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IN THE PAPER
TODAY

Certifiably so: In terms of rigorous professional standards, Farmington teachers are certifiable. /3A

Hosing them down: Farmington Hills firefighters provided the fun for a group of Girl Scouts at a Heritage Park day camp. /3A

OPINION

About those letters: We'd like it very much if some of the authors of letters to the editor showed themselves. /8A

COMMUNITY LIFE

If walls could talk: This is your chance to see what's behind the doors of some of the area's interesting old homes. /11A

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Art shows: Art on the Green Sept. 4 in Franklin, and Art in the Park in Birmingham, Sept. 9-10, feature talented artists working in a range of mediums. / 1B

Jazzy: Montreux Detroit Jazz Festival showcases many local musicians. / 1B

SPORTS

3-peat attempt: Harrison High enters a new football season as two-time defending league and Class A champs. /1C

AT HOME

Trickle effect: Garden ponds are making quite a splash as they are proliferating in popularity. See why their owners, including area residents, are bubbling with delight. /Section D

LOTTERY

The Wednesday Lotto jackpot was worth at least \$2.1 million. The Michigan lottery numbers for Wednesday, Aug. 30, are:

- **DAILY 3:**
342
- **DAILY 4:**
7679
- **CASH 5:** 1, 7, 16, 19, 27
- **LOTTO:** 7, 8, 14, 21, 41, 49

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Bayard Tupper dies at 91

For many residents, the name Tupper is synonymous with Farmington. Now, the community is mourning the death Tuesday of Bayard Tupper, 91, who gave the city its first building code.

BY TOM BAZER
STAFF WRITER

Bayard Tupper — lumberman, civic leader and Farmington resident for almost 60 years — was the grand dean of the political scene in the words of a colleague, former City Manager Robert Deadman. A fixture in local government for about 40 years, Tupper died Aug. 29 in the Angela Hospice in Livonia at

age 91. He was born Dec. 26, 1903, in the Redford section of Detroit.

"Bayard was a real gentleman," Deadman said, "and he was very dedicated to Farmington." During the 1950s, as Farmington and other Detroit-area suburbs started to grow, Tupper found himself a very busy man.

In addition to running his own lumberyard, Smith-Tupper on Grand

River, Tupper served on the Farmington Board of Education. He was on the board 10 years, six as president. He also was president of the Farmington Planning Commission and the Assessment Board of Review.

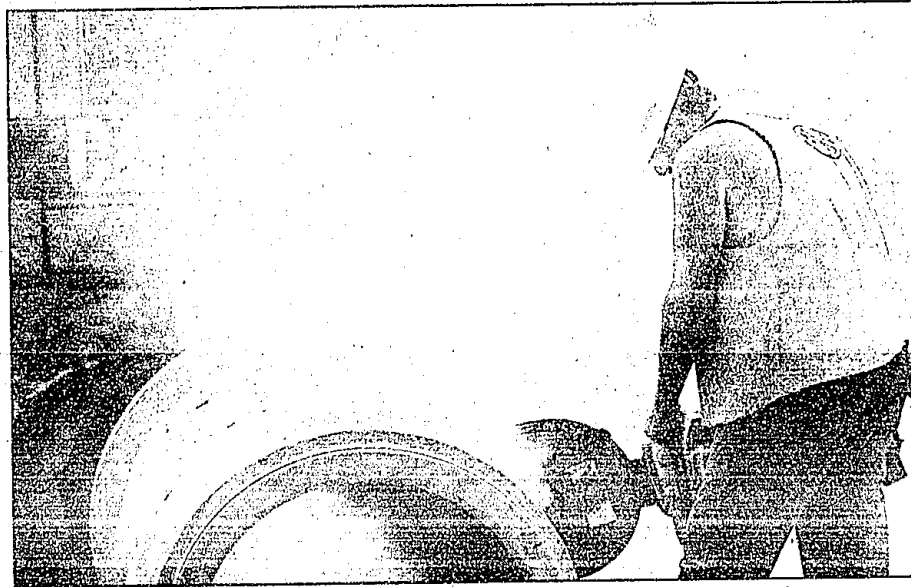
Years later, in 1982, Tupper was appointed to the Farmington City Council to replace his son Richard, who resigned to seek out-of-state business opportunities.

Richard Tupper returned three years later and won back his seat on the council. He announced recently that he's stepping down after more



See TUPPER, 6A Bayard Tupper

Construction dust up in Farmington Hills



SHARON LEWIS/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Cutting the pipe: Someday there'll be a subdivision and a shopping center at a former wooded stretch at 12 Mile and Middlebelt roads in Farmington Hills. But first lots of construction must be done, including fitting and laying sewer pipe. In the photo above, Dennis Boedicker of DeAngella Construction of Woodhaven raises some dust in a pipe-cutting operation.

Wake-up call on kids' drug, alcohol use issued

BY LARRY O'CONNOR
STAFF WRITER

At a time when most were listening to sermons, Farmington officials conducted their own anti-drug and alcohol revival Sunday.

Law enforcement, school and community leaders used Sunday's press conference at the Farmington Training Center to reiterate the myriad of prevention efforts and underscore their importance, especially at the start of a new school year.

It's part of the Farmington Public Schools' "Zero Tolerance" resolution, which both city councils have adopted.

They want to send a wake-up call to those not in attendance: Parents who tune out the problem.

RESOLUTION

Studies indicate that despite prevention efforts, drug and alcohol use among kids are common.

In one national survey, 60 percent of high school seniors said they used drugs and alcohol in the last month. Many report using drugs and alcohol in their home.

Those figures make adults cringe, but teen-agers don't blink. Drinking and drug use are not uncommon among kids, said one Farmington High student.

"It's incredible how much happens and parents don't know what's going on," said Amber Stephan, a junior who is involved in Farmington High's

Students Against Driving Drunk.

While that cannot be encouraging for those involved in drug and alcohol awareness efforts, they remain determined. Several ongoing Farmington area initiatives include:

■ The Farmington Schools' second-annual "Get-a-GRIP" program to be held March 2, 1996, at North Farmington High. More than 500 people turned out on an icy Saturday morning for the event, which is designed for kids in grades 4 through 8 and their parents.

■ The 11th-annual, month-long Farmington Families in Action drug and alcohol awareness programs in October. This year's theme is "Par-

See DRUGS, 10A



C. Robert Maxfield

Edison hears complaints, vows improvements

BY BILL COUPTANT
STAFF WRITER

Residents and members of a citizens committee concerned with power outages in Farmington Hills heard Detroit Edison officials defend the company's record and vow to improve its performance.

At Monday's meeting with city officials, Edison representatives and members of the committee first formed in 1991 after a long power outage, talked about power outage problems between 1991 and this July's storm-related outages.

"In terms of reliability, we are number two or three in the U.S.," said Jim Connelly, Edison manager of regional relations.

But after the 9½-hour meeting, some residents were not sold on Edison's performance.

"You could have taken the '91 minutes (from committee meetings with Edison) and you'd have the same thing," said Joe Giacchino. "We're in the dark."

Several complaints concerned the company's communication system that left many customers not knowing when power would be restored or

whether the company knew their area was without power.

"The thing that would worry me would be not knowing if they (Edison) knew my power was out," said Hills City Councilman Aldo Vagnozzi, who was mayor when power went out in 1991.

Vagnozzi got council approval that year to form a committee to advise Edison on how to improve its system and avoid future problems. Many of the same committee members will make recommendations to the city and Edison in November on a work plan for avoiding future problems.

Although the power outages caused by three storms last month were understandable, many of the power outages at other times aren't, residents said.

"I've lived here for 39 years and had no problems until the last four-five years," said Mayor Joanne Smith.

But residents, including Vagnozzi, said that the service has improved somewhat since 1991, but not to the degree Edison promised after storms that summer.

"It's time for Edison to share the losses," Vagnozzi said. "I'm a little disappointed that we haven't had much improvement in four years."

Paul Phelps, a committee member who lost power at his Shilohvasee home, said residents should not assume that if one person calls the company Edison will understand that power is out in the area.

"If I'm the only one who calls in my area, you may think the power's out just at my address," he said.

The company has improved its communication system, but with so many customers out of power, the company can't answer each call with an operator, Connelly said.

"Prior to this, our system could handle only 2,000 calls an hour," he said. "With new equipment and an additional 100 workers, we have a capacity of handling 40,000 calls (through the new Voice Response Unit). You can't run 1,500 (phone) lines with people."

See EDISON, 10A