

Attendance booms for Founders Fest

BY PAUL R. PACE
STAFF WRITER

Warm temperatures kept people out and about at this year's Farmington Area Founders Festival.

In fact, attendance estimates were up for this year's festivities, said Suzanne Lichtman, festival director.

"Last year we had between 120,000-130,000 people," she said. "Early indications from public safety shows that attendance was higher this year."

She said festival organizers received very positive feedback from the vendors and crafters.

"We're thrilled with the turnout," Lichtman said. "This year's event created such a positive reflection on the city and

what we have going on.

None of it would have happened without the many volunteers that offered to help and the many sponsors, she added.

From Art on the Grand, to the Founders Cafe located behind Page's to the live bands to craft booths in the Downtown Farmington Center, most merchants said they did well.

"Business was great," said Edward Novak, who along with his wife, Ada, were once again selling honey at the festival craft grounds at the Downtown Farmington Center.

"We're doing just as good as last year," he said, adding he and his wife have been selling their honey products at the festival the last seven or eight years.

"The city's back on track," he commented as to recent years when the festival went through changes in dates and names. "It's a good show."

Newcomer to Art on the Grand, Bruce Lanier of Cincinnati, Ohio, said he wasn't doing the greatest in sales with his blown glass ornaments.

He said it's possible the show was not just art, but crafts being sold.

"I'd prefer more of an art show," he said. However, merchant Joe Kisselberg, said he was doing very well selling tie-dye clothing and accessories.

"It's been great," he said. "I got a lot of return customers."

Businesses along the downtown also reported favorable turnouts. Anna's Cafe and



KATY BATHOFF / OBSERVER

Heldi Kisselberg, of Ypsilanti ran a booth with her husband selling tie-dye clothing and accessories.

Baskets on Grand River was selling Italian sausages and Italian ice coffee Gelati to passers-by.

"That went over well," said owner Anna Mariani. Due to most of Farmington Road being closed for reconstruction, she said she decided to use the unused new pavement as a place to set up tables and chairs for customers.

"We closed each night close to midnight," she said. "We were happy. It was long hours but it was worth the exposure."

ppace@oe.homecomm.net | (248) 477-5450



KATY BATHOFF / OBSERVER

The Bee Honey Comb ran by Ed Novak and his wife of Livonia sold honey to the Founders Festival crowd.

POLICE CALLS

Farmington police cited three 19-year-old Livonia men for fireworks possession about 1:30 a.m. July 19. The men were driving around the Lark Harbor and Drake Road area.

Officers confiscated 577 Bhek Cat fireworks and 128 Phantom Howlers described as firecrackers and bottle rockets in the police report.

The officers were on patrol and observed a 1992 Chevy Lumina turning onto Lark

Harbor from Drake Road. Lark Harbor is a dead end street which has about 20 condominium units occupied by elderly residents, police said.

The men said they were just hanging around. The driver had a bottle rocket sitting in his lap. There were fireworks throughout the car — the front seat, front passenger seat, floor board, back seat and back floor.

The fireworks were bought in Ohio, one teen said.

One of the officers asked the men if Livonia police would have any police reports about fireworks thrown and they responded yes.

BREAK-IN

The owner of the Subway shop at 34593 Grand River reported the shop was broken into sometime between 8 p.m. July 14 and 9:30 a.m. July 15. The rear door was damaged

when it was pried open and money was taken.

PROPERTY DAMAGE

A Kensington Manor Apartments resident reported a \$1,500 glass door shattered by a BB about 3:45 p.m. July 16.

Compiled by staff writer Sue Buck.

PARADE

FROM PAGE A1

She decided to retaliate and use her bottle of water to run up and spray a few clowns herself.

Unfortunately, the act cost her as she was soon drenched by a posse of clowns armed with water pistols.

Mary Dorsch of Farmington was with her children at the parade.

"We come every year," she

said. "They do a good job and the kids like coming."

Daughter Sam, 8, said she likes watching the cheerleaders perform.

Parade watcher Mary Schenkus of Farmington Hills was with her children Evan, 6, Aidan, 8, and Andrew, 1. Mary also said the family attends the event every year. Evan and Aidan said what they like best is the bag pipes and marching bands.

ppace@oe.homecomm.net | (248) 477-5450

FIRE STATION

FROM PAGE A1

updating and modernizing in order to properly house and deploy newer fire vehicles, Brock said.

The building is also used for community meetings.

"We have an agreement to buy the whole place and close in 90 days," Brock said of Duffy's.

He said the \$400,000 will come out of last fiscal year's budget for capital improvements.

ppace@oe.homecomm.net | (248) 477-5450

TOWER

FROM PAGE A1

will replace the existing 120-foot structure currently located next to the police station.

Despite the added height of the new tower, it will still stand just under light requirements that dictate the necessity of illuminating the top of the structure in order to make it visible to aircraft.

Proposed colors for the tower are blue and gray, the combination of which Coates said would help the structure blend into the natural skyline.

Council member Jerry Ellis, voicing his concern about the aesthetic effect such a tower might have on neighbors, inquired whether it could be made to look like a tree.

Although Coates confirmed the possibility, she estimated painting the tower in such a way would cost an additional

\$6,000 to \$10,000.

Farmington Hills resident Diane Dawle, who lives on Hall Road, is among area homeowners where the tower would be visible.

She expressed neighbors' concern over the look of the tower as well as the danger it poses as a target for anyone wishing to wipe out communication in the area.

Baldwin said the City Hall Campus location was the safest place to put the tower because authorities would have the ability to monitor it more closely there compared with other locations.

He also added locating the tower near the city municipalities would make the structure "less obtrusive" because it would eliminate the need for an outbuilding generator since the tower would be powered by resources from the fire station.

cbrooks@oe.homecomm.net | (248) 477-5450

Observer Classifieds
work for you!
Call (800) 579-SELL today!

Anniversary Sale!

Save 10-20% off most items!

July 18 - July 25

Heslop's

China & Gifts

Visit us at our Web site: www.heslops.com

OPEN NOON-5:00 p.m. SUNDAYS DURING THE SALE

27TH ANNIVERSARY SALE

THANK YOU MICHIGAN!

Voted Best Place to Buy Dinnerware/China by Detroit News Readers.

Metro Detroit:
Auburn Hills, Walton Village (248) 375-0823
(Walton Rd. west of Square)

Dearborn Heights, The Heights (313) 274-8200
(Ford Rd. between Isadore and Beech Pkwy)

Livonia, Merri-Five Plaza (734) 522-1850
(On corner of The Mile and Merriam)

Novi, Novi Town Center (248) 349-0990

St. Clair Shores (586) 778-6142
21429 Mack Ave. (South of Eight Mile Rd.)

Sterling Heights, Eastlake Commons (586) 247-8111
(On corner of Hall Rd. and Hayes Rd.)

Troy, Oakland Mall (248) 589-1433

West Bloomfield, Orchard Mall (248) 737-8080
(Orchard Lake and 15 Mile)

Outstate:
Ann Arbor, The Colonnade (734) 761-1002 (On Eisenhower Pkwy. west of BRAWLEY MALL)

Grand Rapids, Breton Village Mall (616) 957-2145 (Between Rd. and Burton Rd.)

Okemos, Meridian Mall (517) 349-4008

"Meridian Mall" Serving Platters
Sug. Retail \$72.00, Your Choice \$49.95
Per 15 Pieces (15 Pieces)

WIN A PAIR of FREE CONCERT TICKETS by EMAIL!

Summer Sundays

CONCERT SERIES

MGM GRAND

DETROIT CASINO

Sunday, August 4th
The Neville Brothers

Sunday, August 11th
Morris Day & the Time

Sunday, August 18th
The Spinners

Sunday, August 25th
Smokie Robinson

Win a \$100 discount on your MGM Grand Club Card!

Win a \$100 discount on your MGM Grand Club Card!

Tickets \$30. Receive a \$10 discount with your MGM Grand Club Card.
Tickets on sale now at MGM Grand Gifts.

JUST SEND AN EMAIL

WITH YOUR NAME, ADDRESS, PHONE NUMBER & "The Neville Brothers" to ads@gdnn.com

—Or you can enter by snail mail by sending a postcard with your name, address, phone number & "The Neville Brothers" to:
Suzette Summer Sundays
GDNN-210 East Third St. Suite 210
Royal Oak, MI 48067

Observer & Eccentric

If you have more than one email address, please give us your preferred one. Call (800) 250-727 for confirmation.