

# Farmington Observer

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Twenty-Five Cents

## How to save tax dollars from state

By Joanna Maliszewski  
staff writer

If Farmington Hills taxpayers pay their summer tax bills by Aug. 31, they can avoid a 4 percent penalty.

But taxpayers should check with the city's treasurer's office whether they qualify for the deferral and/or property tax rebate, Finance Director Charles Rosch said.

"The person has to apply for these," Rosch said. Deferral and/or rebate based on age, income and other considerations is not automatic.

Taxpayers living within the Farmington School District will pay 27.72 mills (\$27.72 in taxes for each \$1,000 of state equalized property valuation). Residents living in the Clarendonville district will pay 30.99 mills.

In the Walled Lake district, Farmington Hills taxpayers will pay 30.05 mills.

These tax rates include eight mills levied by Farmington Hills, Oakland Community College levies 1.5 mills, except in the Clarendonville School District.

THE FARMINGTON School District levies 17.35 mills, Clarendonville levies 20.20 mills, and the Walled Lake district levies 19.67 mills.

The Oakland Intermediate Schools, meanwhile, levies 0.67-mills. Taxpayers in the Clarendonville district will pay 1.92 mills levied by Schoolcraft Community College.

If a taxpayer is a senior citizen, paraplegic, quadriplegic, blind, permanently disabled, eligible serviceman, veteran or widow, he may qualify for deferral of the summer portion of these taxes if his total household income is less than \$10,000, Rosch said.

A lot broader than taxable income, household income includes pension, Social Security payments, dividends, interest, alimony, unemployment compensation, child support, and other welfare payments.

APPLICATIONS FOR summer tax deferral are available at the treasurer's office and must be filed no later than Sept. 15. If taxes are deferred for the summer, they must be paid with winter taxes before Feb. 14.

If homeowners or renters pay state property taxes (or 17 percent of rent paid) of more than 3.5 percent of their total household income for 1963, they may be eligible for a property tax rebate, Rosch said.

Sixty percent of the amount by which property taxes exceed 3.5 percent of household income is refundable.

The Michigan Homestead Property Tax Rebate Program is designed to accommodate a person's "ability to pay."

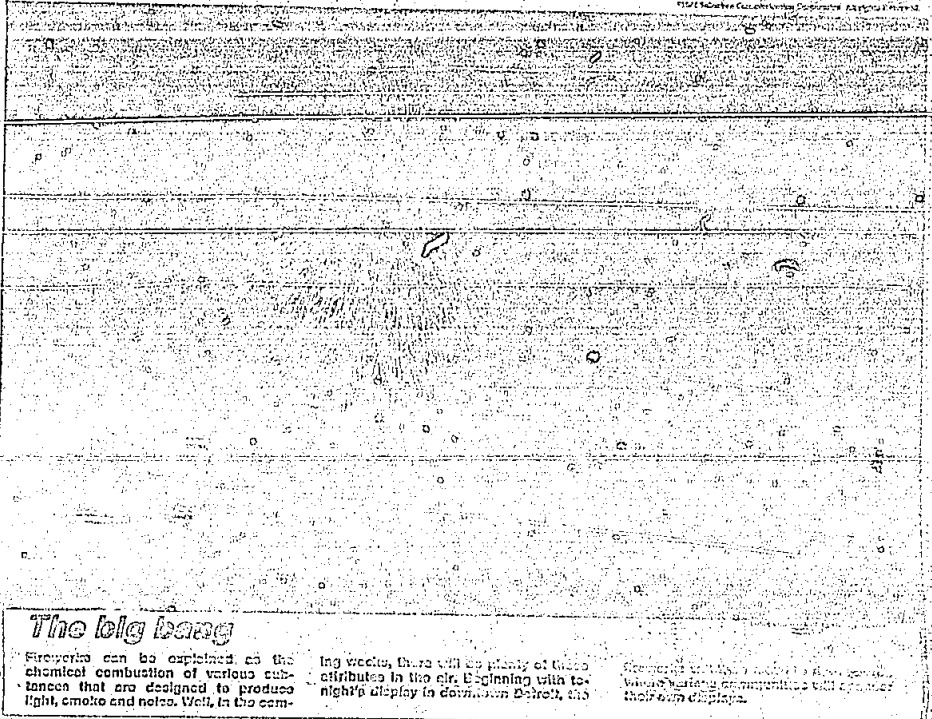
The rebate is a credit against taxes owed. The credit is credited against taxes owed. If the credit is larger than the tax bill, the taxpayer gets a refund. The maximum credit is \$1,200.

THE STATE property tax rebate program is generally applied when a taxpayer files his state income tax return. If a resident does not normally file an income tax return but still pays property taxes, he may still be able to apply for a refund, Rosch said.

Taxpayers who are ineligible for rebate and/or refund may avoid mailing their payment by either using a night depository on the east wall of the Farmington Hills City Hall front courtyard or paying at the treasurer's office from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday-Friday.

Taxpayers may also make tax payments at the following banks by Aug. 31:

- o Michigan National Bank of Detroit (no fee)
- o Michigan National Bank of Farmington (no fee)
- o Michigan National Bank of Novi (no fee)
- o Manufacturers National Bank (no fee)
- o National Bank of Detroit (a 15-cent fee will be charged by this bank for each tax bill).



### The big bang

Fireworks can be exploded as the chemical combustion of various substances that are designed to produce light, smoke and noise. Well, in the coming weeks, there will be plenty of these activities in the air. Beginning with tonight's display in downtown Detroit, the

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## Pickers protest cheap labor

By Joanna Maliszewski  
staff writer

Tecon "Does not pay prevailing wages and fringes," reads the posters carried high by building trades union members picketing area builders at the entrance of the Farmington Brook subdivision in Farmington Hills.

"They are paying less than the prevailing wage and they aren't paying benefits," said a picketer during a recent period last week. "This is just a stand on an issue."

Approximately 10 to 12 builders at the subdivision, including Seacraft, Tecon, and Country Ridge Home Builders, are under fire for allegedly hiring union, former union and non-union workers at below union wage scales, said Jack Wood, director of the Detroit Building Trades Council.

A "Homearama" show targeted for the subdivision in August is the focal point of the unions' protest, Wood added. Each builder involved in the "Homearama" will feature several models in various stages of completion.

Although members of the Carpenters District Council have been picketing Hill Road since June 17, the protest also represents other building trade unions, said Jack Wood, director of the Detroit Building Trades Council.

"This is the only thing we can do to show them," Wood said. "This is to get the builders' attention."

The builders' point of view, represented by the Builders Association of Southeastern Michigan, was unavailable, despite repeated attempts to talk

with the organization's executive officer.

Although "there's a lot of emotionalism involved on both sides of the fence," only a couple of incidents have occurred, said Farmington Hills Police Chief John Nichols.

INCIDENTS INCLUDED a reported punctured tire and picketers allegedly hitting a truck, whose driver later returned, drove through the picket line and "nearly ran over" a picketer, Nichols said. The driver was taken into custody but the incident is

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## 'Hoot' loads 'em — leads 'em down runway



By Jean Adamczak  
staff writer

For some people, parking a 15-foot-long car can be a complex maneuver. It takes a certain amount of skill and expertise to successfully pilot a car into that certain spot.

Guiding a 102-foot long plane with a wingspan of 156 feet and a seating capacity of 294 passengers is as easy as parking a car for Farmington Hills resident Ralph "Hoot" Gibson.

Gibson, a fleet service clerk for American Airlines at Detroit Metropolitan Airport, has been doing just that for 17 years.

"People who work around aircraft take them for granted," said Gibson, squinting up into the sun as a Northwest Orient 747 thunders past on its way to takeoff.

"I GUESS I'm pretty used to them," he said, nodding toward a resting American Airlines 767. "But some people are really intrigued by it all. I guess those of us who work around such aircraft every day just take them for granted."

Gibson does not, however, take his job for granted. "It's an interesting job — they change planes often, and we get to use new equipment."

The newest addition to American Airlines fleet is a Boeing 747 jet. The 747 is 186 feet long, has a wingspan of 195 feet and a passenger capacity of 264. It would take only two people to fly it and can be flown totally by computer after takeoff.

AMERICAN JUST introduced to Metro Airport the 767, one of the newest planes built by Boeing, Gibson said.

The 767 is easy to work on and dependable, the 26-year-old Gibson said. The size of the twin-engine aircraft is halfway between a 727 and a 747, he said.

"I'm partial to Boeing aircraft because they are easier to work with and don't have many maintenance problems as far as loading goes."

In addition to waving airplanes into parking places with fluorescent orange wands, Gibson's other job responsibilities include loading and unloading car-

go and catering supplies, cleaning the interior of the plane and pushing the planes out to the taxiway (called "push-out" in airport lingo).

Loading a plane such as the 767 takes 20 minutes. Unloading can take 25 minutes, depending on how many crew members work at it, Gibson said.

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**RECRUITMENT  
NEED WANTED**  
Qualified Advertising  
Engineers in SECTION C  
of today's paper.

Ralph "Hoot" Gibson uses a communication system to talk with crew members aboard the aircraft as he looks for any signs of trouble before take-off.