

# Farmington's Memorial Day parade recognizes those who fought at sea

Good old-fashioned American patriotism has dissipated since World War II, according to Korean War veteran Walter Christensen, home board president of American Legion Groves-Walker Post 346 in Farmington.

But, Christensen said, there at least is one day every year where patriotism makes a comeback — and that's Memorial Day, celebrated annually in Farmington with a parade down Grand River from Uptown Plaza to the war veterans' monument at Oakland Street.

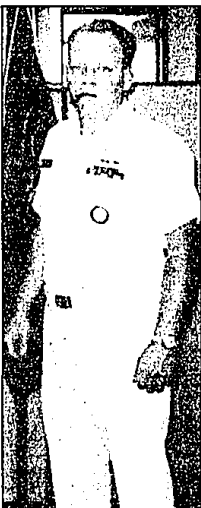
This year's festivities — to focus on the contributions made by the Navy — got under way at 10 a.m. with a fly-over by the B-25 Mitchell "Guardian of Freedom" fighter plane.

"It's the one day that's set aside ... to honor those who have given their lives to serve their country," Christensen said. "And it's a very good time to show our younger generation true patriotism, the way it's been done for years."

"Over the past 45 or 50 years, people have fallen away from the reason we're here."

Monday's parade, and those like it in other communities, is something that should be mandatory for Americans to attend, he added. "I don't feel there should be anybody not attending this parade. They should bring their children and grandchildren."

Those who do attend the Farmington parade, organized by American Legion Groves-Walker Post 346, American Legion Post 190 in Farmington Hills and Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 2269 in Farmington Hills, will get a glimpse at some of the surviving World War II vets, arguably some of the



On guard: Jeff Krause, who has been in the Navy for 16 years, will be one of four Farmington High graduates honored at Monday's parade.

nation's last heroes. "We're going to have a dozen cars in the parade, with World War II vets riding in them," Christensen said. "I'm trying to get convertibles."

The parade's honorary marshal will be John "Uncle Jack" Curd, a war vet who recently was named 1998 Citizen of the Year by the Farmington Area Jaycees and Farmington/Farmington Hills Chamber of Commerce.

And four Farmington High School graduates and current Navy recruiters will receive plaques awarded by the parade committee at the end of the one-mile route. Senior Chief Jeff Krause, Chief Petty Officer Stephen Rutkowski, Sonar Technician 1st Class Mark Williams and Fire Control Technician 2nd Class Jason Heien are scheduled to be honored for dedicated service to the Navy.

Krause, a 1973 FHS graduate, has logged 16 of his 22 years of military service in the Navy. He is planning on retiring this year, as soon as an upcoming Middle East tour with the U.S. Special Operations Command is over — with hopes of then pursuing a high school teaching career.

Rutkowski, who graduated in 1980, enlisted into the Navy in April 1982. The Persian Gulf War veteran reported to the Naval Recruiting Station in Adrian, Mich., in 1996.

Williams, also a 1980 grad, is currently assigned to the Pontiac Navy recruiting center.

Heien, a 1991 graduate, is based out of the Navy recruiting center in Dearborn. After the parade and ceremony, 11 other awards will be given out at Post 2269.

Asked why the Navy is being highlighted on Monday, Christensen said the Farmington Memorial Day Parade rotates its focus on different branches of the military from year to year.

## Edison tree trimmers to be out in full force

Tree trimmers will be out in Farmington and Farmington Hills this month and next, trying to keep the power flowing.

Detroit Edison crews will be working to maintain a 10-foot clearance between tree branches and power lines to prevent power outages, low voltage and keep

service in prime condition. This year's work is especially needed in southeast Michigan, according to Robert J. Buckler, executive vice president for Edison.

"With our early spring weather, trees already are in full

bloom and can pose both safety and service reliability problems if they come in contact with our power lines," he said.

Edison's tree trimming crews are expected to follow National Arborist Association standards, which are designed to maintain the health of the trees.

## RECREATION NEWS

**SPRING HAYRIDES**  
Bring the whole family and enjoy a tour of Heritage Park at 7:30 p.m. Friday, May 15; and 6:30 and 7:30 p.m. Friday, May 29. The cost is \$3 per person. To register, call 473-9570.

**KING OF THE HILLS**  
An eight-game/ eight-week in-line hockey season runs June 15 to Aug. 6. Games will be played weekday evenings at Heritage Park In-Line Hockey Rink in Farmington Hills. Divisions range from 10 and under to 17 and up. Both individual (\$45)

and team (\$425) registration deadline is Thursday, May 28. For more information, contact Special Services at 473-9570.

**CLEAN-UP SALE**  
The largest indoor garage sale in Farmington Hills is from 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, May 30, at the Costik Activities Center. Preregistration at Special Services is required by May 22 to reserve your spot. Call 473-9570.


**SUMMER CAMPS**  
The Farmington Recreation Division offers a wide variety of

summer camp activities. Camps are held at Heritage Park and the Activities Center. Call 473-9570.

**SKATE INSTRUCTION**  
Improve your in-line skating skills with a certified in-line skate instructor at the In-Line Hockey Rink at Heritage Park. Sessions are 4:30-6:30 p.m. May 31 (register by May 22), 1-3 p.m. and 4-8 p.m. June 7 (register by May 29). All ages are welcome. The cost is \$18 for ages 18 and up and \$16 for 17 and under. Call 473-9570.

### The Grand Court Choices

*Rental Retirement Communities*



Call for more information on Senior Living:

|  |  |   |
|--|--|---|
| <b>THE GRAND COURT NOVI</b><br>45182 West Road<br>Novi, MI 48377<br>(248) 689-5330 | <b>THE GRAND COURT FARMINGTON HILLS</b><br>38550 Grand River<br>Farmington Hills, MI 48335<br>(248) 476-7478 | <b>THE GRAND COURT WESTLAND</b><br>37501 Joy Road<br>Westland, MI 48185<br>(734) 451-1155 |
|--|--|---|



## Find out what you can expect at our Great Expectations seminar.

*Great Expectations* is a seminar for couples who are either thinking of having a baby or are expecting. The seminar prepares you with information on getting pregnant, life-style changes which come with parenthood, how to choose a doctor and handling stress. Guest speakers include physicians, a maternal child health nurse and a financial planner.

The next seminar will be held Saturday, June 6 from 9:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. on the Botsford campus. Registration is required and limited. Call (248) 477-6100 for reservations today!

Botsford's Special Delivery Center has its own private entrance, waiting room/lobby and direct admission. Our specialized labor/delivery/recovery rooms allow you to stay comfortably in one room during childbirth with easy access to the latest technology.

### Special Delivery Center

We baby you and your baby, every step of the way.  
 28050 Grand River Avenue Farmington Hills, MI 48336-5922



REDUCE  
 PAPER CUTS  
 BY 98%

Open fewer envelopes when you consolidate bills with our Home Equity Loan.

**SAVE UP TO \$500 ON YOUR FIRST MONTH'S INTEREST**

Everyone knows the leading cause of paper cuts is opening monthly bills. Let NBD reduce the risk by consolidating your bills with a home equity loan. You'll pay no application fees or closing costs. Your interest may be tax deductible. And NBD will refund your first month's interest, up to \$500. Best of all, fewer envelopes mean fewer paper cuts. Visit any branch. Or apply over the phone, seven days a week. 1-800-CALL-NBD



© 1998 NBD Bank, Member FDIC. Interest accrued during the first 30 days after you close the loan. If any, will be refunded up to a maximum of \$500. Property insurance required. Please consult your tax advisor regarding the deductibility of interest. Offer good for loans closed by July 31, 1998.