

Ooh that sound



Golden tones: Listen up for *The Spirit of Detroit Chorus of Sweet Adelines International* at 8 p.m. Thursday, June 12, in Farmington Hills' Heritage Park as part of the Thursday night concert series. Shown above is last year's show with Cara Egan (child in foreground) trying to listen as the group performs.

Fines from page A1

taxpayer dollars," said David Walsh, 47th District Court administrator.

Heavy fines for tickets will serve to curb speeders, said a Farmington police official.

"I think it would be (a deterrent) once you get one. I think it would be (a deterrent) once you get one and you see how much it is," said Michael Wiggins, Farmington Public Safety deputy director. "As of right now, I'm sure the average driver doesn't know what the fine is."

"I know it would deter me . . . There are some heavy fines here."

The new fine schedule also sets a standard on how fines are tabulated, Walsh said.

On standard moving violations, it costs the municipality and court about \$60. There is a \$90 charge in cases of careless driving and accidents, which typically require more police investigation and court time.

Another \$24, which goes to the state, is included in the ticket as well as an actual fine for the misdeed ranging \$11 to \$98. Courts cannot charge more than \$100 for the actual fine.

However, a new state law doubles the fine component for violations in construction and school zones, and at emergencies.

The cities — which handle the budget for the 47th District Court — receive money from the fine and cost portion of tickets written by local police departments. For example, \$86 of a \$110 speeding ticket would go to the cities.

The fine portion on a ticket written by state police or county sheriff ticket goes to the county library fund.

Before, 80 percent of the money went to the cities with the other 20 percent to the state, Walsh said.

Increasing fines, though, may cause more people to contest tickets in court. Costs to the court could increase in the long run, Walsh said.

"It could hurt in the long run if it required us to get more staff," he said. "But we're not getting additional staff and our salaries are not going up. Our budget is remaining the same."

The 47th District Court is one of the few in the state to undertake a cost breakdown study. There is a disparity how fines are tabulated statewide, Walsh said.

For instance, many courts simply doubled the penalty — instead of only the fine portion — for violations in school and construction zones and at emergency scenes.

"We didn't feel comfortable with the fact that we couldn't define exactly why we were charging what we were charging," Walsh said.

OBITUARIES

AUGUST H. SCHROLL

August H. Schroll, 64, died June 2 at St. Mary's Hospital in Livonia.

A resident of Farmington Hills, Mr. Schroll was a veteran of the U.S. Navy and a member of the F.A.M. Farmington Lodge.

He is survived by wife, Beverly; daughters, Kathleen Heikkinen of Troy and Karen Mason of Utica; sister, Mary Ann Murray; brother, Gene; and grandchildren, Jacob, Jaclyn, Jay and John.

Funeral services were held June 7 at Gramer Funeral Home in Clawson.

Memorial contributions can be sent to March of Dimes, 33002 Maplenut, Farmington Hills, 48355.

GERTRUDE M. GAWLAS

Gertrude M. Gawlas, 98, died June 3 at St. Mary's Hospital in Livonia.

Born in Utica, N.Y., Mrs. Gawlas was the co-owner of Redford Coin & Stamp Shop. She was a member of the Blue Star Mothers, the Women's Mercy Golf Association, the Redford War Memorial Association and the American Gold Star Mothers.

She is survived by sons, Frederick and Robert; sister, Dorothy; eight grandchildren; 14 great-grandchildren; and two great-great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were June 7 at St. Gerald Catholic Church in Farmington. Arrangements were made by Thayer-Rock Funeral Home in Farmington.

Memorial contributions can be sent to the Alzheimer's Association, 17220 W. Twelve Mile Rd. Suite 100, Southfield 48076.

MARGARET MAY GHEQUERE

Margaret May Ghesquiere, 86, died June 3 at Botolph General Hospital.

Born in Spokane, Wash., Mrs. Ghesquiere was a bookkeeper for General Motors World Headquarters. She was a member of the First United Methodist Church of Farmington and an American Red Cross volunteer for 40 years.

She is survived by son, Bruce Tchow of Baton Rouge, La.; sister, Inez Burgess of Attica, Mich.; and granddaughters, Beth and Dawn.

Funeral services were held June 7 at First United Methodist Church of Farmington. Arrangements made by Thayer-Rock Funeral Home in Farmington.

Memorial contributions can be sent to the Arthritis Foundation, 23999 Northwestern Highway, Southfield 48076-6820.

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