Best & Brightest

John Szymusiak (left) of North Farmington High School and Andrew Martin (right) of Farmington High School pose with WXYZ-TV reporter Dave LewAllen for Channel 7's 24th annual Brightest & Best salute to high school seniors.

Web company moves into Farmington Hills

BY PAUL R. PACE
STAFF WRITER

A Windsor-based company recently opened offices in Farmington Hills to expand its business in the U.S.

Paramedia Inc., which started in 1999 in Windsor, Canada, specializes in high-end Web, print and multimedia design.

According to Paramedia CEO Rob Pepper, the decision to expand to the United States was the chance to capture great growth potential in the area for small businesses.

"Being the largest economy in the world, the United States provides us with a great market for our design services," Pepper said. "The new location is also convenient for our U.S.-based clients."

Pepper

Although headquartered in Canada, Paramedia is not new to the Detroit market. It has done work for the Detroit International Jazz Fest and the Greektown restaurant Sweet Georgia Brown.

Paramedia provides services to a wide range of industries, such as manufacturing, technology, retail, health care, education, arts and entertainment and media.

"We like to provide (clients) with a combination of design and technology – something stunning for a client that will generate sales for them," Pepper said.

He noted his company can handle different aspects of a presentation project.

"If we're hired to do a Web site, we'll go and take care of the business cards and the brochures for example," he said.

While production work is taking place in Canada, a sales office is in Farmington Hills.

"We do anticipate expanding," Pepper said of bringing on designers in the area.

Call Paramedia toll-free at (866) 490-6278.

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

High-speed chase ends in Portland man's arrest

A high-speed chase ended in arrest for a 21-year-old Portland man on Thursday evening.

The man was traveling with a group of motorcyclists at a speed of around 90 miles per hour on I-696 just east of Haggerty around 8:15 p.m., according to a police report. When the group was pulled over, the cyclist who was located toward the rear of the pack, sped off, with an officer in pursuit.

With the help of other officers, the chase ended at the BP Gas Station at Northwestern and Franklin.

The reporting officer noted that there was no plate on the motorcycle. The man was detained without incident for fleeing and eluding, and told police he fled because he didn't have the cycle registered.

POLICE CALLS

Garages entered

Several garages doors were opened along the 27000 block of Hampstead, apparently by someone using door openers in cars parked in driveways during the early morning hours of Wednesday. Nothing appeared stolen.

Another resident in the 26800 block of Wembly reported he spotted two men running out of his opened garage around 1:43 that morning.

A vehicle inside had its console opened, but nothing was taken.

Drunken driving

Police spotted a vehicle along Orchard Lake and 13 Mile without its headlights activated around 10:15 p.m. Wednesday. The car also had front-end damage.

West Bloomfield police reported there had been two hit and runs in the township that the car may be involved in. The driver, a 30-year-old Dearborn man, had a .30 blood/alcohol level.

Car entered

An Eagle Talon parked in the 21800 block of Ontaga had a Palm Pilot, CD player and 50 CDs stolen from inside during Tuesday night.

The owner was unsure if the vehicle was locked.

Generator stolen

At the Exhaust Express on Sunnydale, someone took a $3,000 generator that was bolted to the bed of a company truck during Wednesday night. A fence was broken to gain entry.

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

Parade applications due June 27

Anyone interested in participating in this year's Farmington Area Founder's Festival parade has only a few more days to get an application in to the parade committee.

Chairperson Dick Tupper says applications are available on-line at www.foundersfestival.com or by calling (248) 932-FEST, the festival hotline.

Last year, more than 60 units participated in the parade, which will be held on July 19 this year. The parade starts at 10 a.m., with participants asked to be ready to line up at 9:30 a.m.

This year's parade grand marshal is Gerson Cooper, CEO of parade sponsor Botsford Hospital.

Three Clarenceville retirees take with them a century of experience

BY JONI HUBRED
STAFF WRITER

Clarenceville Schools lost more than 100 years of experience this month, as three long-time employees retired.

At their Thursday night meeting, School Board members honored Botsford lunchroom aide Shirley Strasberger, high school social studies teacher Ernie Bouck and counselor Dennis Ringle. Each received a certificate, a gift and the coveted Clarenceville t-shirt.

Their longevity meant not only had the three touched the lives of many students, but of those students' children as well.

Botsford Principal Joe Schiffman remembered meeting Strasberger in the basement of her home, where he played ping-pong.

"Shirley's been like a mother to all of us," he said. "She's never changed. She's the kindest, gentlest person, and that's how she treats the kids in the lunchroom."

Strasberger looks back on her 33 years with great pride and warmth. She vowed to wear her Clarenceville t-shirt every day.

"The school and everybody who works there and the children have meant so much to me during the years. I'll never forget the kindness," she said.

"It's just been wonderful watching over these children. We have to treat them with the same respect we do each other."

Bouck, whose 34-year career included positions at every level in the district, was described as "conscientious and organized." Reading from his personnel file, Supt. Cheryl Leach said, "His reputation is tough, yet solid, with high expectations."

Probably best known as a driver's education instructor, that's how Bouck will finish out his career on June 30.

"You must be the definition of versatility and service," said Board President Matt Boettcher. "You've done it all, and you should be proud. We are."

Over the past four decades, Dennis Ringle has developed a reputation as "counselor extraordinaire," Leach said. He has also made trips through all the district's buildings, coaching basketball and football, advising with the junior high yearbook and school newspaper, among many other activities.

"He's touched countless lives of students, many of whom are now our parents," Leach said.

Boettcher added, "As a parent, you touched the lives of my children. Speaking on behalf of all our parents...thank you very much."

"The main thing is, I've always wanted to do my job well," Ringle said.

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FOOT PAIN
If asked, many people would say that the most common cause of foot pain is gout. That isn't the case, as few people have gout and many individuals experience foot pain. Another cause for foot pain that receives more prominence than it deserves, is heel spurs. The appearance of a spur on X-ray usually represents aging changes and presents in many individuals with no foot discomfort.
Probably the most likely reason for sore feet is improper shoes. As you age, your feet get bigger, not longer, but wider. The change is due to decreased ability of the veins of the leg to carry blood back to the heart. Eventually this back up shows itself as swelling in the feet. The swelling comes on as the day progresses because the blood flow back to the heart decreases when you are standing or sitting. Therefore, you can put on your shoes in the morning with little or no difficulty. At the end of the day what you notice is that you feel pain either on top of your foot, or on the inside or out edge of your foot. These are the areas where the swollen foot will press against the shoe. The treatment, as you can imagine, is a wider shoe.
Medical problems that cause foot pain include rheumatoid arthritis, osteoarthritis, and podiatric arthritis. In each condition, the foot pain can begin before you show other signs that would make the reason for foot pain apparent. You should not be surprised if your doctor asks questions about your other joints or takes blood test as well as x-rays when your concern is your foot.
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SPOTLIGHT ON
Orthodontics
by Josephine Finazzo, D.M.D.
JAWS!–NOT THE MOVIE
Quite often, protruding upper front teeth are more the function of the lower jaw being shorter than the upper jaw than it is a matter of tooth positioning. If so, the recommendation of an early assessment at an age several enables the orthodontist to utilize orthodontic appliances that help the growth of the lower jaw catch up with the upper jaw while the jaws are still growing. Otherwise, a severe jaw length discrepancy, which can be treated quite successfully in a growing child, may progress to the point where it requires corrective surgery in an adult. Some of the orthodontic appliances at the orthodontist's disposal for correcting jaw-growth problems are headgear, the Herbst appliance and the Bionator.
Caring for your child's teeth early on is like fixing a leak in the roof: don't wait until it pours before you act! Orthodontic specialists have approved skills required to manage tooth movement and guide facial development. We have completed advanced training beyond a dental degree. If you are concerned about your child's teeth, bring him or her to our caring staff at THE ORTHODONTIC GROUP. We would be glad to explain orthodontic equipment that might work for you or your child, such as the Twin Block, the Mara bite advancer, the palatal expander, and the retainer. Located at 19850 Middlebelt, we will do our best to prove worthy of your patronage. Call 442-8885 to make an appointment. Look for our next article in two weeks.
P.S. The Bionator is a removeable appliance that holds the lower jaw forward and guides eruption of the teeth into a more desirable bite.
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