

# Vintage Farmington from page B1

bombs launched between November 1944 and April 1945. Only a few made it across the Pacific. The batteries in the gondolas that controlled the flight contained antifreeze that was too weak. So the batteries froze and most balloons fell into the Pacific Ocean.

A fall on U.S. soil, but the U.S. government did not want accounts of the gondolas to be reported. The balloon bombs were not reported by the press or radio. Thus Americans are not aware of this bit of history.

One gondola bomb fell in Oregon in May 1945, killing a minister's wife and five children.

Another reached the power lines above a nuclear facility in Oregon where plutonium was being manufactured for the secret atomic bomb. However, it only knocked out the power lines.

**A secret weapon**

Meanwhile, American, Canadian, and British scientists were working on a secret weapon, the atomic bomb. The American casualties in the Pacific were so great using conventional forces that President Harry Truman decided to use the \$2 billion weapon to end the war.

Truman demanded Japanese

surrender July 26, 1945. When the atomic bomb was dropped, the bomb was dropped on Hiroshima Aug. 5. Again, no response. Four days later, an atomic bomb was dropped on Nagasaki.

Russia advanced into Korea and Manchuria. The Japanese surrendered.

By this time, John T. Cook's garden in Farmington was producing a harvest. Cook had thrown aside the tin can in his garden in the spring when plant-worms. Cook didn't realize what it was until June when an article was published.

Then the device was turned

over to a Michigan State trooper neighbor of his, according to the account by Charles Martin. Another gondola had been found in Michigan by some boys in Allegan County. This one had lost its bomb.

There can be all kinds of speculation about what would have happened the next season of the jet stream. However, the American bombs were bigger, more deadly and more accurate. America won the war before another strong jet stream season.

Ruth Moehman is a local historian and the author of *Heritage Homes of Farmington*.

## Northville garden walk set for July

Northville's seventh annual Garden Walk is slated Wednesday, July 12, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and featuring seven outstanding local gardens.

Guests will also stroll through the colorful gardens of historic Mill Race Village. Complimentary home-baked cookies and beverages will be served at Cady Inn. Enjoy music on the green. Select from a variety of garden plants and accessories offered by local plantmen and artisans.

Tickets are \$8 and are available at Gardenviews, 202 W. Main, and the Northville Chamber of Commerce at 195 S. Main. No tickets will be sold at garden walk homes or at Cady Inn on the day of the event. July 13 is the rain date.

## Chat room from page B1

I kept praying this prayer everyday. One day they took the 45th Infantry Division out of battle line and took us back to the rear. They roped us with 2nd Infantry Division. They put a new major general in command of our division. They took every corporal, sergeant, and commissioned officer in our company and sent them home. There were just a few of us PFCs left in the company. The general had frozen all the ratings in our division. Nobody could get a promotion in rank. One day our new captain company commander brought a first lieutenant fresh from the States and put him in command of our platoon.

The captain asked if any of us PFCs knew how to operate an M-10 plotting board. I told him I knew how to operate everything in fire direction center of an 81-mm mortar platoon. The captain

told me I was now an acting sergeant first class in charge of fire direction center. He told the first lieutenant I would teach him everything he needed to know about an 81-mm mortar. He told the rest of the PFCs they were now acting sergeants and we were to train the privates from the States and get them ready to go into battle.

One day the lieutenant asked me to sign some papers giving the Army permission to send me back up on battle line for three months. He said the first day I went on battle line I would be a corporal, 30 days after that a staff sergeant, 30 days later a sergeant first class, and 30 days after that I could go home with sergeant's stripes on my sleeves. God protected me for 157 days in combat. If I would've gone back up on battle line just to get sergeant stripes, I would've bro-

ken my covenant prayer to the Lord. His protection would have gone off me and my body would be rotting in Korean soil right now.

One day in November 1952 I came back through the front door of my home on Tuller Avenue in Detroit. My grand-mother was 100 percent right. Only Almighty God can bring a person home from hell on this earth, war.

Clifford Martin is a decorated veteran of the Korean War. He lives in Canton and marched in the Farmington Memorial Day parade with other Korean War veterans. The Korean War Commemorative officially begins on June 25. Flags are still available at the Farmington Chamber of Commerce. Call 474-3440 for more information.

## Yard sales from page B1

driftwood.

"It's funny. You don't realize what will go. It's a good way to eliminate all that silly stuff that adds up after time," said Mason. "If you really aren't sure you want to part with something you price it a little higher and see what happens, then the things you want to get rid of your price to."

Barb Schmid, a Canton resident browsing the tables in Mason's garage, said she likes to look for household items and things for her grandchildren.

"I really enjoy garage sales. I look forward to them when it starts to get warm in April and May," said Schmid.

She wasn't the only one who found a bargain at Mason's sale.

I scooped up an already re-finished "telephone" table that just needs a new fabric seat - nice find for only \$35.

**Alternatives**

Typically sellers who have heavy items they don't want to move several times will allow buyers to walk through their house for the sale. Estate sales oftentimes take this form if a person dies and the family opts to pare down what they keep by selling things right out of the home.

"We ran across three moving vans in a four mostly clean furniture and household items. If you're comfortable with a more personal approach to a sale then you won't be bothered traipsing

through someone's bedroom to look at their oak armoire. These sales can be particularly good sometimes because homeowners get to the point where they want to move on to their new home and have no trouble discounting their goods to part ways fast.

A third option to the garage sale is an auction. Again, these take place in a home or spill out into the yard, garage and basement to avoid the seller having to move big ticket items.

A few hazards to garage selling, other than getting lost or coming across a sale that was advertised as "huge" only to find it bordering on pathetic, is just missing that one particular item that would have made all your travels worth it.

I spotted a small, antique wicker rocking chair for my daughter as soon as we made our way up the driveway of a Garden City garage sale. As I walked over to pick it up - not even caring how much the price on the orange sticker read - I realized the woman that walked up just ahead of us already claimed it as her own and placed it next to the table where the homeowner was cashing people out.

Although I wasn't specifically looking for a wicker chair, I'm still pining away over my loss.

At our next stop we ran across Albert Rickard of Farmington Hills and his friend Sam Plunkett of Brighton. The pair are retired electricians who say garage selling is a way for them to "keep busy."

"It's something to do," said Rickard.

"You never know what you're going to come by and it's a nice way to spend time," added Plunkett, who said they look for tools "or whatever" to add to their own garages which are "full of junk."

Kathy Falzon of Redford said she gets together with her mother and sister to hold a sale. "It's a lot of fun to go with someone," said Falzon standing in her own garage amidst her first sale of the season.

"When I'm out I look for clothes for my kids because they grow and wear out of things so fast and I look for household stuff for our cottage," said Falzon. "For myself I keep my eyes open for antiques."

Whatever your passion - be powder thimbles or pickle green mason jars - garage selling is a great way to spend a lazy Saturday, discover a new city, meet your neighbors and maybe, just maybe, find another man's treasure.

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**PUBLIC STORAGE**  
**NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE**  
**OF PERSONAL PROPERTY**

Notice is hereby given that pursuant to Section 4 of the Self-Service Storage Facility Act, State of Michigan, the undersigned will sell at public auction sale by competitive bidding. Sales are for cash only. Removal within 24 hours. For sale are storage units for which rent and fees are past due.

On the premises where said property has been stored and which are located at Public Storage, 34060 Nine Mile Road, Farmington, MI 48336, (248) 473-4020, on July 25, 2000 at 12:15 p.m. the personal property described below:

**IN THE MATTER OF:**  
 EUGENE TOMPKINS, Space F047 - Saw, van seat, suitcase, monitors, misc  
 DAVID BANDERS, Space D037 - Newspapers, magazines  
 DAVID BANDERS, Space D062 - Books, newspapers

On the premises where said property has been stored and which are located at Public Storage, 12900 Newburgh Rd., Livonia, MI 48150, (724) 691-6608, on July 25, 2000 at 11:30 a.m. the personal property described below:

**IN THE MATTER OF:**  
 GEMELA GRACIA, Space E049 - Chairs, BBQ grill, misc. boxes

All sales subject to adjournment.  
 Publish: June 11 and 22, 2000

**FARMINGTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS**  
**INVITATION TO BID**

Farmington Public Schools will accept sealed bids for additions and remodeling to Ten Mile School until 1:30 P.M., Tuesday, July 11, 2000 at the Lewis Schulman Administration Center, 32500 Eblawasson, Farmington, MI 48336, addressed to Paul Hain at which time they will be publicly opened and read for presentation to the Board of Education at their next regularly scheduled meeting. The Board will not consider or accept a bid received after the date and time specified.

The Board of Education reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids or to waive any informalities therein; or for reasons of establishing uniformity to award the contract to other than the low bidder. Fax proposals will not be accepted.

Bid documents will be available at the office of the Construction Manager, McDev, 26001 W. Five Mile, Redford 48239, (313) 625-1140.

Bidders are encouraged to attend a prebid meeting on Tuesday, June 27, 2000 at 1:30 PM at the Ten Mile School, 92789 West Ten Mile, Farmington 48336.

This project is to bid at the prevailing wage rate.  
 Publish: July 22 and 23, 2000

**CITY OF FARMINGTON HILLS**  
**2000 SUMMER TAX BILLS**  
**PUBLIC NOTICE**

The City of Farmington Hills 2000 Summer Tax Bills will be mailed on or about July 1. They are payable from July 1, 2000 through August 31, 2000 without penalty. A 4% penalty will be added starting September 1, along with a one-half per cent per month interest charge. By law, failure to receive a tax bill does not waive tax or penalty.

The Treasurer's Office will be open from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday except for July 4 to accept payment. Payment may also be made at branches of Michigan National Bank and Metrobank located within the cities of Farmington Hills or Farmington. Payments made at these banks may be subject to an account relationship requirement and/or a processing fee.

A drop slot is available near the Eleven Mile Road entrance to City Hall along with a drive up drop box on the traffic island between City Hall and the Police Station.

Applications for a deferment of 2000 summer taxes are available at the Treasurer's Office. If your income did not exceed \$25,000 and you are a paraplegic, quadriplegic, senior citizen, eligible serviceman, eligible widow, blind or totally or permanently disabled, your application for deferment must be filed with the Treasurer's Office no later than September 14, 2000. Deferment summer taxes may be paid without penalty until February 14, 2000.  
 Publish: June 22, 2000

**CITY OF FARMINGTON**  
**2000 SUMMER TAX STATEMENT**  
**PUBLIC NOTICE**

The City of Farmington Summer 2000 Property Tax Statements is payable from July 1, 2000 through August 31, 2000 without penalty. A 4% penalty will be added to delinquent taxes on September 1, 2000.

City Hall offices will be open for payment of taxes 8:30 A.M. to 4:30 P.M., Monday through Friday except for the following:

Tuesday, July 4, 2000

For your convenience, a depository is located in the City Hall lobby.

Applications for deferment of 2000 taxes are available at the City of Farmington Treasurer's office. If your income for 1999 did not exceed \$25,000 and you are a paraplegic, quadriplegic, senior citizen, eligible serviceman, eligible widow, blind, or totally or permanently disabled, your application must be filed with the City of Farmington Treasurer's office not later than September 14, 2000. Deferment Summer Taxes may be paid without penalty until February 23, 2001.

By law, if the last day for payment falls on a Saturday, Sunday, or legal holiday the last day will be extended to include the next day which is not a Saturday, Sunday, or legal holiday.

FATSY K. CANTRELL, City Clerk/Treasurer  
 Publish: June 16 and 22, 2000



Hot turn: Angela Corsi takes her turn on the stage during a Tuesday morning practice for the Miss Farmington pageant.

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 SUNDAY 11-5