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SEVENTY-FIVE CENTS

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Civic gala is sellout

Farmington City Manager Frank Launoff Monday reported that all \$50 tickets to the Saturday Jan. 8, 2000 "Civic Theatre Grand Re-Opening Gala" have sold out. That evening, 288 patrons will enjoy "The Philadelphia Story," a 1940 movie classic featuring Cary Grant, Katherine Hepburn and Jimmy Stewart.

"Certainly, it shows the (high) level of community support for the theater," said Launoff, about the sold-out event. "And that's what we heard all the way back when we decided to do this (purchase the Civic). We hope that support continues into the future."

Suzanne Paul, a spokeswoman for the big weekend, said "Philadelphia Story" was selected because it was released in 1940, the same year the Civic opened.

Besides the vintage movie, Saturday night patrons will enjoy unveiling of the Civic Theatre mural, cocktails and hors d'oeuvres next door at Legato and valet parking.

Current theatrical releases will be shown both Friday and Sunday of the grand-reopening weekend. Patrons for those evenings will pay 1940 prices, 25 cents for adults; 10 cents for children age 12 and under.



Sister dead; brother arraigned

Defendant Harold David Bloom of Farmington was ordered held without bond in Oakland County Jail. His preliminary examination in 47th District Court is set for Jan. 10, 2000.

BY RICHARD PEARL
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Harold David Bloom of Farmington was arraigned Tuesday before 47th District Court Judge Marla Parker on a charge of first-degree premeditated murder in Monday's stabbing death of his sister, Susan Carol Disner of Farmington Hills.

Bloom's attorney, Jose Rafael Fanago

of Bloomfield Hills, entered a plea of not guilty for his client, who is charged with stabbing Disner 14 times with a "military knife," according to Oakland County prosecuting attorney John Pietrofesa.

Punishment on the charge is imprisonment for life.

Parker ordered the defendant held without bond in the Oakland County Jail and also set the preliminary exam-

ination for Jan. 10, 2000. Fanago said he needed time to determine Bloom's condition with regard to prescription medications and also "did he (Bloom) understand what he was doing?"

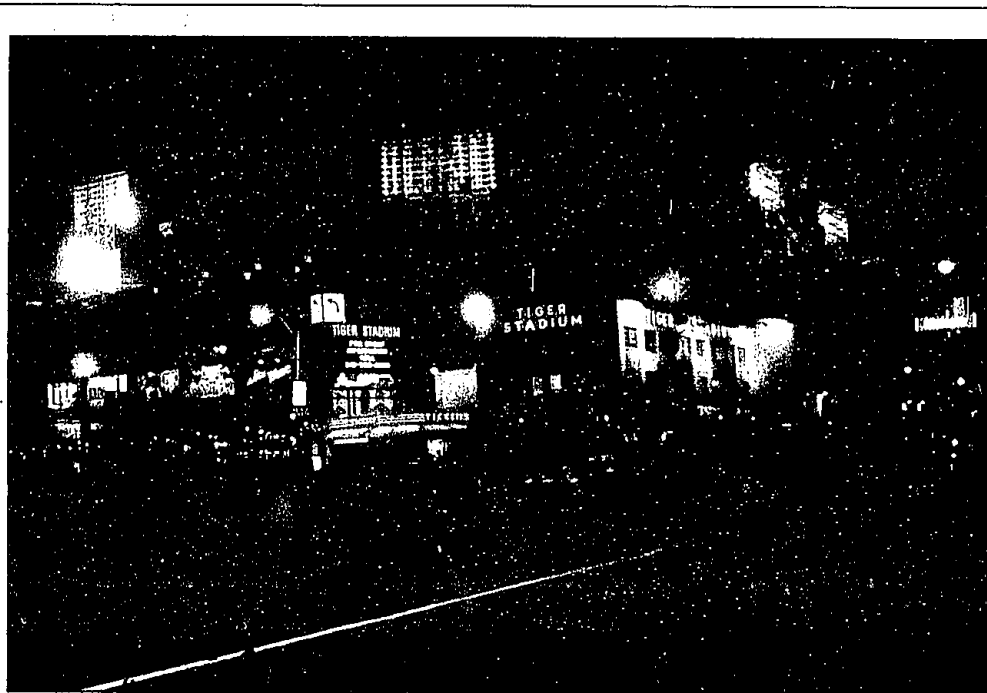
Farmington police said Bloom called 911 from his Jamestown Apartments residence on Grand River to report his sister's death. She was pronounced dead at the scene.

Police also said the two arresting officers arrived "within the minute," just as Bloom was finishing his call with the 911 operator around 10 a.m.



Talk: Harold David Bloom (left) listens to his attorney.

Please see DEATH, A4



On the corner: This is the photograph Jim Hardy of the Farmington Hills Special Services Department took as Tiger Stadium was closing for good. His photo is available in art galleries. He has a love of all things baseball, especially memorabilia.

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New classes give kids more choices

BY TIM SMITH
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Led by new multi-faceted courses about everything from today's scientific world and global marketplace to financial planning, the Farmington school district no longer is merely concerned about "how we do school," said Jerry Fouchey, director of curriculum and staff development.

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Instead, the focus is on "how we do life," said Fouchey, who recently touted 10 new or revised high school curriculum electives. Those classes, designed to bring more choices for block scheduling at Farmington, Harrison and North high schools, were approved on Dec. 14 by the Farmington Board of Education.

The new courses will take effect at the end of January at Farmington and North, and in 2000-01 at Harrison, after the high school starts block scheduling.

New courses include Medieval History, International Marketing, Contemporary Issues in Science, Principles of Weather

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Remembering: Jim Hardy's love of the game drew him back to Tiger Stadium for one last photograph

Longtime Hills farmer remembered by friends

BY JOANNE MALISEKZSKI
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His life spoke to the history of Farmington Township and to the city that the area eventually became.

"This is a real loss for the community," said Mary Bush, Farmington councilwoman. "He was everything Farmington Township was."

Leon Marsh, 85, one of Farmington Hills' longtime residents, died Christmas Eve at his home at 14 Mile and Halsted roads.

"He was one of the old timers who comes from a different age," said Mike Dornan, city manager of Wixom, who grew up next door to Marsh. "He almost had a dialect of sorts. He had a

neat little chuckle."

Marsh was a longtime farmer who raised sheep, and had an apple orchard and other crops, such as corn, on his acreage that at one time included what is now Ramblewood subdivision.

"At one time he had a 100-head of sheep. They all grazed on the top of the hills that overlooked the Minnow Pond Drain," Dornan said.

Bush, who grew up at 13 Mile and Halsted roads, remembers Marsh fondly. "My dad would take me over there to watch him shear the sheep." She also remembers that every year Marsh would gather up the apples from his orchard and head to Eastern Market for sale.

Marsh never married but was sur-

rounded by friends and relatives throughout his lifetime in the 14 Mile-Halsted area. "He was so good to so many people. He was a kind and generous man," said cousin Beverly Ziegler.

She said that Marsh graduated from Walled Lake High School and was supposed to attend Michigan State University. But he preferred to stay home and help his father on the farm. As far as getting married, Ziegler said her cousin just never had time.

Dornan met Marsh when he was about 10 years old. "I did some haying for him over the years. We traded farm equipment. But we weren't farmers like Leon was. We got a lot of tips from

Lights out

Artist shoots for stadium

BY JONI HUBRED
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Jim Hardy still remembers the first time he saw the inside of Tiger Stadium - though he might hesitate to tell you how many years ago that was.

"I remember the feeling I had as an eight-year-old walking into there for the first time," said Hardy, who works as maintenance supervisor for San Marino Public Golf Course in Farmington Hills. "I was awestruck."

Though severe asthma prevented him from playing, he never lost his love of the game. Hardy's fascination with all things baseball, especially memorabilia, drew him to the stadium more than a dozen times this year.

"I remember the feeling I had as an eight-year-old walking into there for the first time. I was awestruck."

Jim Hardy
—Artist

In addition to watching the games, he stood on the corner of Michigan and Trumbull shooting hundreds of photographs of the stadium. Hardy is an artist, and he wanted to do something special to commemorate the last historic

Please see TIGER, A4



Leon Marsh, 85

Please see MARCH, A1