

Farmingington Observer & Eccentric

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Change unpopular Old style downtown a hit

By LOUISE OKRUTSKY

Not everyone wants downtown Farmington to change. Some shoppers are afraid that proposed improvements to Farmington's shopping area would take away its intimacy, small-town atmosphere and turn it into just another mall.

"I love shopping downtown," Mrs. Marilee Townsend of Farmington Hills says. "It has an atmosphere you don't get in a mall."

When she shops at a downtown store, she feels at home because she knows the sales personnel in every department.

"It's like little towns used to be, but aren't anymore," she says.

Green and Associates recommended that major fashion apparel stores be introduced to the city's downtown district. Once the large store became part of the area, smaller fashion stores would follow suit.

The shopping area on Grand River and

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—Marilee Townsend

Farmington roads could become a fashionable shopping area, like Birmingham.

"I WOULDN'T" bother with them (hospitals), Mrs. Hazel Olski of Piquette says. "I know where I'm going and if I'm going to buy."

She likes to shop at Kmart and Federal's in Farmington because "it means a nice change from going to Ann Arbor."

"I like being in the country. I just like walking," she says. "Farmington is a nice quiet town."

"I like coming out here because there's not too many people like there are at the mall," a Farmington resident says. She doesn't shop in Farmington more often than she already does if additional fashion stores come to the area.

"I like the outside. I'm against enclosed malls. I had hoped to see just another mall," Doug Richardson of Ann Arbor says. He shops in Birmingham occasionally and would probably drive to Farmington if there were more stores in the area.

Green's report included the recommendation that small stores along the street provide window shopping incentive for the shopper to walk along the street.

Mayor John Richardson told the Feb. 18 Farmington council meeting that the parking problem would work itself out if people thought Farmington was a worthwhile shopping area.

"You give them something worth com-



DOUG RICHARDSON



MARILEE TOWNSEND



DORVILLE ROBINSON



TERRY FULLER

ing to and they'll find a place to park," he said.

"I'm getting so spoiled, I'd probably go to a mall if depends on the weather," Diane French of Farmington Hills says.

She usually goes to Kendallwood Mall in the Livonia Mall and probably will participate in the Novi Regional Shopping Center.

Although Mrs. Geraldine Rehoboff of Farmington Hills would like to come to a revamped downtown Farmington, she doesn't want to walk too far with her five-year-old.

THE CONVENIENCE of having a variety of stores under a weather-proof mall roof and the nearby location of many malls have helped to sway shoppers away from downtown.

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Study launched by LWV group on human rescue

By CORINNE ABATT

The League of Women Voters (LWV) is now building a life of information on one of the hottest issues in the Farmington and West Bloomfield areas—emergency medical service (EMS).

If the local group gives a mandate for the study at the April meeting, the women will have an in-depth report ready about the time the short contract between the City of Farmington Hills and the Farmington Hills Ambulance Company terminates June 30.

Mary Lazaraton who will be in charge of the local study says. All of the basic information we gather, guidelines and what a good system is, will apply to West Bloomfield as well as Farmington Hills.

Mrs. Lazaraton and her committee will be looking at all aspects of emergency services—state, county and local.

Barbara Kurko of the league says. The state has not set guidelines for EMS training. We keep waiting but so far there aren't any. We don't even know which schools would be accredited for the training. In Farmington Hills for instance, the firemen pay for their own education and ambulance training.

lars," she continues.

"I feel the council is trying to go a good job as far as overruling a concerned. I feel most people don't know what EMS service is and hopefully we'll have time to educate the people on what it being done."

Mrs. Lazaraton says that while at first the league envisioned a man-study on the subject, because of public interest and the many ramifications, it will now be a full-scale approach.

"As laymen, we don't know what emergency medical service is—manual, average or excellent. We'll be looking at analyzing costs, training, vehicles and equipment."

While formulating the general picture, the league study committee, Mrs. Lazaraton is hoping for about 12 active members who will be analyzing the local situation.

"WE WILL NEED documented testimony of all kinds. We will be collecting information and be like a central clearing house for all of it."

Mrs. Kurko adds. Councilmember Joan Dudley said he wanted documented information. We are trying to gather that from all sources.

"It'll be talking with council members, the city manager, Public Safety Director Ronald Holko, volunteer firemen, ambulance staff and residents who have testimony. They all have different points of view."

Stressing that they want documented experiences from residents, Mrs. Lazaraton said she will take calls at her home from those who want to talk with her. Her phone number is 831-4627.

Mrs. Kurko says. "When you realize a lack and don't do something about it you deserve what you get. The council needs to be shown there is community interest in this. If we show our findings and the public agrees something should be done, I feel sure the council will go along. We want to offer everyone a chance to make an informed decision."

By CORINNE ABATT

As a part of their continuing study of Emergency Rescue Service (EMS), the West Bloomfield Farmington Area League of Women Voters heard what can happen with money and community support.

Sgt. Marcel Charette, Southfield's paramedic coordinator, gave a slide talk program explaining how that city's program started and presently functions.

He lauded the effects of the training. It is here and it is going stay here. In that class they heard what the paramedics and we understand what they were saying."

Neither West Bloomfield or Farmington Hills have Life Support units as described by Charette. In fact, Southfield is one of only seven cities in the country with this kind of sophisticated emergency service.

It was four years ago that 30 Southfield firemen volunteered to participate in a pilot training program for paramedics. In all, the firemen had 300 hours of classroom and on the floor experience at Providence Hospital, before the units were staffed.

THE MAJOR PORTION of the program was Charette's description of the training with the slide presentation of the unit on an actual call.

He described himself as a fireman whose technical vocabulary once limited to such words as "hose and nozzle," has progressed to total familiarity with the likes of ventricular fibrillation arrhythmias.

Charette described some of his hospital experiences.

For six days we delivered babies. We were assigned to the operating room. We drew like the doctors. We learned to start IV's and we had to be over 75 per cent successful with them.

We learned to take EKG's and for three days we did nothing but take electrocardiograms and be able to identify what was happening—ventricular fibrillation, ventricular flutter.

We had to identify the arrhythmias and the drugs to rectify them. We worked in the coronary care units learning to identify configurations on the electrocardiograms.

We worked for three days in the intensive care units and in the emergency room.

He told his audience that when things are too much for the emergency room staff, they will call the Life Support Unit for help doing what they learned to do four years ago. They'll EKG and generally assist the medical staff.

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mediately to the emergency room. The paramedics have the equipment and medical supplies to stabilize the patient as a most any kind of emergency.

The patient featured in the slide presentation, an actual case, was clinically dead when the Life Support team arrived.

Charette held up his smudged white lab coat and said. "This little tool here was really good that morning. Her eyes were fixed and dilated but when I shined the light on them, her eyes moved and I said to the man, 'We've got something here, the doctor's got to see this.'"

Biologically, she was still alive.

Through electro shock, they started her heart beating, reported their findings to the Providence doctors with whom they are always in contact, injected drugs to improve her condition and once stabilized



Learning some rescue tips

Sgt. Marcel Charette shows the flashlight test that can determine life or death. With him is Farmington police officer Sgt. Norman Madison.

son Mrs. Paula Tobach and the LWV president and Mrs. Mary Cassotto of the league. Staff photo by Mary Maloney.

It's sign-up time for soccer teams

Farmington area boys and girls 8 to 18 years old who are interested in playing soccer in a spring league are invited to register from 8 to 11 a.m. Saturday, March 6, at Durschel Junior High School.

The league, sponsored by the Farmington Soccer Association, plays in the Western Suburban Soccer League, which includes Northville, Livonia, Plymouth and West Bloomfield.

The association began several years ago with boys teams. The girls played last fall for the first time and had a very successful season.

The problem, according to the small group of families who founded the association, has been to find coaches. Few Americans are familiar enough with the game to coach because the sport is just now coming into popularity in American schools.

Jorge Pacheco, one of the organizers of the association, played soccer in South America. Girls' coach Eddie McCracken was a soccer star in his native Bolivia.

Mrs. Pacheco, directing the association as a family-oriented group, says membership in the association is on a family basis and all youngsters in each family may play on the same membership.

For the first time, the association elected a president and eight officers. Armando

Want an answer Call Hills newslines

If you want to know in 30 seconds or less what's happening in Farmington Hills government circles call "Newslines."

This is the newest innovation at city hall. It's a free service. The line operates 24 hours a day.

"This is our way of keeping a more closely knit and informed community," said William J. Gorman, assistant to City Manager George Majors.

Majors brought the idea from Webster Grove, Mo., where he served as city man-

Carey becomes realtor chief

Robert H. Carey, a Farmington realtor has been installed as director of the National Association of Realtors.

Carey, contacted with a firm at 2323 Twelve Mile, will assist policy making for the National Association. He also will decide the thrust of the realtor program. The term is for three years.

The National Association of Realtors headquartered in Chicago, has nearly 50,000 members in 30 states.

Big Bands

What's the best way to do it? It's the only band music that's being played by music students as well as professionals. It can make the whole day seem just a little more alive. For more, see what's new at Deborah Akley's. She's the one to say about it.

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