

Time to rehearse



Rockin' start: Randy Patterson (left), Gwen Jacques, Paul Rivera, and Karen Greenfield get in step to Bill Haley and the Comets' "Rock Around the Clock." The crew is rehearsing for the Farmington Community Chorus production of "As Time Goes By" 8 p.m. Friday and Saturday, May 12-13, at Harrison High, 12 Mile Road, east of Orchard Lake Road. Tickets are \$6 for adults and \$5 for students. For information, call 471-4516. The community chorus is celebrating its 15th year.

Mayor's race adds to candidate mix

BY BILL COUTANT
STAFF WRITER

Having a directly elected mayor as well as three city council seats up for grabs in November is going to make things interesting in Farmington Hills.

And City Clerk Kathy Dorman said because of a law that allows candidates to take out petitions for both offices and then file for both, city offices could be busy come filing deadline day, Aug. 22. Candidates for either office must turn in a minimum of 151 valid signatures and a maximum of 303 by 4 p.m. Aug. 22. But because of the newly created elected mayor, a candidate could file both

by the deadline day, even though he or she could not run for both offices.

"If you filed both by the deadline day (a Tuesday), you'd have to withdraw one of the petitions by Friday or they'd both be withdrawn," Dorman said.

The clerk's office has to verify signatures, which becomes a little more complicated with the additional office. Those who sign petitions for city council candidates can sign three of them, since there are three openings. But they can only sign one for the mayoral candidates.

There is often a lineup on deadline day for the last-minute filers.

But Dorman said candidates should remember that the deadline is firm.

"We had one candidate (Andy Raczkowski) who brought in his petitions a day late," she said, adding that Raczkowski, who last fall nearly upset Rep. Jan Dole in the Republican primary, ran as a write-in candidate in that city election.

As of Friday, Roy Lindhardt, Julie Pulgini, Sharon Stein, Nancy Bates, Jon Grant and Aldo Vagnoni had taken out petitions for mayor. Lindhardt, Stein, Charles Bates, Dennis Fitzgerald and Randal Bruce had taken out petitions for city council.

CROP Walk
event May 7

People in the world are starving ... but folks in the Farmington area and West Bloomfield are trying to do something about it.

The 10th annual CROP Walk Against Hunger will bring together members of about 20 area churches for the fund-raising event on Sunday, May 7.

The walk will begin and end at the First United Methodist Church, 33112 Grand River, Farmington. It will take place rain or shine.

Registration begins at 1:15 p.m. with the walk starting at 2 p.m. The 10-kilometer route winds through the streets of Farmington and Farmington Hills.

Representatives of churches or individuals who wish to walk can contact Judy Houser (661-5139) or Cheryl Carter (477-1153).

Last year, \$27,347.30 was raised through the CROP Walk.

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Hills puts up funds
to improve corridor

BY BILL COUTANT
STAFF WRITER

Farmington Hills residents and businesses along the Grand River corridor will see improvements approved by the city council, but the entire city will reap the benefits.

That was the thinking of council members who unanimously approved the proposed budget of \$636,000 that will go toward housing rehabilitation, capital improvements and administration of the program.

"We have a long way to go, but this is a good beginning," said Councilman Jon Grant, a member of the Grand River Avenue Corridor Study Committee. "I'm dedicated to rehabilitating the Eight Mile corridor as well. I think it will be good for the entire city."

The budgeted money will come from \$451,000 the city receives for the coming fiscal year in Community Development Block Grant money along with \$125,000 in Housing Rehabilitation Program fund balance money. The city will also receive about \$60,000 in program income from loan repayments.

The \$222,000 approved for the Grand River corridor along with \$75,000 for reconstructing Tuck Road and \$25,000 for improvements to Shilohwasse, will mean that less money, \$234,000 in 1995/96 compared to \$317,705 in 1994/95, will go toward housing rehabilitation.

But Rick Lampi, the city's community development coordinator, said that will not affect the popular housing program.

"It shouldn't hamper this program," he said. "We do about \$200,000 to \$250,000 a year."

GRAND RIVER

Rather than keep it all in fund balance, we wanted to use it on other types of projects.

The housing rehabilitation program has had better results since the city has used a building inspector full time, Lampi said.

"I think his (Jack Klein) presence on the job site is key to making sure the work is done correctly," Lampi said.

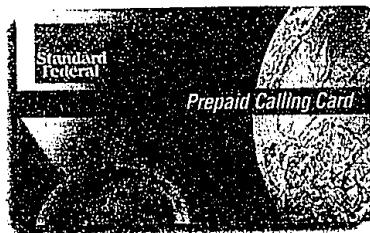
The improvements have been heartily endorsed by the Olde Town/Meadowbrook Heights Homeowners Association, where many of the improvements will be made to the corridor. Those improvements include landscaping of businesses, installing, repaving and aligning sidewalks, purchasing and installing 12-foot high street lights, curb repairs by the Michigan Department of Transportation, the removal of old, wood utility poles along the north side working and Ameritech, placing benches along the corridor donated by Botsford Hospital, and renovating and landscaping around the entrance-way sign to the city.

In other action, the council:

■ Approved the transfer of ownership of MetroVision to Time Warner Entertainment.

■ Voted to create an Information Management Task Force and secure proposals for a computer and technology consultant to undertake an information management use study.

In an audit of the city's management practices, the technology area was one that was considered weak.

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OBITUARIES

VICTORIA REBECCA LEONARD
Mrs. Leonard, 52, of Farmington Hills died April 22 in Bi-County Hospital.

Born in Hamtramck, Mrs. Leonard was a registered nurse.

Survivors include her husband, Keith; son, Keith; daughter, Marie.

A memorial service will be held at a later date. Memorials may be made to the American Cancer Society.

Arrangements were made by the Heaney-Bundquist Funeral Home, Farmington.

JAMES C. FLICK

Mr. Flick, 40, of Livonia died April 25.

Born in Detroit, Mr. Flick was the owner of Flick Wall Covering & Painting Company.

Survivors include his wife, Virginia; sons, Lloyd, Ralph and Timothy; father, William Waars; brothers, Stephen, Michael, Orval, William, Dennis and Danny Flick and William Waars; sisters, Cheryl Vargo and Charlene Jones; one grandson.

Services were at the Thayer-Rock Funeral Home, Farmington, with the Rev. Jack Williams of United Assembly of God officiating. Burial was in Glen Eden Cemetery, Livonia.