

# Farmington Observer

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Twenty Five Cents

## Newcomers highlight 1976

# Renovation prepares Farmington for 1977



Two newcomers set the pace for the repair program which helped to beautify Farmington during 1976.

But as he contemplated the recent past and the coming year, Farmington City Manager Robert Deadman was aware of the problems which still face the city.

He labeled the renovation of the old Medication Pool Building into a shopping mall and plans to convert the old winery into office space and a restaurant as the two outstanding achievements of the past year.

"The projects illustrate that private money has confidence in the Farmington community," Deadman said.

"We worked closely with the owners of the rejuvenated buildings to get this property back into use with the cooperation of the land owners and in each case this was a new owner.

"Government was in on the plans from the start with the new owner. We worked closely with them to provide encouragement and help them with the building regulations," he said.

**BESIDES REMOVING** two outstanding eyesores from the community, the renovations also will increase Farmington's tax base, according to Deadman.

"These projects will have more than just a temporary effect on the community," he said.

The paving of several roads in the area, like the renovation of the buildings, will improve the appearance of the community and make life a little easier for its residents.

The second step in the construction of the Grand River turnback and the paving of Raphael and Lakeside were some of the road projects that got off the ground in 1976.

The Raphael Road project involved the cooperation of the school board and Our Lady of Sorrows parish with the city, according to Deadman.

"Adding to the improvement of Farmington is the beautification projects carried out by the Farmington Beautification



**'The projects illustrate that private money has confidence in the Farmington community.'**  
— City Mgr. Robert Deadman

"The biggest problem is working through the federal red tape. The sewer separation program is estimated to cost about \$2 million. We have to deal with the federal program's ever changing guidelines. Nursing the project through a federal bureaucracy may be a problem," he said.

**THE NEW YEAR** will bring other renovation programs to fruition, along with the sewer separation project.

The rejuvenation of the downtown business center will continue during the next 12 months, according to Deadman.

Trees will be planted along the streets of the district to create a pleasant walkway for shoppers.

"We hope we can keep the central business district aesthetically pleasing," he added.

While the city is trying to expand the business district, administrators will be faced with another kind of expansion in 1977. The senior citizens program, now housed in the American Legion Hall, has grown so much that some city officials are beginning to think about building a separate senior center for Farmington and Farmington Hills.

"The project has increased in scope and we may be faced with finding a new home for the program outside of the hall, which was graciously given to us by the American Legion," Deadman said.

**FARMINGTON ADMINISTRATORS** will also look at the program which the fire study group should submit during the coming year.

Seven cities and townships are looking into the feasibility of a cooperative fire fighting effort for the area.

"It will be interesting to implement a project that we can all agree on," Deadman commented.

Besides improvements in the area's defense against fire, Farmington may also see some of its older neighborhoods saved from deterioration.

"I would also like to see the community housing rehabilitation program off the ground," he said.

"We should stop the deterioration of neighborhoods that will be an important program," he explained.

Farmington residents who are made more comfortable by the projects for the coming year, may find themselves paying more for the inconveniences.

Unless other sources of revenue are found, such as additional state funds and inflation not kept under control, things will cost more. We'll need more money for rehabilitation projects, gas utilities and street lighting," he said.

"Our economy is in an upper spiral. The city has two new contracts which will be negotiated within a year. The public safety officers are now negotiating with the city and our public service employees will be talking with the city next year.

"High negotiations will have an impact on the city's ability to operate government at the same cost as last year, without changes in service," he said.

## Holiday Greetings

Having a white Christmas makes the season brighter than ever. We, here at the Farmington Observer, wish all of you the happiest of holidays. (Staff photo by Art Emanuel)

## Apathy greets improvement program

Farmington homeowners are taking their time in applying for improvement loans, according to city officials who expected a more enthusiastic response to the housing rehabilitation program.

"The city's loans and grants program for housing rehabilitation has gotten off to a rather slow start," admitted Farmington City Mgr. Robert Deadman.

So far the city has received only four applications for grants totaling \$12,779. No one has applied for a loan. The chances of the grant requests being filled are slim since the county gave Farmington \$3,200 that section of the program.

"All of these applications may not receive county approval," Deadman said. "We have, however, submitted them because there is a possibility that other communities may not use all of their grant money and those funds may be available for transfer to communities that have applied housing rehabilitation in excess of their allocation."

WHILE THE grants program has met with success, the loans portion of the program has been received with apathy by residents.

One of the reasons the loan program has languished may be that homeowners are unable to afford to repay the money, according to Deadman.

"For persons who are unable to afford the repay the loan, Deadman suggests that they can apply for a loan and a grant.

"A little publicized fact about the program is that homeowners can apply for a grant and a loan. They can, for instance, get \$5,000 for repairs by applying for a \$4,000 loan and a \$1,000 grant," he said.

The city will pay all but three per cent of the interest on a loan.

Although homeowners can apply for the program at any time, the county will reallocate the funds that remain uncommitted by March 31, 1977.

The city will continue the program through 1977-78.

Farmington's unspent money will be given to another community and area homeowners will have to wait until next year to have their requests granted.

In the meantime, the city is still searching for persons who need \$12,700 in loans.

"IT'S AN OPPORTUNITY for people with low incomes to obtain money to keep their houses up," said Deadman.

The loans are available for persons who own a home that needs repairs to its such things as the heating system or plumbing.

Applicants' income must meet guidelines established by Oakland County for the program.

A family of four can apply for a loan if the combined family income totals a maximum of \$12,700. The limit for a family of three is \$11,650, a family and a family of eight is allowed to have \$15,900.

The income of persons under 18 years old is considered separately from the rest of the family's earnings.

## Adult classes see light of day

The Farmington School District Community education department has remembered all of you who have some spare time during the day while offering a full complement of night classes, the department also is offering day classes to begin Jan 10 at Bond School, 3150 Thurston Mile.

Those interested in the class may register by filling out the accompanying coupon.

Farmington district senior citizens over 60 are allowed to take two of the classes at half price.

Babysitting for children 2-5 years old is available to parents enrolled in evening parent classes at a charge of \$10 per ten week class. Babysitting fees are payable at the time of registration.

Refunds will be given if a class is cancelled. All other requests must be made to the Bond School office before the second class meeting. A \$2 registration fee will be deducted in the case of withdrawal.

The following special classes are being offered:

- **BEGINNING BRIDGE (GOREN)** is to be conducted on Thursdays, from 10 a.m. to noon. Cost is \$15. Bring a deck of cards.
- **INTERMEDIATE BRIDGE (GOREN)** is to be conducted from 10 a.m. to noon. Cost is \$15. Bring a deck of cards.
- **BRIDGE-SUPERVISED PLAY** will be on Thursdays, from noon-3 p.m. Cost is \$18. This class is for those beyond the beginning level. Some duplicate, pre-set hands and discussions will be involved.

Bring your lunch if you wish. Teacher will supervise from 1-3 p.m., only.

- **Arts and craft classes** to be offered are:
- **CERAMICS** will be on Mondays, from 10 a.m. to noon. Cost is \$18 plus materials.
- **COOKING QUICK AND EASY GOURMET** will be on Mondays, from 12:30-2:30 p.m. Cost is \$18 plus a \$4 material fee to be given to instructor at first class meeting. Dishes such as crepes, souffles, fish and meat dishes and family desserts will be studied and prepared.
- **RECREATION CLASSES** to be offered are:
- **SUMONASTICS** will be on Thursdays, from 9:30-10:30 a.m. Cost is \$10.
- **SUMONASTICS** also will be offered on Thursdays, from 10:45-11:45 a.m.
- **LADIES VOLLEYBALL** will be on Wednesdays, from 1:30-3 p.m. in Farmington Junior High School. Cost is \$10.
- **YOGA (HATHA)** will be offered on Wednesdays, from 9:30-11:30 a.m. Cost is \$15. Bring a mat, rag and wear loose clothing or a leotard. Anyone with a history of back complaints should consult a doctor.
- **Sewing and needlework classes** to be offered are:
- **BISHOP I** will be on Wednesdays, from 12:30-3 p.m. Cost is \$18. Learn to achieve a professional look in home sewing. Learn to handle woven and knit fabrics. Some sewing may be done in class.
- **BREWEL EMBROIDERY** will be on Mondays, from 1-3 p.m. Cost is \$18 plus an apron.

Business courses to be offered are:

- **REFRESHER, SHORTHAND** Classes will be Thursdays, from 1-3 p.m. Cost is \$15. Bring a shorthand notebook and typing paper.
- **BEGINNING TYPING** will be on Mondays, from 1-3 p.m. Cost is \$15. Bring paper.
- **INTERMEDIATE TYPING** will be on Tuesdays, from 1-3 p.m. Cost is \$15. Bring paper.

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## Woman killed on N'western

Elsane Ferrer, 50, of 3225 Twelve Mile, Farmington Hills, was struck and killed by a car on Northwestern High at Southfield about 2:40 a.m. Wednesday.

Southfield police said Mrs. Ferrer was walking on the highway south of Twelve Mile when she was struck by a northbound car driven by Robert A. Turner, 31, of Pontiac. Turner, an off-duty Southfield police officer on his way home, hit Mrs. Ferrer as she walked across the middle lane of the highway, police said.

Turner stopped after hitting the woman, police said, and attempted to provide emergency first aid. Police and paramedics from Southfield Fire Department's Life Support Unit were called to the scene. The woman was taken to Providence Hospital where she was dead on arrival.

Witness told police they had seen Mrs. Ferrer walking in and out of traffic on the highway prior to the accident.

The accident remains under investigation by Southfield police. It marks the 16th traffic fatality in the city this year.



## A Christmas surprise

Steve Cavins, 11, of Farmington, got a big surprise this past week when Santa Claus paid a surprise visit to the Farmington Knights of Columbus Hall and presented Steve with some gifts and money for his trip to Disneyland. Steve is a leukemia victim and many area groups are helping to give him a merry Christmas. (Staff photo by Harry Mauthe)

**REGISTRATION BLANK**  
Day Classes Only

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

COURSE \_\_\_\_\_

CIRCLE DAY CLASS MEETS M T W TH F Is child care needed? Yes  No

IF YES, indicate name and age of child \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to \_\_\_\_\_ Mail to \_\_\_\_\_  
Farmington Public Schools Bond Center  
3150 W. 13 Mile Rd.  
Farmington, Michigan 48024

**CHRISTMAS PAST**

Section A  
Section B  
Section C  
Section D  
Section E  
Section F  
Section G  
Section H  
Section I  
Section J  
Section K  
Section L  
Section M  
Section N  
Section O  
Section P  
Section Q  
Section R  
Section S  
Section T  
Section U  
Section V  
Section W  
Section X  
Section Y  
Section Z

Visit Christmas of the past with the Stroker as he remembers some of his favorites on page 11 A.