

# 'Saved by the belt'

## Hanging around after a crash gets Hills woman traffic prize

BY BILL COUTANT  
STAFF WRITER

Nov. 18, 1994 is a day Anne Allard will not soon forget.

Because she wore a seat belt, the traffic accident in which her Chrysler minivan was flipped over, caused only minor injuries to the mother of two.

The Walled Lake woman became the first recipient of the Saved by the Belt Award given in Farmington Hills when Hills Traffic Supervisor Sgt. Dennis Green made the presentation Aug. 30. The state award is presented to a motorist who avoided loss of life or serious injury by wearing a seat belt.

For Allard, 30, there is no doubt that she can continue to work, play with her daughter Rebecca, 4, and son Brandon, 1, and spend time with her husband Tom because she was belted.

"She was hanging upside down, suspended by the seat belt when the van landed," Green said. "She certainly would have been seriously injured or killed had she not worn it."

Allard's rough ride began as she was returning home from working at Manpower in Detroit at about 1:50 p.m. Unknown to Allard, a motorist well ahead of her car tried to make a U-turn on northbound I-275, causing cars in front of her to put on their brakes.

"I know there was no one to the right of me, so I tried to move over to get out of the way of the semi behind me," she said.

But her maneuvers were to no avail as the truck hit her van from the rear, causing it to flip onto its roof. Allard, who was alone in the van, had glass splinters in her eyes, a sore chest, but otherwise was not seriously injured.

**'She was hanging upside down, suspended by the seat belt when the van landed. She certainly would have been seriously injured or killed had she not worn it.'**

Sgt. Dennis Green

Because the doors could not be opened, Farmington Hills firefighters had to use the Jaws of Life to get her out, leaving Allard literally hanging in the meantime. Hills Officer Don Fradette, who had been coming off the road, had been behind the accident and was the first officer on the scene.

"I talked to her, asked her about her family and tried to keep her from going into shock," Fradette said. "I didn't want her to open her eyes with that glass in there."

So, hat-like, with no vision and hanging upside down, Allard kept up her spirits by talking with Fradette until the door could be opened and she could be released from the seat belt.

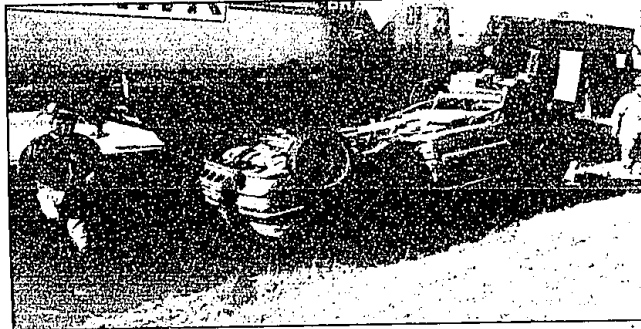
Fradette, who caught Allard as she was freed, came away with cuts on his arms and she had only minor injuries.

"I've been wearing seat belts since I could drive," said Allard. "I'm sure that had I not been wearing one, I would have been seriously injured, at least. The van was totaled. That sums it up."

Green said departments throughout the state nominate candidates for the award and the winner is selected by the state. In recognition, Allard received a special proclamation signed by Gov. John Engler.



Buckled down: Anne Allard (above) receives a Saved By the Belt Club certificate and license plate from Farmington Hills police officers Don Fradette (left) and Dennis Green. Allard received only minor chest injuries after a rollover accident (right) involving a semi truck Nov. 18, 1994 off the northbound ramp on I-275 at Grand River. Wearing a seat belt prevented her from being seriously injured, police said.



### ON THE AGENDAS

Below are highlights from the agendas of meetings this week. All meetings are open to the public.

**Farmington Hills City Council**  
Hills City Hall, 474-6115  
6 p.m., Monday, Sept. 11

**Study session**  
Agenda items include:  
■ Consideration of entering into executive session to review pending litigation regarding Welch v. Farmington Hills; Sharrard v. Farmington Hills; Gosterman v. Farmington Hills; and a legal opinion regarding adult/sexually explicit retail zoning.

**Farmington Hills City Council**  
7:30 p.m., Monday, Sept. 11

**Regular meeting**  
Agenda items include:  
■ Public questions and comments  
■ A public hearing to consider

the introduction of a rezoning request for property north of 11 Mile on both sides of Power Road to change from RA-1 to RA-1A.

■ A public hearing to consider introducing a change in the city's zoning to permit outdoor seating as an accessory use to restaurants in community business district, general business, planned general business and expressway service zoned districts.

■ Council members' comments and announcements.

■ Consideration of a cluster site plan/open space plan for 13.22 acres on the south side of Nine Mile east of Green Hill.  
■ Consideration of approval of a transfer of ownership of a 1994 Class C licensed business with Sunday sales, dance and entertainment permits at 34565 W.

12 Mile (formerly the Metro Musicale) from 112 Mile 1989, Inc. to Unique Grilles, Inc.

■ Consideration of setting September meeting schedule.  
■ Consideration of designating a voting delegate and an alternate delegate for the National Congress of Cities annual Congress of Cities, Nov. 29 to Dec. 2, 1995.

**Farmington Downtown Development Authority City Council Chambers,**  
473-7276  
8 a.m., Tuesday, Sept. 12

**Agenda items include:**  
■ Business recruitment subcommittee report.  
■ Economic development — financial assistant.  
■ Executive director's responsibilities 1995-96.  
■ Executive director's report.  
■ Public comment.

### CAMPUS PIPELINE

If you have news from a college, university or other campus of higher education — and there's a Farmington-area connection — we'd like to hear from you. Send items to: Campus Pipeline, 33441 Grand River, Farmington 48335.

#### NEW GRADUATES

Todd Pawlowski of Farmington Hills graduated from Northwestern University Robert R. McCormick School of Engineering and Applied Science with a bachelor of science in mechanical engineering. He is a graduate of North Farmington High School. He is a member of Phi Delta Theta fraternity.

Marla Abramowitz, Robert Los, Craig Lutz, Rachel Meyers, Susan Schultz and Michael Cromwell of the Farmington area graduated from Western Michigan University. Elizabeth Prump of Farmington Hills graduated from Wayne State University with a bachelor of arts degree in Spanish and a minor in English. The Farmington High School graduate served as Spanish Club president, was involved with the Women's Studies Student Association, and served on the student due

process committee and the Liberal Arts Dean Selection Committee. She will pursue a master of social work degree at Western Michigan University.

Peter David Thompson of Farmington Hills graduated from GM Engineering & Management Institute with a bachelor of science degree in mechanical engineering.

William Robbins, James Longhurst, Sarah McIntosh, Mary Yeomans, Dennis Schultz, David Hicks, Kelley Hofer, Judith Collinske, Nina Chanoy, Brenda Piskowski and Noe Singh of the Farmington area graduated from Walsh College.

Shawn Cross, Heather Armstrong, Kevin Grow, Christine Gurunian, Mark Hanke, Michele Kay, Donnie Lakomy, Keith Miller, Bonnie Milligan, Carol Orr, Ilene Rappaport, Christine Reller, Amy Rogers, Edward Sutton and Sheela Wittich from the Farmington area graduated from Central Michigan University.

Kenneth Weino of Farmington received a juris doctor degree from Yeshiva University's Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law. Christopher Hayes of Farmington Hills graduated from

Xavier University with a bachelor of arts degree in art.

#### SCHOLARSHIPS

Jason Pawlowski of Farmington Hills received a Michigan High School Football Coaches' Association Scholarship and the Robert C. Byrd Memorial Scholarship. He is a graduate of North Farmington High School and will use both scholarships as he enters Princeton University, where he will play defense on the Princeton Tigers football team.

#### DEAN'S LIST

Mary Koczara, Brent Perdue and Dawn Sullivan of Farmington Hills, Madonna University.

Shoko Maeda, Deepa Pai and Joshua Behara of Farmington Hills, Kalamazoo College.

Evan David Ellis of Farmington Hills and a graduate of North Farmington High School, Johns Hopkins University.

#### PHI KAPPA PHI

Clara Spolier of Farmington Hills was named to the Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society at Western Michigan University.



# Always open. And close.

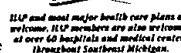
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access to your medical information. And should you need hospital care, ask your doctor about admission to nearby St. Joseph's Hospital-Oakland, Huron Valley Hospital or Henry Ford Hospital.

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