hills April 22-26.

A Kenwood car stereo system worth \$500 was stolen from a 1986 Ford Escort parked at the American Steel Fabricators on Whitlock in Farmington Hills April 23-26.

Two hubcaps worth \$41 each were reported stolen April 25 from a parked auto near First Church of Christ on Grand River in Farmington.

BREAK-INS
Two kitchen doors were kicked in at a residence on Nottingham Knoll in Farmington Hills April 24-25, causing \$100 in damage. A Magnavox color TV worth \$550, an RCA VCR worth \$400, some clothing, and some jewelry were stolen.

Tools worth \$500 were stolen during a break-in of a Ford Econoline van parked on Nine Mile. The rear door lock was punched, causing \$200 in damage.

A tool box worth \$100 was stolen from a red Dodge Ram van parked on Hathaway in Farmington Hills April 24-26. A window was smashed, causing \$200 in damage.

PAPER HANDING
A Farmington Hills woman reported that an order of new checks that came in the mail had been opened and seven checks totaling \$1,885.86 had been written April 1-26. Each check had a different telephone number.

TOSS ON OUR
LIGHTWEIGHT
JACKET AND
ENJOY SPRING

\$59

Off to the golf course, enjoying the countryside, doing your weekend thing in protective comfort. Our zipper-front jacket by Authentic Import is of water-resistant cotton with a soft, silky brushed finish. Sand, tarian green, navy or red. M-L-XL-XXL.



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