

# Farmington Observer

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## New Year's vows for city and citizens

By Craig Piechura  
staff writer

People make them and people break them. New Year's resolutions are usually thrown out before the Christmas tree but that doesn't stop anyone from coming back the following January with a vow to change their ways and somehow improve their lives. Even people who won't admit to making steadfast resolutions, though, will admit they are trying to make

some adjustments in their life. "Dieting leads the list of resolutions. Quitting smoking is a close second although many who say they'll try quit that they doubt the resolution will be kept. "I was thinking about it the other day," said Mrs. Donna Murray of Farmington Hills. "I really was. I figured if I ever made one (resolution) it'd be to diet." "My problem isn't snacking," Mrs. Murray continues. "I don't snack — unless it's nuts. I just eat too much at the

one or two meals a day I have. I like everything. That's my downfall." Frank Windish of Farmington would also like to lose some weight. "That and lower the taxes but I can't do anything about that," he laughs. HIS WIFE ASKS if she can make a resolution for the City of Farmington to keep. Why not? "I'd like the city to resolve to improve the Farmington Founder's Festival," says Ruth Windish. "Why do we need so much automobile traffic routed

through the downtown shopping center?" Mrs. Windish also would like the city to eliminate parking on the south side of Grand River west of Farmington Road. Combined with the left turn lane on Farmington Road, she says, the road is too narrow for trucks to turn from Grand River right on Farmington Road. Bob Formella of Farmington doesn't believe in making resolutions. But if he could hope for anything in the world to

improve in 1982, "I guess it'd be peace in the world." A similar sentiment was expressed by Milton Dunn, 84, of Farmington — formerly of Birmingham. "Peace — boy that it'd be if I could wish for anything," Dunn said. Asked what he hoped for in his own life in the new year, Dunn said "I'm a very sick man and if I could wish for anything it'd be my health." Aside from that, Dunn said, he's happy. Seven months ago he moved in with an old hunting partner, Harold Kelso,

in Farmington "and we're getting along just fine. We have a dog, him and I." YOUNG PERSONS make resolutions, too. Tom Mitchell, 14, of Farmington Hills says he resolves to do better in English by studying harder. His friend, Tom Payne, 13, of Farmington Hills, vows to improve his attitude. Please turn to Page 2A

## Barrier to trade assailed

Citing severe damage to the Michigan and U.S. auto industry, Congressman William Brodhead, D-Mich., has called upon U.S. Trade Ambassador William Brock to take legal action against export requirements placed on outside firms doing business in certain foreign countries.

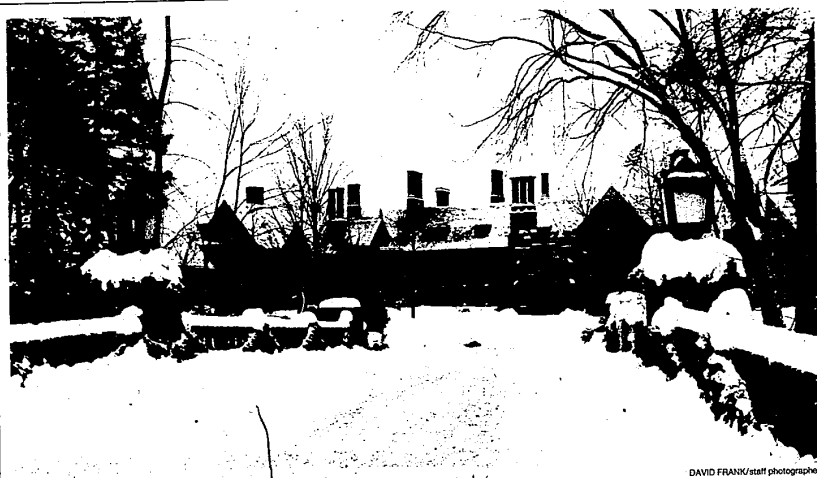
Export requirements are laws, regulations or informal arrangements through which a foreign government forces firms located within its borders to export a certain amount of their total production regardless of the economics of doing so.

Brodhead said such laws impact heavily on this country because U.S. firms provide the capital for nearly half the world's direct investments. At the same time, the United States has been unique in its refusal to impose similar restrictions on foreign firms doing business here.

In a letter to Brock, Brodhead pointed out that the requirements "effectively capture jobs, production and sales at the expense of the United States."

"At a time when our domestic economy, and our auto industry in particular, are under such tremendous strain, we cannot continue to tolerate the lost jobs, production and sales which result from this unfair trade practice."

"In early December, auto sales plunged to their lowest point since 1959, and 193,000 American auto workers were permanently out of work. "Ten percent of the new-car dealerships in the country had closed. The industry's working capital had dropped from \$13 billion to less than \$400 mil-



DAVID FRANK/staff photographer

## Exploring Meadow Brook's heritage

How would you like to explore Meadow Brook Hall's heritage and "live like a millionaire" for two days and two nights? For a fee, you can. The 110-room mansion on Oakland University's Rochester-area campus has 24 fireplaces, 13 sets of chimneys, intricate brick and stone work, sculptured plaster ceilings, and hard-carved paneling and beams. The hall's main role today is that of a year-round cultural

and conference center for daytime and residential programs staged by professional, business and community groups. Since it was opened to the public in 1971, the 50-year-old stately home has seen 75,000 persons annually participate in tours, conferences, seminars, meetings and retreats. For a closer look at Meadow Brook Hall, see page 3A.

## Community thanked Goodfellows help 272 needy

By Craig Piechura  
staff writer

Despite last-minute concerns that donations were down and demand was up, the Farmington Area Goodfellows were able to help a record 210 needy families and 62 senior citizens this Christmas. The number of persons currently provided with food, toys, cash and personal items increased by 100 from the previous year — a jump attributed to the economic slump that has wracked the state.

"As far as I'm concerned, the community came through again," said Bill O'Connor, executive director of the Goodfellows Drive this year. "People should be proud of themselves for helping those in the community whose Christmas was maybe made a little brighter."

"THAT'S WHY I like a small town like Farmington. It's a community — like a church community. People help-

ing people and you can see it in action." A last-minute appeal to citizens through a newspaper article resulted in more canned goods being donated, O'Connor notes. However, canned goods still ran out before all the baskets were delivered. The problem was solved when cash given to families at the end of the list enabled them to buy groceries.

One of the volunteers who assembled gift baskets again this season was Chuck Schulkins of Farmington Hills. For Schulkins it was his 51st year working for the Farmington Goodfellows, a distinction that has earned him the local nickname "Mr. Goodfellow."

Schulkins, 69, says the need this year was probably greater than any other except the Depression years.

"Things are bad this year," he says. "A lot of people you see are out of work. People might have cars and homes but you can't eat those cars and homes when there's no money coming in."

WITHOUT ATTEMPTING to list all the volunteers, O'Connor said he wanted to thank employees at Manufacturer's Hanover Mortgage Co. of Farm-

ington Hills — many of whom don't even live in the community but volunteered their time to the Goodfellows drive.

Also singled out for praise were all the service clubs in the two towns, post office employees, employees of the Alexander Hamilton Insurance Co. and the veterans' group of the Farmington Elks Club.

More than \$7,000 was donated in the newspaper sale, O'Connor said. It was often "the guy who pulled up in a car you didn't know if it'd make it past you" that gave the large donations.

It works, says O'Connor, because persons like Florence Schumaker, who died Dec. 19, collected goods and assembled decorative little candleholders that were distributed to the senior citizens.

Any business person who has a vacant building or storefront between Thanksgiving and Christmas next year should contact the Goodfellows at 474-3440 because the group will need a place to do its work.

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The action stemmed from numerous complaints that refuse containers are left out for extended periods, causing strewn rubbish by scavenging animals, and that empty containers fall into roadways.

"Apparently, many people are putting refuse out a day early, and dogs get into it," Costick said. "The refuse ends up scattered all over."

## Burwell 'shoo-in' as mayor

By M.B. Dillon Ward  
staff writer

It looks like Farmington Hills council member Jack Burwell will get the nod as mayor when City Council convenes to elect its leader a week from tonight.

Council member Bill Lange, an attorney for Detroit Edison, is likely to be selected as mayor pro tem.

According to those who served on the council in 1981, it is Burwell's turn to serve as mayor, in keeping with the rotating one-year terms established by the city charter.

Burwell, an attorney with the Southfield firm of Preiner, Eisenberg, Liechtenstein and Pearlman, is beginning his third term as a councilman.

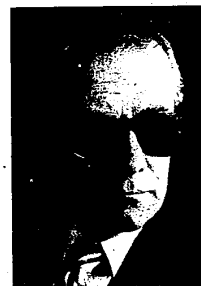
"I view this as an opportunity not only to do my best for the city, but as a rare honor to serve," Burwell said.

Burwell added that despite the advantages his legal background may bring to the mayor's job, he feels time will work against him.

"There aren't enough hours to devote to it," he said. "It could require up to 30 or 40 hours a week. That's why we have to rely on the city manager and city staff to dig up essential facts, so that we can set up basic policy."

FORMER MAYOR Jody Soronen agreed that lack of time can be a problem.

"When you're trying to hold down a full-time job, it's not always possible attend every groundbreaking, flag-raising, wedding and meeting."



Jack Burwell

"But I enjoyed doing it. I don't work for pay."

According to council member Jan Dolan, the time element isn't a great factor.

"It's not that big a job," she said. "We do have a city manager. Some years you may have a mayor with more time, but the term is only one year. The city has survived no matter who has been mayor."

All council members, with the exception of Joe Alkateeb, say rotating the mayoral post has effectively achieved the type of government laid out in the city charter.

"The reason the rotation system was originally established," says retiring councilman Earl Oppertbauer, "was to prevent the city from becoming the dynasty of any one person — which is what happened in Warren and Dearborn."

The system has flaws, but "the pluses outweigh the minuses," he added. "One of the positive things is that it gives other members of the council the opportunity to grow in experience."

ALKATEEB FEELS mayoral terms should be extended beyond a year and



Bill Brodhead

lion — yet only half the phenomenal \$65-billion investment needed to downsize our domestic auto fleet had been made. At the same time, auto imports claimed an unprecedented 26.5 percent

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### what's inside

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## Hills moves to curb floods

Petitions for the creation of an intra-county drain in the 10 Mile and Grand River roads area are being prepared by the Oakland County Drain Commission, according to Assistant City Manager Bill Costick.

The action was requested recently by the Farmington Hills City Council. The involved drain district, Tarabusi Creek, encompasses the Red Roof Inn, one of the businesses which was hardest hit by water damage in flooding Sept. 30-Oct. 1.

"Because of the severity of loss in that district, we feel we should proceed as quickly as possible," Costick said. Farmington Hills is seeking assistance in improving drainage in the area from Novi and Farmington — both

part of the Tarabusi Creek Drain District.

Engineering studies ultimately will determine what actions are taken, but it appears that the Drain Commission may acquire property for retention ponds, install a major crossing under the M-102 freeway, and make other improvements.

The estimated cost of \$3,991 per acre by Farmington Hills (66.2 percent), Farmington (18.5 percent) and Novi (3.8 percent).

The State Department of Highways and the Oakland County Road Commission would pick up the rest of the tab.

IN AN UNRELATED MOVE, council members approved time limits on

the placement of residential refuse at curbsides.

It was agreed that trash may be set out no earlier than 6 p.m. the day before collection, and that all containers must be removed within 12 hours after collection.

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