

Building inspector says,

Strong future seen in city construction

City building inspector Jay Harrison predicts 1976 will be a good year for construction in the Farmington community.

After issuing the Farmington Building Department's first quarter report, Harrison says an upturn in building is on the way.

"I think that this year will mark an improvement in building for our community," he explains. "We have issued 23 building permits already this year, and we're looking forward to a big increase in May."

"April was a really good month for construction. I don't really know why, but money must have been released into our community, letting residents and builders begin these additions."

While 23 permits were issued, the city received \$2,146 in fees for permits, registrations and inspections.

During the January, February and March quarter, four home additions and two remodels were built in the city for \$11,254.

TWO NEW garages were built and three new commercial facilities were constructed, totaling \$617,000.

Harrison shows optimism about a possible Farmington building upturn because of the number of building permits issued this year has increased.

At this same time in 1975, only 18 building permits were issued as compared to 1976's 23.

"This is an indication that good things lie ahead for the community this summer," he says.

In the plumbing division, 19 permits were issued with costs totaling \$275,500. That's up seven permits from 1975.

Heating and refrigeration permits were down from last year's level, as only 11 permits were applied for at a cost to consumers of \$613.

The electrical division issued 34 permits totaling \$664 in construction or repair costs.

In 1975, the number of permits issued was 31, and costs were recorded at \$2,022.

Any construction exceeding \$100 needs a building permit from the city.

All major repairs or installations in plumbing, heating, electrical or refrigeration work must be registered with the building department.

"Merchants are coming around almost 100 per cent in obeying the Farmington building and zoning codes," Harrison says.

"TWO YEARS ago we began to rid the downtown area of signs, and everyone was very cooperative with the new code. Now we are trying to improve the image of the main street area by cleaning up the appearance of the buildings," the inspector says.

"Everyone is doing a fine job, and we aren't experiencing any major problems with the merchants. They all seem to pride themselves in their business, and that is a plus in our favor."

"Once in a while, someone will go astray, and we'll wind up in court. But in the end, things usually work out," Harrison explains.

One of the department's major projects this year has been to get fire extinguishers placed in every apartment complex in the city.

"We arranged with the owners to have these extinguishers placed in a location where residents could get at easily. We also placed fire extinguishers in garages and mechanic or workshop areas of most businesses," the inspector says.

Harrison's department has been instrumental in bringing about the rejuvenation of the Medallion Pool Building on Grand River in downtown Farmington.

At one time, the department was preparing condemnation proceedings against the owners, but now plans are being completed to transform the facility into five small retail shops.

THE POTATO chip warehouse on Nine Mile, just west of Farmington Road, stood vacant for years, but Harrison says the building will become a handball and squash facility.

"There really aren't too many building and zoning violations in the city. When you are as small as Farmington—only 2½ square miles—there's not much that can really happen."

"Each owner strives for perfection, and some even turn in the business next door if he gets sloppy and does something that isn't in the best interest of all merchants," Harrison explains.

HOUSEHOLDS OR DWELLING UNITS Farmington Community			
	Farmington	Farmington Hills	Total
1960	1,780	6,690	8,479
1970	3,233	13,363	16,596
Change #	1,453	6,673	8,126
Change %	81.6	99.7	---
1970	3,132	13,363	16,495
1973	4,150	19,100	19,250
Change #	1,018	1,737	2,755
Change %	32.5	13.0	---
1970	3,132	13,363	16,495
1974	4,230	15,900	20,130
Change #	1,098	2,537	3,635
Change %	31.5	19.0	---

RESIDENTIAL BUILDING PERMITS				
Year	Single Family	Multiple	Totals	
1975	218	264	482	
1974	191	720	911	
1973	298	592	890	
1972	345	146	491	
1971	442	1,004	1,446	
1970	352	784	1,136	
TOTALS			5,356	
Annual Average			892	
1976	Three month total		23	

Headlee gives optimistic report on Hamilton revenue

The Hamilton International Corporation of Farmington Hills, recorded an increase of 87 per cent in the first year earned premium for the individual ordinary life insurance.

Richard Headlee, president and chief executive officer, advised shareholders that the company previously announced position of eliminating certain unprofitable group business and placing greater emphasis on individual ordinary life insurance met with considerable success.

The first year earned premium for individual life insurance increased to \$1,821,000, Headlee said.

THE COMPANY'S ACQUISITION of Pepsi-Cola Bottling facilities in St. Louis, Missouri and all of the outstanding capital of Flavette Corporation and Flavette Products Corporation from PepsiCo, Inc., in November, 1975 contributed \$4,500,000 to Hamilton's revenues. They contributed \$5,000,000 to the company's income before interest taxes and other expenses during November and December of last year.

Headlee cautioned that the two months results from the newly acquired companies were at a substantially higher rate than what could be expected for an entire year of operation.

The Hamilton International Corporation

and its subsidiary, Alexander Hamilton Life Insurance Company of America, were selected by Dun and Bradstreet to be the insurance underwriter for Dun and Bradstreet Trust.

The company's total assets at the end of 1975 were \$180 million, compared with \$170 million for 1974.

There was a rise in the net investment in assets from \$8,500,000 in 1974 to \$9,429,500 in 1975.

Life insurance in force increased to \$1,323,100,000 in 1975 compared to \$1,276,361,000 in 1974. Group insurance in force was \$99,622,000 in 1975, compared to \$97,513,000 in 1974.

SETTLEMENT OF TWO lawsuits which

had been pending for several years, rid the company of a deterrent to its flexibility in pursuing new business opportunities.

California became the 49th state in which Alexander Hamilton Life can do business.

Alexander Hamilton Life received a policyholders recommendation from A.M. Best Company, insurance industry analysts.

Hamilton reported a net income of \$3,623,000 for the year which ended Dec. 31, 1975.

The company earned \$2,211,000 in 1974.

Hamilton's annual meeting of shareholders is scheduled for 10 a.m., May 28 at the Raleigh House, Southfield.

Pictorial history of Jews slated

Five chapters of Pioneer Women, Avodah, Bruders, Chana, Chenech, Denora and Hanita will present a program "A Pictorial History of Jews in Detroit" at noon, Tuesday, April 27 at the Labor Zionist Institute, 2855 Middlebelt.

Commentaries on the slide show will be offered by Irving Katz, executive secretary of Temple Beth El and the historiographer of Jews in Michigan. During the talk will be Al Karbal, director of the Learning

Resource Center of Shaarey Zedek in Southfield.

A \$2 luncheon will precede the presentation.

The afternoon has been coordinated by Brenda Faugh of Detroit, Bea Saffman, Clara Marks, Mary Gilbert, all of Oak Park and Lillian Kanarek of Southfield.

The event is open to the public and further information can be obtained by calling Pioneer Women at 851-0750.



'Let Freedom Ring'

Franklin Knolls Women's Club members don 1776 costumes and customs for their upcoming fashion show and luncheon, "Let Freedom Ring," to benefit Sister Arline Cancer Research. Committee members who will be in their costumes for the Wednesday, April 28.

event, are (from left) Kate Campbell, Farrell DeCourcy, Dorothy Kocovar, Fran Saliba and Susan Baty. Festivities are set to get under way at noon in Southfield's Michigan Inn. Tickets are available through Mrs. DeCourcy, 626-5311.

Historical society sponsors talk on Oakland County past

The Farmington Historical Society will meet at 8 p.m., Wednesday, April 28, in the new library, Maurice Cole, an authority on Oakland County history will discuss "The Settlement of Early Oakland County."

Cole is a former Oakland County Court Commissioner and a past president of the Historical Society of Michigan. His research has led to the publication of several books.

Dr. William Henning, a professor of history at Macomb County Community College will discuss and show slides on the old Detroit United Railway. The D.U.R. operated in Farmington during the first quarter of this century. Henning will speak at 11 a.m. Saturday, May 8, in the Liberty Street library.

The society would be interested in seeing old pictures of the D.U.R. and hearing personal recollections about it.

The annual dinner meeting, which begins with a 6 p.m. social hour will be at 7 p.m., Wednesday, May 26, at the Community Center.

A brief business meeting will include election of officers and the presentation of the annual Heritage Award.

present her portrayal of Abigail Adams. Reservations should be made by May 22.

THE HISTORICAL HOUSE TOUR and Flower Show, sponsored jointly by the historical society and the Farmington Garden Club, will be Sunday, May 16. The homes of seven society members are included in

the tour. Flower arrangements will be displayed in each home. The Community Center will host the horticultural show. Tea and cookies will be served at the Center.

The historical society will enter a float in the Festival Parade, Saturday, July 31. Members are invited to offer ideas for the float.

Romney will speak at Methodist church

Former Gov. George Romney will be the guest speaker at a special American Bicentennial celebration at 10 a.m. Sunday, May 2, in the First United Methodist Church, 2011 Grand River, Farmington.

Following his speech and the service, Romney will meet the public at a reception in the church's Marham room. All are invited.

A nursery will be available for small children.

Romney, three-time governor of Michigan, also served as Secretary of Housing and Urban Development. He was chief executive of American Motors Corporation for eight years.

He has been the chairman of the board of the National Center for Voluntary Action since 1973.



GEORGE ROMNEY

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- Fordham Security Assn. • National Bank of Detroit
- Livonia Police Crime Prevention • Karniotis Sales
- Redford Security Systems • And Others!

76 **TROMBONES** (Well, almost)

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 28th -- 6:30 p.m.
Livonia Parks & Recreation Sponsor the:
LIVONIA COMMUNITY BAND and the
PLYMOUTH COMMUNITY BAND
under the directorship of MIKE BASS
Hear these great all-brass bands in Crowley Court

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