

Everyday people turn rock-video stars, 1B



Raising more money for better reading, 4C

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NEWLY elected councilman Aldo Vagnozzi last week asked Mayor Ben Marks what the procedure was for getting items placed on the Farmington Hills City Council agenda.

He said he had a number of items to bring up but he didn't want to overload any one agenda. He said he just wanted to be sure his items came under consideration in a timely fashion. "Since I only have a two-year term — I'm the only one who does — I've got to act fast," he quipped.

WATCH the signal. Farmington Hills City Council last week approved installation of a traffic signal on Middlebelt at the Hillside Day School Driveway.

The Oakland County Road Commission plans to install the light by January. The road commission said the light is needed "in the interest of public safety."

DID you know the Farmington Public Schools owns and maintains 1.66 million square feet of building area?

This is equal to a building 100 feet by 100 feet that would be 166 stories tall. Its oldest structure, Ten Mile School, was built in 1949. Its newest, the bus garage was built in 1976, reports deputy superintendent Michael Flanagan in the latest issue of the district newsletter, Up Front.

FOOTNOTES: One year ago this week — Surprise and anger. That's the reaction of many restaurateurs to Farmington Hills' recent undercover liquor law crackdown in which police cadets were used.

what's inside

- Around Farmington . . . 3B
- Business briefs . . . 3A
- Classifieds . . . Secs. C,E,F
- Index . . . 1F
- Auto . . . C,F
- Real estate . . . 1E
- Employment . . . 1F
- Creative living . . . Sec. E
- Crossword puzzle . . . 3E
- Entertainment . . . 3B
- On the agenda . . . 3C
- Police/fire calls . . . 2A
- Sports . . . 1-3C
- Street Scene . . . Sec. D
- Taste . . . 1-2B



CREATIVE LIVING REAL ESTATE GUIDE

NOW IN EVERY MONDAY AND THURSDAY ISSUE

Economic model, forecast eyed

By Joanne Maliszewski
staff writer

"We are talking here about taxes and jobs. The EDC is looking ahead at the next decade."

— Robert McConnell
EDC chairman

The economic future of Farmington Hills — whittled down to a science — will be as close as a computer keyboard next year. "We are talking here about taxes and jobs," said Robert McConnell, Farmington Hills Economic Development Corporation chairman. "The EDC is looking ahead at the next decade."

The EDC retained Plante & Moran CPAs of Southfield to conduct a \$31,000, 3-5-month economic study

that will allow city officials to forecast an economic outlook for Farmington Hills in the years 1988 to 2000. A second portion of the study includes development of a micro-computer-based model for future economic forecasting.

"We'll be able to take a look at the needs of the city in terms of revenues and in terms of expenditures," McConnell told the city council Monday. The study is expected to begin in December.

The EDC is using its own money — from fees charged businesses that received EDC tax-ex-

empt bonds — the city council Nov. 9 gave McConnell its blessings to proceed with the study.

THE STUDY will provide the city with an "economic computer package" allowing city officials to plug in changing factors, such as the consumer price index, housing, auto production and unemployment. "We can plug it in and see how it affects funding," he said.

The study will provide three basic scenarios for the city based on good economic times, medium or average, and low growth as well as a pro-

file based on the existing conditions of the community.

Trends, including the number of building permits issued, the condition of the city's infrastructure, the educational system, the transportation network, recreational and cultural offerings, and the commercial/industrial base will be studied.

Though the EDC is using its own money, the city council gave McConnell its blessings last week to proceed with the study.

The study also will include inter-

Please turn to Page 8

No easy matter

She helps people in mourning

By Joanne Maliszewski
staff writer

CRISPILY DRESSED in a flattering dark suit and sporting a feminine tie, Donna Gilley might appear to be just another young professional woman.

But there's a difference. She's not a bank executive, attorney, physician, advertising executive or marketing consultant. Gilley is a funeral director.

people

When they first arrive at Heene-Sundquist Funeral Home in Farmington, many grieving families are surprised when Gilley, 25, greets them. Some assume she must be a relative of the funeral home's well-known owner, Walter Sundquist.

"When I tell them I'm the funeral director, they're taken aback at first," Gilley said. "They expect the stereotype — a tall man dressed in a dark suit and who never smiles."

Please turn to Page 6



RANDY BORST/staff photographer

"When I tell them I'm the funeral director, they're taken aback at first. They expect the stereotype — a tall man dressed in a dark suit and who never smiles," says Donna Gilley.

Hills council backs option for new road

Proposed route, 4A

By Joanne Maliszewski
staff writer

The farther west the better. That's newly elected Farmington Hills city councilwoman Jean Fox's feeling about proposed realignments for an improved Haggerty Road.

"I think the farther west we get this road, the better. And I think it's fine if Novi wants it out there," Fox said.

The Farmington Hills City Council Nov. 9 unanimously affirmed the city administrator's preference for one of four alignment plans for a new Haggerty Road developed by the Michigan Department of Transportation.

The plan would put a new Haggerty parkway within the Novi city limits and leave existing Haggerty as a service drive.

The Novi City Council picked a preferred plan in September but a city spokeswoman said Friday that council members will again discuss the four MDOT plans before the end of the year.

The four plans were presented to the public in October at an MDOT-sponsored informational meeting. Farmington Hills' preferred plan calls for making the new state trunkline, M-9, west of Haggerty. The route would extend from the I-696/I-

"I think the farther west we get this road, the better."

— Jean Fox
Hills councilwoman

275 interchange area north to Haggerty Road in the area of Pontiac Trail.

THE CITY council's action in Farmington Hills also upheld a request by the Farmington Brook Homeowners Association, which preferred the same Haggerty alternative.

In all likelihood, a separate highway one-half mile to the west would not have as detrimental an effect on the quality of life and the property values of the homes in this area, particularly the homes which are situated approximately 100 feet from the roadway, of which currently there are 15," according to the homeowner association's letter.

But Fox also raised concern about maintaining single-family residential zoning in the area that would sit between the existing Haggerty Road and the proposed new M-9.

"The land between these newer stays what you think it's master planned," Fox said, adding that

Please turn to Page 4

Bookworm

Hills librarian is new leader of state association

By Joanne Maliszewski
staff writer

Clara Bohrer likes being part of a continuing statewide effort to promote libraries and librarians.

"People have an idea we sit and file through cards and read books. We do read books. But libraries are on the forefront of new technology. We have access to all sorts of information. It's not thumbing through a card catalogue anymore," said the

head of the Farmington Hills branch of the Farmington Community Library.

A longtime member of the Michigan Library Association, Bohrer in October was elected president of the 2,000-member state organization, a chapter of the larger American Library Association. Last year, she served as president-elect. Next year, she'll serve as past president of the organization's governing board.

"It speaks well for our library that we are committed to our state association and its goals," Bohrer said. "A lot of people here hold many positions in the association."

Farmington Community Library trustee Charlotte Yaworski is an association trustee. Other Farmington librarians serve on many of the association's committees.

"PRIMARILY, THE association provides continuing education opportunities for the library staff," Bohrer said.

"The library encourages the professional growth of its staff through participation in professional organizations," said library director Beverly Pappal. "This kind of activity allows for greater creativity by the exchange of ideas, the introduction of new technology and the discussion of trends in the library field."

With the association's help, librarians and other library staff have the opportunity to exchange ideas, learn new skills and improve on existing ones. For example, in library school Bohrer didn't learn about library automation. As coordinator of the library's automated circulation system, she's educated herself with on-the-job training and sharing information with other librarians.

"I have learned to work with people and brings skills back to this library," Bohrer said. "This is a way to meet other people and bring ideas back to your own setting."



Clara Bohrer
Hills branch chief

Personally, Bohrer is elated about her presidency. "I was absolutely thrilled. I have to admit it was a goal in my career. I just find it enjoyable. It brings a whole new dimension to my job."

Pappal lauded Bohrer's accomplishments. "Clara's election as president of the Michigan Library Association is a credit to her personally and a credit to our library. Her peers from all types of libraries from across the state recognize her leadership skills."

In addition to publications, the as-

sociation also provides lobbying efforts in Lansing and Washington, D.C., for initiating and reacting to legislation that would affect libraries, Bohrer said.

Participating in the association and serving as president goes a long way in Bohrer's efforts to promote the Farmington Community Library. "We have a wonderful library. We are always on the forefront of new things."

AS ASSOCIATION president, Bohrer serves as chair of the executive board and represents the association at various functions.

"I feel the president should pick one thing that will have an impact on the association," she said.

That one thing is development and implementation of a five-year plan of action for the association, similar to one developed last year for the Farmington Community Library.

Before becoming head of the Hills branch, Bohrer's resume included experience as head of the Farmington branch and head of the children's section. Prior to joining the Farmington Community Library in 1982, Bohrer served as the children's librarian in the Dearborn public library system and developed the children's services section for the Canton library.

The Bloomfield Township resident holds a bachelor's degree in education and master's degrees in child development and library science.

Headlee pleased with 'great pump'

AP — Richard Headlee says he isn't as good as new a month after receiving a heart transplant — he's better.

The former Michigan gubernatorial candidate finds it hard to contain his enthusiasm for the heart that replaced his damaged organ Oct. 8 and gave him a shot at years of life. "Mine used to beat irregularly," said the Farmington Hills resident, 57. "I used to get extra beats and skipped beats and what-have-you. It wasn't pumping enough blood. It wasn't doing its job.

"This one beats faster and stead-

ler and if I lay on my left side, I can feel that sucker go. I can just feel that sucker go."

In fact, Headlee describes his condition as a "phenomena."

Headlee, a Republican who lost to Democrat Gov. James J. Blanchard in 1982 and now heads Alexander Hamilton Life Insurance Co. in Farmington Hills,



Richard Headlee

Please turn to Page 8