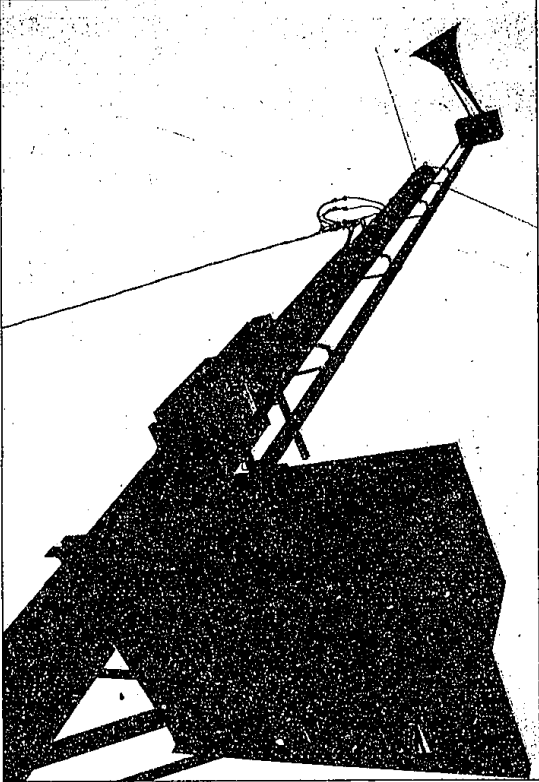


MOVERS AND SHAKERS

Cook named president
William Cook of Bill Cook Imported Cars in Farmington Hills, was recently elected president of the Detroit Auto Dealers Association for 2003.
RCI makes changes
RCI Electric Company in Farmington Hills recently promoted Robin Wojtowicz to the position of bookkeeper/account manager and hired on Walter Denlike as residential construction division manager.
Teacher gets recognition
Marvin Weingarden, a Farmington Hills resident and associate professor of mathematics at Madonna University, was awarded the Faculty Award from the Graduating Seniors.
ICA promotion
William Poland has been promoted to Director of Operations at ICA - Cinetic Automation Corporation in Farmington Hills.
New University Director
Kim Coleman has been named Director of Sales at University Business Interiors in Farmington Hills.



BILL BRISSELL STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

The siren at Middlebelt and Twelve Mile has an unnerving habit of sounding off at random times, including at least once in the wee hours of the morning.

SIRENS

FROM PAGE A1
ing its 132 weather emergency sirens, but each year only about 20-25 are replaced, she said.
Each new system costs \$18,000.
The sirens are only used to warn residents of bad weather and not for civil defense emergencies, she said.
The new sirens are state-of-the-art and have the ability to transmit back to a county computer when they're blaring. They can also report malfunctions.
McGee said if an old system keeps malfunctioning, it can be pushed up further on the replacement list.
The next cycle will start in the fall, McGee said it hasn't been decided whether the two sirens in 12 Mile and Middlebelt area will be replaced this year. "Since they are mechanical critters, there can be problems," she said.

DETOUR

FROM PAGE A1
Transportation.
The end result will be a safer bridge, and one with better pedestrian access, thanks to an agreement struck between the county and City of Farmington Hills.
According to Tom Biszell, director of Public Services, the city has been looking at improving that pedestrian crossing for some time.
"The location, we've always felt, was important," he said, "but we wanted to tie it in with reconstruction of the bridge, so we wouldn't have to pay the entire cost."

A few years ago, Oakland County inspectors programmed the bridge into their rehabilitation program, which provided an opportunity for improvements, Biszell said.
In discussions with MDOT about other crossings, city officials agreed to the removal of a little-used pedestrian bridge east of Oakland Community College's Orchard Ridge campus.
In a resolution dated Sept. 10, 2001, they called for that action and installation of a pedestrian walkway as part of the Middlebelt bridge rehabilitation.
Another aspect of the agreement is a pedestrian bridge on the south side of I-696, west of Harrison High School.
That will be replaced with a structure that meets current Americans with Disabilities Act standards, Biszell said.
The city's total share of the \$1.2 million project is \$105,500, almost all of which is the cost of the approach and sidewalk, along with 12.5 percent of the total, as required by state Act 51 legislation.
"The work will get under way in a month or so," Biszell said.

CRIME

FROM PAGE A1
inappropriate touching.
Robbery statistics also increased from 29 to 35 because of an unusually high number of bank robberies. Five of those six cases were solved by arrest.
Burglary statistics are especially notable when compared long-term. Burglaries have steadily declined from 932 in 1984, when the population of Farmington Hills was 63,750, to 344 in 2002. The 2000 census showed a population of more than 82,000, with the steady addition of housing units and new businesses during those years.
"We're pleased to have this type of report especially since we're the largest city in Oakland County," Dwyer said.
These stats are important as some of our high-profile cases might give residents the perception that they need to be concerned about their safety.

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