

SHOW

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Farmington and Grand River. They would see the show. Lavery said he's called the Farmington police several times to complain about the loudness of the music provided by a disc jockey. Farmington Public Safety Director Gary Goss said a police officer was present for the last three car shows in 2002. The officer enforced parking and noise regulations, Goss said.

"The crux of my suggestion is to benefit more merchants downtown," Lavery said. "I don't want to stop the classic car show. I think it is neat."

BOTH SIDES

Officials were concerned about making a decision to move the show without having the sponsors present.

"It's difficult to make a decision when we are hearing one-half of the discussion," said Farmington Mayor Jim Mitchell.

Councilwoman Mary Bush said she couldn't relocate an event when the sponsors weren't there and when it's

been in the same location for four years. Darrell Marx, who owns Darrell's Firestone on Farmington Road, said he's been the third and somewhat silent partner since the car show began several years ago. He contributed one-third of the cost of hiring the disc jockey and placing advertising. Marx, who's unsure whether he will continue his sponsorship this year, signed Lavery's petition.

"I haven't seen much action out of it," Marx said. "It doesn't affect me one way or the other. I thought I'd get some business out of it, but these guys fix their own cars. It might not be a bad idea to move it. It's so congested over there. This lot is three times bigger." Councilman Arnold Campbell said this isn't a good year to move the show because of the planned Pavilion construction in the downtown lot after the Founders Festival. He suggested a dialogue on the subject next year.

Laura Osborne, who owns Spare Parts on Farmington Road and is vice-president of the Downtown Merchants Association of Farmington, also signed the petition. The show is inevitable right now because it's not on a main

street, Osborne said. "They are not here to spend money," Osborne said of the show participants. "They are here to look at each other's cars." Dominic Belestro, owner of Luigi's Restaurant on Farmington Road, also signed the petition. Keeping it in its present location could take away more than 20 potential sponsors, he said.

WHAT'S BEST

Councilwoman JoAnne McShane said the city should bring all the players to the table, including the Downtown Development Authority, to see what's best for everyone.

"What I think is really important is that we bring Roger Ratkowski into the debate," McShane said. "I don't see how you can make a decision without that."

McShane wondered whether the car show could be moved to the downtown Farmington Center until the start of the Pavilion construction and then be moved back to its original location after the Pavilion construction began.

"I can speak for the sponsors," said Farmington City Manager Vince Pastue. "If they

are going to have it, they should have it in one location."

McShane asked to table Ratkowski's request until all parties could meet but the motion died for lack of a second.

"There is no other city in this state which has a car show for 20 consecutive weeks, May through September," Lavery said.

The petition also bore the names of representatives from various businesses: Ann's Cafe & Baskets, Celtic Shamrock Irish Gifts, Village Clippers, Farmington Bakery, Kitchen Master, Fun With Plaster, Oriental Spa, Crescendo Associates, Inc., Nationwide Title, C&K Consulting, CVS Pharmacy, Magic Brain, Law Offices of Sheeba Khan, Eliezer Monge, M.D., Tina's Coney Island, Bon Ton Shoppe, Dots, Dagwood's Deli, Cigar Emporium, Take 5 Cellular and Communications, Dimitri's Restaurant and John Cowley & Sons.

THE OTHER SIDE

Page couldn't be reached for comment on Tuesday. Ratkowski recently returned from celebrating the birth of his first grandchild, a boy. While officials talked generally

about moving the event in the future, he said that will likely kill the car show.

He believes businesses could benefit more from the car show if they would stay open longer on Monday nights and noted show organizers made an effort to address last year's complaints.

"We've adjusted our music and have it lowered," Ratkowski said in an interview Wednesday. He said the group gets comments from other people who want the music turned up.

"Several people (neighbors) like the event so well they bought cars," Ratkowski said. "It's neat." Ratkowski isn't interested in moving the location and likely wouldn't be interested in continuing the shows if it were moved.

"I've seen other shows fall apart moving it around," Ratkowski said.

Sponsors pay at least \$500 a piece, and he doesn't think a lot of the people in a new location would be willing or able to make that commitment. It's difficult for some to find the suggested \$50 membership fee to the new merchants association, Ratkowski said.

"This location keeps the size intimate and more controllable," he said.

VARGOVICK

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said. "Coming from my background as an engineer at Saturn Corporation, I have extensive experience working on teams. I feel that I bring a lot of ideas to a team and can be a strong leader, but also am very willing and experienced in rolling up my sleeves and doing whatever is needed to support a cause."

He called himself an active member of Our Lady of Sorrows, which is also his alma mater.

"I am active in Cub Scouts and coach basketball and baseball in the community," Vargovick said. "I also support the Paws with a Cause service dog organization and have been a foster parent for a puppy."

Vargovick became a doctor of Optometry in 1997 and studied at Indiana University. He holds a bachelor of science in mechanical engineering from the University of Michigan. He graduated from Catholic Central in Detroit.

Other applicants for the DDA position were Tom Buck, a Farmington businessman; Paul Buyers, a Farmington attorney; Julie Grippe, owner of the Baby Studio; and Skip Rosenthal, owner of Books Around.

Laura Osborne, owner of Spare Parts and vice-president of the Downtown Merchants Association of Farmington, said she had hoped to have someone appointed who could represent the merchants. "We feel under-represented," Osborne said. "We don't have anyone on that board who can understand our concerns."

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Annual golf fund-raiser benefits Angela Hospice

With the arrival of spring, preparations have begun for Angela Hospice's annual golf outing, offering Garden City residents the opportunity to give back to an organization that has helped many individuals in this area.

The golf outing will be May 12 at the Walnut Creek Country Club in South Lyon. The shotgun start will be at noon.

"The golf outing is one of our biggest fund-raisers," said events coordinator Alice Barringer. "It's a way for golfers to show their support and have a really enjoyable time in the process."

Now in its 15th year, the outing features many ways for

golfers and non-golfers alike to participate. Golfers can register in foursomes or as individuals, for \$200 a person.

Golfer packages include free range balls before golf, 18 holes of golf with cart (scramble format), barbecue lunch before golf, dinner reception with open bar following golf, open beverage stations on the course, prizes for closest to the pin and longest drive, a golfer's gift pack and locker room service.

Business Partner Packages are also available for \$650 and corporate packages for \$1,600.

Non-golfers can attend the dinner and auction following golf, donning a dozen golf

balls, or becoming a hole sponsor. For \$150, sponsors can advertise their business, remember a loved one, or provide an inspiring message to golfers, all while helping Angela Hospice.

The "Fortune \$5,000" raffle gives ticket holders a chance to win up to 10 cash prizes, ranging from \$250-\$5,000.

Tickets are available for \$100 each, with only 200 being sold, to increase the odds of winning.

For more information on the event, to register, or to purchase a hole sponsorship or raffle ticket, call Barringer at (734) 953-6018, or visit the Angela Hospice Web site at . The proceeds from this

event will benefit the Angela Hospice's many programs, including home and inpatient hospice care, pediatric and prenatal hospice and bereavement services.

Since 1985, Angela Hospice has served more than 9,000 patients and their families.

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