

## Cheer team hosts car wash

The Farmington High School Cheer Team will hold a car wash 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 17, at Sam's Club, located at 24800 Haggerty Road in Farmington Hills. Donations will be accepted and all proceeds will benefit the Cheer Team.

## CLARIFICATION

In Sunday's story regarding a brochure opposing the primary campaign of Terry Sever, two facts were incorrectly stated. Sever, a state House candidate, told the House Republican Caucus and not the Farmington

Area Republican Club, about paying off past-due taxes earlier this year. Additionally, his own business didn't fail, but several of his largest clients went bankrupt, causing him financial difficulties.

BY SUE BUCK  
STAFF WRITER

The Farmington Downtown Development Authority board decided by consensus Tuesday that interviews of finalists for the executive director position will not be public.

Though that aspect wasn't specifically singled out at the meeting, Bill Richards, assistant Farmington city manager, mentioned it in an August 13 memo to the board. The search/selection committee consists of DDA board members, chair Joyce Cornwell, Bob Heinrich and Suzanne Paul.

"As you know, any interviews conducted by the full board (a quorum present) would constitute a public meeting which is open to the public," Richards wrote in the memo.

Heinrich supported Richards, citing the applicants' confidentiality. Richards, who is in charge of the selection process, was in Lansing Tuesday protesting Gov. John Engler's veto of revenue sharing to municipalities. Richards and several Farmington council members traveled to Lansing to push for the legislature's override of the veto.

The DDA director plans and coordinates activities in the downtown area. DDA Director Judy Downey, who will retire by the beginning of next year, has held her position for 10 years.

The position will pay \$47,000-\$53,000. The process has several phases.

## DDA closes interviews

Oral examination of the "highest credentialed and qualified" candidates for the position is expected to be held Aug. 20. Prior to that the three-person board committee will review the 10 applications and provide input. This would be their first opportunity to see any applications. They wouldn't be present during the oral examinations in the first phase.

In that phase, an examining board consisting of Richards, and two people he selected for the exam board will administer the oral qualifying examination and assessment. This determines the top three most qualified candidates as finalists.

Teri Arbenowske, assistant to the city manager in Farmington Hills, who has experience in economic development, and Annette Knowles, Allen Park DDA director join Richards on the examining board.

Lori Ward, director of the Northville DDA, who Richards originally selected, canceled, according to Farmington City Manager Frank Lauhoff. Bill Richards narrowed the number of candidates from 31 to 10. The one-hour interviews for each of the 10 semi-finalists will be held in one day.

"Can a board member be present during the interviews of the 10?" asked DDA Board Member Mark Ziegler. Farmington City Manager said he'd have to ask Richards.

The interviews in the second phase, before the three-person board committee, will be sometime during the first week in

September, followed by their selection of one or possibly two candidates for presentation before the full DDA board.

If no candidate is selected, the board could go back to the pool of candidates, or can begin the process again.

The intent is to make an offer of employment in mid-September and the tentative start date for the new director is expected to be Oct. 1, Richards said earlier.

Richards has repeatedly recommended this process, keeping the selection process private until the final candidate is presented to the board though other DDA groups like Plymouth have held open interviews.

Lauhoff said if the DDA board follows the process he set up, which Lauhoff suggested, it will have its three person board committee interviewing the top three people. DDA President Ron Oglesby said he didn't recall this specific process being set up.

Cornwell said Richards strongly supports the process he set up, and she felt it important for the candidates' comfort. "If finalist interviews are conducted by the selection committee, the committee's recommended candidate would be referred for consideration of appointment to the board, or if the board prefers, a separate interview with the board prior to consideration of appointment," Richards further wrote. [stuck@ec.home.com.net](mailto:stuck@ec.home.com.net) (248) 477-5450

Read the Observer Sundays and Thursdays

Home of the Dance  
Champions & Dance  
Professionals

**Fall 2002  
Registration!**

Register TODAY for the best  
available classes...CALL  
**(248) 553-0305**  
Classes Begin Mon., Sept. 9th

School of Dance

■ TAP ■ JAZZ  
■ HIP-HOP  
■ BALLET

We offer Morning, Afternoon, and Evening Classes  
Beginner thru Advanced...Pre-school thru Adult • Reditals every season!

Fax: (248) 553-2976 • Phone: (248) 553-0305

28857 Orchard Lake Road • Farmington Hills

Don't think of it as a  
change of lifestyle.

Just a change of address.



Your dignity and independence are never compromised at the Botsford Commons Community. Whatever living option is best for you, a condominium or rental apartment, when your address changes, your dignity follows. We encourage residents to continue with their lifelong goals and dreams. And if unexpected changes arise, the Botsford Commons campus is equipped with both an Assisted Living Center and a Skilled Nursing Facility to meet those needs. Come in for a visit and see how you can celebrate your same familiar lifestyle in a brand new location.



Botsford Commons Community  
21450 Archwood Circle • Farmington Hills, MI 48336 • 248-426-6903

## Sergeant arrests 2 in equipment theft

SONIC Supervisor Sgt. Al Soderlund, discovered a suspicious vehicle parked at American Standard Heating and Cooling, 29566 Nine Mile Tuesday morning.

The two occupants were observed by Soderlund placing boxes of stolen heating and cooling equipment into the vehicle around 1:15 a.m. Tuesday. The two arrested are brothers from Detroit, ages 37 and 38. One of them was recently hired by the company. Embezzlement charges were issued by the Oakland County Prosecutor's Office.

Farmington Hills Police Chief William Dwyer stated the business owner was appreciative of the apprehension and alert observations of Soderlund. SONIC is the South Oakland Narcotics Intelligence Consortium made up of officers from Farmington Hills, Novi, West Bloomfield and the Oakland County Sheriff's Department.

### Drug possession

Police pulled over a vehicle along M-5 and Orchard Lake around 7:15 p.m. Friday for an obstructive view in the vehicle. The driver, a 20-year-old Weberville man, had a marijuana pipe and a baggie of marijuana in the console.

Police pulled over a vehicle along Grand River and Middlebelt around 9:50 p.m. Friday for a cracked windshield. The passenger, a 35-year-old Farmington Hills man, had a baggie of cocaine in his pants pocket.

### Drunken driving

Police responded to calls of

### POLICE CALLS

an erratic driver along Old Homestead and Drake around 2:53 p.m. Monday. Police found the car was parked partially on a lawn and the street. The driver, a 48-year-old Farmington Hills man, was passed out behind the wheel. Because his blood/alcohol level was .35, he was taken to Botsford Hospital.

Police pulled over a vehicle along Orchard Lake and 12 Mile around 3 a.m. Saturday for a traffic light infringement. The driver, a 30-year-old Dearborn woman, had a .13 blood/alcohol level.

Police pulled over a vehicle along 12 Mile and Drake around 1:15 a.m. Sunday for weaving. The driver, a 33-year-old Pinckney man, had a .17 blood/alcohol level.

### Minor in possession

Officers observed a 20-year-old Farmington man exit the 7-Eleven store on Farmington near Colfax around 6:20 p.m. Saturday with a bag he put in his vehicle's trunk. When officers spoke with him, the boy said he purchased two 40-oz. beers with a fake I.D. He was ticketed for being a minor in possession.

### Compressor stolen

A \$15,000 portable compressor and \$50 water hose was stolen from a construction site of a new building in the 36500 block of Corporate between Saturday and Monday.

Compiled by staff writer Paul R. Pace from reports on file at the Farmington Hills Police Department.

Cash and Carry Only!

**ALL FRESH FLOWERS\***

In Stock

Flowers from Joe's by Carolynn

**1/2 OFF SATURDAYS**

1/2 price Every Saturday  
9:00 am - 3:00 pm

"Come on in this Saturday and take a fresh bouquet home!"  
\*Does not include any special orders

**248.477.8616**  
33018 W. 7 Mile  
Livonia, MI 48152