

New plan colors Masonic Temple corner

BY LARRY O'CONNOR
STAFF WRITER

Farmington city officials have something new to peddle on the Masonic Temple Plaza renovation front.

And, frankly, it smells. The first scent of a floral aroma should infiltrate community noses in the fall, as the perennials will be planted on the corner of Grand River and Farmington, a site which caused considerable debate during the winter over a proposed 28-foot clock tower. The tower has been scrapped.

In its wake, 16 different types of flowers will adorn the historic area in a three-tiered planter. The renovation is designed to make the corner more attractive to pedestrians.

The floral arrangement will be nothing to sneeze at, according to downtown development authority officials.

"I think the most impressive thing about it is we will have constant color from summer into the fall," said DDA director Judy Downey. Construction will begin in mid-

August and should take no more than four weeks, according to city architect Chris Wzacy.

"One reason we didn't want to start too early is so we don't destroy what color we have there already," Wzacy said.

The renovation project will cost the DDA \$68,400.

The DDA receives 85 percent of its money from tax increment financing (TIF) and the remaining allotment from a 2-mill tax levy on the DDA district. Money must only be used for public improvements.

Renovations in front of the historic Masonic Temple are considered a cornerstone in that regard. In fact, it will be the only major DDA public improvement project this year.

Other plans have been put on hold for the 1993-94 fiscal year.

The DDA has to repay the final \$200,000 installment of a \$400,000 loan from the city. Also, after December, the DDA will get 60 percent of TIF money instead

of 100 percent. DDA officials and representatives from the Masonic Temple were to sign a 99-year lease for the land Tuesday. The city will lease the area for one dollar a year, agreeing to maintain the property.

In addition to the planter, there will be new benches and a 30-inch by 12-foot sign.

Downey said the DDA will hire someone to oversee the upkeep on the flowers, which will cost \$3,200

from the \$68,400 budget. A consultant from Bordine's Nursery in Clarkston has provided advice on the arrangement.

Downey and Wzacy also met with Fred Steinkopf of Steinkopf Nursery and Walter Sundquist of Sundquist-Heeny Funeral Home.

"They have a historical tie to that area," Downey said. "We wanted to ask their opinion of it."

Hills ends its teen years with birthday-party picnic

Organizers of the Picnic in the Park, a family celebration of Farmington Hills' 20th anniversary as a city, have organized events in Heritage Park on Sunday, July 11, beginning at 7:30 a.m. and running throughout the day.

Here is the schedule of events:
7:30-10 a.m. — A free early bird walk on 1- and 3-mile courses. Door prizes include gift certificates for area restaurants and T-shirts.

7:30-11 a.m. — Pancake breakfast, for \$3.50 the day of the event and \$2.50 in advance, at the city's special services department behind city hall.

11 a.m. to 4 p.m. — Special tournaments, including a "Closest to the Pin" contest, home-run derby and Frisbee toss are scheduled.

1-4 p.m. — Free games for kids of all ages include Twister, a

Families can make a picnic of it or buy items from the hot dog stand, pizza stand, popcorn wagon, Salvation Army Canteen or ice cream kiosk. Entertainment will be provided by the FAR Conservatory from 4-5:30 p.m., the 12-member Salvation Army Band from 5:30-6:30 p.m. and the Farmington Community Dixieland Band from 6:30-7:30 p.m.

money hunt, sack races, stump tug and a Hula Hoop contest.

The Bizarre Bazaar will feature woodbead necklaces, clay sculptures, candle making, tie dyeing, face painting and a 20th birthday poster contest.

Special events will include a dunk tank, collage music, moon walk, pony rides, puppet show, city vehicles, Oaklowns, a visit with Parkey, a silent auction and hot dog stands to benefit Team

Farmington. Families can make a picnic of it or buy items from the hot dog stand, pizza stand, popcorn wagon, Salvation Army Canteen or ice cream kiosk.

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SIDEWALK SALE

JULY 8TH thru JULY 11TH
 (Thurs-Fri, 10-9 p.m., Sat, 10-6 p.m., Sun, 12-5 p.m.)

Jacobson's Spectacular Magic Shows
 Thursday, July 8
 7 p.m.

Patticake The Clown
 Saturday, July 10
 Noon - 3 p.m.

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Farmington Observer

KIDS DAY

Rotten Sneaker Contest



TUESDAY, JULY 13, 1993
 3:30 P.M. • SHIawassee Park
 SHOWMOBILE ENTERTAINMENT STAGE

Kids of all ages are invited to put their **worst** foot forward again this year at Kids Day! Bring the ugliest, nastiest, grubbliest sneakers you own—the pair you use for lawn mowing, house painting, and mud-puddle stomping—and enter them in the Rotten Sneaker Contest. Prizes will be awarded for first, second, and third place winners. All you have to do is show up at the showmobile stage at 3:30 p.m. with the best of your worst Rotten Sneakers!

The Kids Day Rotten Sneaker Contest is made possible by the **FARMINGTON OBSERVER** and **GABE SHOES**, specializing in children's shoes and dancewear, located in the Orchard 12 Plaza.

Don't miss the Gabe Shoes Annual Summer Sale Starting Thursday, July 1, 1993

The 1993 Graduating Class of Farmington High School

would like to express their sincere thanks to the following contributors who have been so generous in providing support for the 9th Annual "All Night Senior Party"

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Especially to the Parents of Senior Students

Farmington High School Senior Class '93 and Parent Committee

Our sincere apologies to anyone we may have inadvertently omitted.