

Farmington Observer & Eccentric

Volume 87 Number 15 Monday, December 4, 1973 Farmington, Michigan 28 Pages Twenty-First Century



Lt. Arlo Newell, head of the Farmington Hills Traffic Division, stopped motorists for a different reason last Friday. Newell joined volunteers from both Farmington and Farmington Hills to

hawk newspapers for the Goodfellow drive. (Staff photo by Harry Mauth)

DPW gains space in planned opening of new facility

By RON GARDINSKI

When Bob Shaw came to Farmington Hills in June 1974, the DPW Maintenance Division had to rent garage space for its heavy duty equipment from Oakland County. Now, almost 20 months later, his goal of building a new maintenance facility is almost realized.

Shaw, Farmington Hills DPW maintenance superintendent, expects to move into the city's new maintenance garage by the beginning of February, if everything goes according to schedule.

"Right now, the garage facility is about half complete. When it is finished we will move all our heavy duty equipment and other material to the new site," he explained. "This way we will be better able to serve the needs of the city because all of our activities will be centrally located at the new site. Finally, our entire division will be together for the first time."

The new facility is located on Halstead Road, just north of the I-498 expressway, at a site that will allow easy access to all areas of the city. Built on 9 1/2 acres, the new facility will serve as the base of operations for the supervisor, his staff and equipment.

"We're growing every day... city-wide and department-wide. With growth like this, we need to expand our facilities and services. When you have more than 250 miles of roads to service and 23 pieces of equipments to house, you need good facilities," he said. "And that's what we have now."

The site was purchased in 1974 for \$77,430 and earlier this fall was let by the City of Farmington Hills Building Authority at a cost of \$250,000. The facility is a 150- by 120-foot structure with office space at the front of the building.

In addition to servicing and housing DPW equipment, the facility will also service all city and police vehicles. The total number of vehicles serviced at the center will be about 60.

Large items, such as culverts, paving and graveling materials, will be stored in the facility's large yard. Bids are out now for a salt storage building for snow and ice control.

Shaw says one of the main advantages of the new facility will be the increased control of quality over repairs and maintenance. It will help reduce the down time for vehicles in need of service, and will improve the priority scheduling of repairs during emergencies.

"As we go down the road into the future, we may be able to expand the facility and other departments may be developed around the site. Right now I can't predict that because it isn't policy, but as the city grows, so will our need for services such as water and sewer, and maybe parts and forest departments."

Shaw developed a plan for the new facility in the fall of 1974. When Farmington Hills became a city, Oakland County told the DPW they were on their own and would have to provide all road and maintenance services themselves.

Back then, the city rented garage space for the equipment from the Oakland County Road Commission and Southfield. It was soon realized the site was too far from the city, so the heavy duty equipment was moved closer by leasing a factory close to city hall.

Now construction is almost complete, and the maintenance division will move in next year.

"It is really rewarding for me to see this facility being completed. When I hired the division's first worker 1 1/2 years ago, we had almost nothing. Now we have a lot of good employees working for us and we're acquiring new equipment all the time," says Shaw.

"I feel really great about the whole thing. Our division has really grown, and we're finally getting it all together. Our new facility is quite a showplace and we are all really proud of it."

How students explore change by examining their values

By RON GARDINSKI

For 20 Harrison High School students, participating in a recent values clarification workshop proved to be an awareness-wakening experience. Several students altered their values, others said they understand themselves better, but most of the group said they now realize people can change, and that they do have feelings and values different from their own.

This was the response of the 20 students to a values-clarification workshop offered by Bob Hickeox, a guidance counselor at Harrison.

"One of the main aims of this workshop was to let students find out more about themselves and others," Hickeox explained. "It was an experiential thing, without lecturing on my part, which the kids could use to understand their own values in relation to others."

The workshop lasted eight days with each 45-minute session dealing with a different value-stimulating activity. The 20 students, mostly juniors and seniors, were excused from their other classes to attend the session.

ACTIVITIES at some of the ses-

sions included value ranking and voting. One activity had each student rank 18 guiding principles according to their importance in the student's life.

Other activities included discussions of what men and women are, students writing their own obituaries, writing of what they might do if they had two ideal days to do anything they wanted, and reacting to a story about a student whose entire day is filled with depressing experiences.

Hickeox began the program with ground rules and guidelines he felt were absolutely necessary for the workshop to function effectively.

"The first guideline I stressed was that there were to be no killer statements or put-downs. Second, and probably the hardest for the students to really understand, was that there should be no any talking when others are speaking," Hickeox said.

"I really emphasized this and had to remind them at the beginning of each session. It was difficult for the students to follow this guideline, especially at times when they really got going on some of our experiences and everyone wanted to talk at once."

"Third, and super important, was that each had the right to pass any time he wanted. Throughout the work-

shop, I never wanted the students to feel threatened or that they had to express their views on everything we did," he continued. "All our activities were non-threatening and there was no physical contact. Everyone has the right to respect."

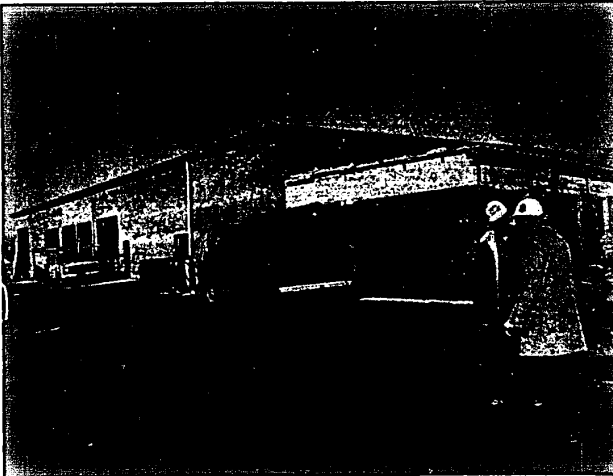
He was quick to point out that the program is not for everyone. Students must be ready for it, and usually those who are a little more mature, who are more open with their feelings and can express themselves, enter the workshop. They have to bring a certain attitude to the group in order for the workshop to really be effective, he said.

Hickeox feels at home with value-clarification workshops. He has conducted eight sessions for students ranging from junior high school up to the graduate levels. He also has participated in many workshops himself and has had "some really good experiences with many of the big names in value-clarification research."

"The kids really loved the workshop, and that really makes me feel good about what I am doing for the students and how I relate it to them. I have been doing this for some time and each time the workshops get better," he said.

"Even though it takes about two months to put one together, I try to change it from time to time. I usually drop the two activities students rate as the least important to the group and add two others which I think will

(Continued on page 4A)



Assistant construction supervisor Ed Leibold (left) and James Lauson, project supervisor, pause a moment before continuing their

inspection of progress at the new Farmington Hills D.P.W. maintenance facility on Halstead Road. (Staff photo)

Western-Six singing out as choral groups combine

For more than two hours one afternoon, the top choral groups of five area high schools blended their voices together in the non-competitive atmosphere of a "league sing."

The high schools in the Western-Six activities league met recently at Harrison High School and spent the day singing just for each other. There were no audiences because the purpose of this event was to give the choirs an opportunity to sing with and for each other without the pressure of competition.

"The kids really loved it. It's about the only opportunity these groups have to get together and sing just for themselves without having to worry about who is better," says Maurice Wildt, choral director at Harrison.

"We all had lunch together and mingled with the other students. By doing this, the students were able to develop a closer fellowship between each group they otherwise wouldn't pur-

pose to hear them. Listening to the harmony of a big group like this was really great.

Each group prepared its own numbers and then performed together under the direction of the different conductors. Wildt says this was good for the students because it gave them the opportunity to perform under the direction of different leaders and they were able to see what different methods are like.

The league sing developed out of a meeting of the league's high school principals last year. After that meeting, the choral directors got together and decided to organize the "sing-in."

"This event was quite successful and the groups involved really enjoyed once they got acquainted," says Wildt. "After it was over, the directors were really pleased and excited about having more in the future. And now after the choirs have heard what the others sound like, they can know what to expect when competition time rolls around."

"The choirs also benefited from hearing the different types of sounds together while being right in the mass

Sorrows' club sponsors talk

The Rev. Jim Sam of St. Peter's Roman Catholic Church, Harper Woods, will speak at Our Lady of Sorrows on Wednesday, Dec. 10, at 8 p.m. in the church hall.

His talk will address the problem of divorce and separation. Guests are welcomed.

inside

News	Section A
Editorials	6
Around the edges	6
Editorials	10
Columns	10
Sports	8,9
Community Life	Section B
Community Calendar	1
Classified	Section C

TOLERANCE

Students at Farmington Hills Mercy High School are learning about Protestant religions to gain a better understanding of those around them. To see how it works turn to Page 3A.