

Demonstration: K-9 trainer Terry Shoenbach demonstrates Bear's reaction to the Redford Officer Tim Paul's command.

Pet-a-Pet from page A1

Operations Officer Terry Shoenbach, also co-founder of the K-9 Academy.

Another treat for the volunteers, however, was seeing how friendly and "pet-able" the K-9 dogs can be.

"The (police) dogs are friendly and sociable," said Shoenbach, who along with wife, Diana, have trained hundreds of working dogs (including Gator) since the early 1970s. "They're trained to apprehend criminals and that's nothing more than training. It's not that they're mean."

Another myth presentations

such as Thursday's can debunk is that K-9 dogs are addicted to illegal drugs so that they can accurately sniff them out during searches, Shoenbach said.

"A lot of people think we can look for them," he said. "That's absolutely false."

Besides Gator, police dogs performing Thursday included Smokey, from the Romulus Police Department; Zeke, from the Westland Police Department; and Bear, from the Redford Township Police Department. Shoenbach said 48 Michi-

gan police departments employ K-9 units.

Redford Township resident Ruth Curry, president of the Pet-A-Pet program, said the idea behind the police dog demonstrations was "to show different phases of what animals can do."

"They can go into a nursing home and make people happy, and they can help (human officers) do their job," Curry said. "We're learning more and more about what pets can do. I'd like to get into their brains sometimes."



Good show: In photo above left, Smokey finds hidden marijuana. Officer Don Leonard will offer him a reward for a job well done. Above, Pet-a-Pet members enjoy the demonstration.

Courthouse landscape plan approved, bids next in process

BY TIM SMITH
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Call it a formality, but that's fine with 47th District Court Administrator David Walsh.

On Thursday evening, the Farmington Hills Planning Commission unanimously approved a landscape plan for the new 47th District courthouse — a \$10.5 million facility to be built on the city complex at 11 Mile-Orchard Lake roads.

Both Walsh and 47th District Judge Marle Parker attended the planning commission meeting, where a landscape plan was outlined by Suzanne Carlson of French Associates.

"This was sort of a formality tonight," Walsh said afterward.

"But we're happy with it, because it's one more step done in the process."

The next step will take place very soon. At 2 p.m. Monday, there will be a public reading of bids for the actual courthouse project. Walsh said the reading will take place in city council chambers.

It is hoped that bids might be awarded by the end of May, leading the way for construction to begin as early as June, Walsh said.

According to Carlson, the landscape plan approved by the planning commission is a "generous" one, with numerous plantings and an abundance of trees. She said the site will feature 34 more trees than the minimum

city requirement.

"We'll try to keep it woodland, keep it natural," Carlson said. "There will be evergreen screening, ... but it will be flowing. It (the plan) fits in with the character of the neighborhood."

One of the concerns of the planning commission was that a tunnel, about six feet below the surface and connecting the courthouse and Farmington Hills Police Department, not disrupt underground water flow or drainage.

Following the meeting, Farmington-based architectural consultant John Allen said the tunnel would not cause any such disruption. "This design is coordinated."

Get ready: road work is coming

BY SUE BUCK
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Three paving projects in Farmington are planned for this construction season, according to Kevin Gushman, director of Farmington public services.

The city will continue with phase two of resurfacing in the Bellaire subdivision beginning this month through the beginning of July.

Streets affected are Leelane, Lamon, Loomis, the north part of Prospect, and Ely, Bickling, and Loomis courts.

Joint paving and patching on Farmington Road between 10 Mile Road and Shiawassee will begin in June and continue to the beginning of July.

"An inspection revealed an unexpected deterioration," said Farmington City Manager Frank Lauhoff. "This rehabilitation project includes pavement patching and joint repairs which

involve a relatively new and specialized joint repair method."

The road was put in during the mid-1980s and should have lasted longer, he said. But, the city found significant joint erosion.

"A lot of that has to do with the grade of the hill when you start pushing a lot of water down there at high speeds," Lauhoff said. "We poured an awful lot of salt on that hill to keep it open in the wintertime. All these things combined create additional wear and tear on that road."

"By completing this repair, we should get the 30 years we should be getting out of that road."

Joint repair and pavement patching will close one-half of the road at a time.

"We don't know which half will start first," Gushman said. "There will be posted detours for those traveling in the direction that is closed."

Road work on Farmington Road between Eight and Nine Mile will begin in July and extend to October.

It involves both Farmington and Farmington Hills. One side will be closed at a time.

Because it is a four-lane road-way, north and southbound traffic will continue to move throughout the duration of the project, Gushman said.

Chinese students meet Rotarians

BY TIM SMITH
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Madonna University is a long way from Shanghai.

But that's just fine with Chinese students such as Jim Zhu and Gao Wen Wei, among more than 30 who return home tomorrow after two weeks at Madonna in Livonia. Although they managed to take in Detroit-area sights such as Comerica Park, the bulk of their visit was spent wrapping up master's of business administration programs.

Also on their itinerary — coordinated by Ann Valentino of Madonna — was Tuesday's luncheon with the Farmington Rotary Club at the William Costick Activities Center in Farmington Hills.

Student Jim Zhu, an employee at Tricon, the largest fast food company in Shanghai, volunteered to travel to America to complete his MBA degree.

He volunteered to have lunch with the Rotarians to pick up some invaluable business ideas.

"I'll receive ideas from the U.S. to help my performance in China," said Zhu, who, like the other visitors, has stayed at a Madonna dorm the past two weeks.

"I want to improve my leadership and get some new ideas," said Gao, in remarkably good English. "It's very friendly here and I like it very much. It's a very beautiful university."

Rotary is described as an "organization of business and professional leaders united worldwide who provide humanitarian service, encourage high ethical standards in all vocations, and help build goodwill and peace in the world."

After the luncheon, Dr. Stuart Arends, dean of the Madonna business school, said the visiting students have made a positive impression on local residents.

"Having these visitors from China just helps other students," Arends said. "They learn about their ways, learn about their culture."

Arends said the Chinese students have been "aggressively learning about America in these

two weeks. This is a unique and treasured experience for them and fosters cultural under-

The keynote address of the luncheon was given by Dr. Mav Sanghvi, former past district



Welcome: Farmington Rotary Club President-elect Sally Owen greets Chinese exchange students before Tuesday's luncheon at the William Costick Activities Center. The students are earning MBA degrees from Madonna University in Livonia.

standing."

Prized

Zhu, Gao and the other Chinese students will earn official Madonna University MBA degrees, having completed 18-month programs.

"In Asia, a western education is really a prized possession," said Arends, about why the students would enroll in a course at an American college.

During the MBA program, students in China had opportunities to receive on-site teaching. Madonna Professor William McMillan and several other Madonna faculty made five three-week trips to Shanghai.

And, over the past two weeks, McMillan and other faculty members read the students' theses and taught workshops, including one on cultural interpretation.

"The one thing about these people is they're so giving of themselves," McMillan said. "They seem to come with no prejudices. They come with open minds and open hearts and they want to learn."

■ **'It's very friendly here and I like it very much.'**

Gao Wen Wei
—student from China

governor of the Farmington Rotary Club.

"Rotary brings hope, a better place in the world for future generations and focuses on service," Sanghvi said.

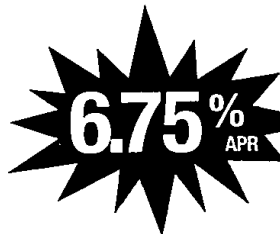
Before the luncheon's conclusion, a number of gifts were presented to Chinese guests including Professor Lu Hong Jun, president of the Shanghai Institute of International Finance and interpreters Grace Thilson and Zoi Chen) as well as city dignitaries.

Presenting the gifts was Sister Rose Marie Kujawa, acting dean of Madonna's College of Science & Mathematics.

Farmington Hills Mayor Nancy Bates welcomed the delegation. "Through programs like this, we can share ideas and make our world a better place."

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