

Rod Smith takes reins at senior citizen complex

By LYNN ORR

Dr. Roderick Smith appreciates the extremes of the age spectrum.

As superintendent of Farmington schools from 1967-73, he steered the district through a peak growth spurt to accommodate an overflow of youngsters in the area.

After retiring from the district, he switched his career concerns to the elderly, working at the Oak Hill Nursing Home in Farmington and the Livingston Care Center in Howell.

One month ago, he took over the reins of Detroit Baptist Manor in Farmington Hills as executive director. Once again he is coping with growth patterns—this time among the area's elderly population.

"We have 500 applications with deposits on hand at the present time and full occupancy," Smith explains. "This summer we're adding a fifth unit, Epsilon, with 100 apartment units in a two-story building."

That building will be easily filled, much like the original complex, which opened in 1972.

"Many of those people made applications in the middle to late 1960s," he explains.



RODERICK SMITH

City approves liquor licenses

Farmington City Council approved three requests from local entertainment businesses at its May 1 meeting, including a club license for the American Legion.

The Groves-Walker Post No. 346 obtained a club license with a dance permit for the American Legion building at 3175 Grand River.

A request for a dance and entertainment permit for the Huron River Hunting and Fishing Club located on Farmington Road also was approved. The permit is for Sunday sales, which allows the club to sell liquor on Sunday. The club plans to use the license infrequently for special occasions, spokesmen told city officials.

The liquor license of the Rustic Pub, 31060 Grand River, was transferred to Elmer and Zanetta Frankford. Carl Nemeth owned the license previously.

All actions were taken upon request of the Michigan Liquor Control Commission, which also must authorize all liquor licensing transactions.

DETROIT BAPTIST Manor provides housing for more than 300 citizens via two-story apartment units and one-story duplex and garden apartments.

Fortunately, Smith says, the facility has been spared the recent opposition to senior citizen housing because of high-rise construction and federal financing.

"The land was purchased better than 20 years ago, but for anyone trying to buy land now, the cost almost requires them to go high-rise," he explains. "We have 30 acres here, and today that would be a horrendous price."

Department of Health and Welfare (HUD) financing is misunderstood, he adds.

"Unfortunately, federal financing is misunderstood in many areas. Our first unit was built with HUD financing, which means it's financed at a lower rate of interest. On the other hand, a HUD rent subsidy grant provides rental assistance to the occupants."

"We have a few people that pay 25 percent of their income, which might be as low as \$44 per month, and 70 of our apartments are approved for rent subsidy."

Like Detroit Baptist Manor, Michigan Baptist Homes has been able to avoid another elderly housing concern which has imperiled Michigan Baptist Homes—bankruptcy.

Like Detroit Baptist Manor, Michigan Baptist Homes is related to but not sponsored by the Baptist Church. Unlike the Farmington Hills facility, however, Michigan Baptist Homes is in financial trouble, as spotlighted on a recent "60 Minutes" broadcast.

"They got in trouble for two or three reasons," Smith explains.

Unlike Detroit Baptist Manor, the home offers a total life-care program, including meals, health care and services. Many occupants bought a life-long lease with their savings, but if the organization goes bankrupt, the occupants lose their homes.

"We have a few units operated on a life-lease basis. The average cost is \$16,000 (with a span of \$10,000-\$24,000) and a small monthly maintenance fee. But we have 100 percent occupancy in those units, which is what you've got to get close to for it to work."

The total health care program, however, is dependent on the labor market, which forces the costs up. And those costs have to be projected accurately to assure future solvency, he adds.

A HEALTH CARE facility is in Detroit Baptist Manor's master plan, but approval of need has not been forthcoming, he explains. Future plans include one more addition, but whether that unit will be devoted to health care is unsure at this point.

The facility does have an evening meal program, which residents can use on a sporadic basis by making reservations in the morning.

Occupancy openings are handled on a first-come, first-serve basis, but there are few minority persons in the

complex, despite an affirmative action program. Location in the suburbs and a long waiting list are the reasons, he says.

PERSONALLY, Dr. Smith, 58, is looking forward to retirement in "the not-too-distant future," with a chance to golf, fish, travel and spend time with his grandchildren. He and his wife have three married children and one son in college.

He's a board member of Botsford General Hospital, and has been

involved in many Farmington groups, such as the North Farmington Kiwanis Club, Exchange Club and the YMCA in more than a decade of living in the area.

The couple resides in a Farmington Hills apartment, which gives him an advantage in his job, he says.

"I love apartment living, and as such, I've a feeling for apartment problems. When someone here comes to me with a problem, I know what they're talking about. And that's what this job is all about."

Land enlists in Air Force

Clifford D. Land, 23, son of Mr. and Mrs. William Land, 21333 Rensselaer, Farmington Hills, has entered the U.S. Air Force's delayed enlistment program.

He is a 1973 graduate of Franklin High School.



Our \$17 custom shirt stays \$17

Now you can order the exact shirt you want, in the exact fit—at a price less than ready-to-wear.

Duru's will fit you handsomely whether you're built like Mr. America or not.

DURU'S
CUSTOM TAILORS

725 South Adams Road
South Adams Square
Arlene
Farmington, Michigan
Phone: 642-5822
DAILY 10-6

Obituaries

ANTOINETTE A. DAVIS

Antoinette Davis, 87, of Farmington Hills, died May 3 in Botsford General Hospital. Services were May 5 in Our Lady of Sorrows Catholic Church with Msgr. Thomas Beahan officiating. Prayers were said in Thayer-Rock Funeral Home, and burial was in Holy Sepulchre Cemetery.

A Farmington area resident since 1923, Mrs. Davis was a housewife and former member of the Altar Society of Our Lady of Sorrows. Surviving are children Francis and Daniel; 10 grandchildren; and nine great-grandchildren.

Elder Otis Buell officiating. Arrangements were made by the Thayer-Rock Funeral Home, and burial was in Glen Eden Memorial Cemetery.

James is survived by his parents James and Meade; grandparents Otis and Gladys Buell; and sisters Theresa and Renee.

HELEN M. STRICKER

Helen Stricker, 59, of Kingswood Square, Farmington Hills, died May 5 in Grace Hospital-Northwest after a lengthy illness. Services were May 8 in St. Fabian Catholic Church with the Rev. John O'Callaghan officiating. A scripture reading was said in the Thayer-Rock Funeral Home, and burial was in Holy Sepulchre Cemetery.

Mrs. Stricker was a housewife and 10-year Farmington Hills resident. Surviving are daughters Valerie O'Brien and Terry Ann Stricker; sons Gary Stricker and Kerrin Wilkenson; four brothers; one sister; and four grandchildren.

Scams crop up in spring

(Continued from Page 1A)

check equipment in the home, say police.

WOMEN can artists are also a threat to the homeowner. Sometimes a trio of women will approach a home and ask to be paid to clean the house. Another line is to offer to tell the owner's fortune.

While one of the women keeps the owner engaged in conversation, the other two will slip into the home and steal whatever they can, according to Conway.

Instead of cleaning house, a con involves fixing a car in the owner's driveway at a great savings. The work offered in this manner includes bumping out and painting. The cheap prices gamers cheap-looking results in this case.

A commonly played con game is the pigeon drop. Shopping centers and business districts are often the site of this con. A person pretends to find a large bag of money just as the victim is passing by. The finder offers to

share the money with the passer-by. But to show faith and sincerity, the shopper is asked to put up some of his own money. A switch takes place and the shopper ends up holding a bag filled with shredded paper.

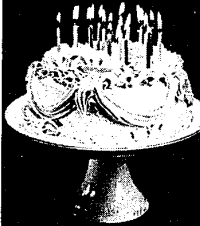
A similar game starts out with a call that informs the resident he has been picked by the bank, or in some instances a federal agency, to help catch a dishonest bank teller. The bank patron is instructed to withdraw a large amount of money from his account while at the suspected teller's window.

THE MONEY, the resident is told, is marked. He is instructed to give the money to an agent waiting near the bank who will give him a receipt. Eventually, the resident is promised his money will be returned. Bank patrons wait in vain for their money.

Many of the schemes are based on greed—the desire to gain a lot for next to nothing.

"There is no easy way to make money," advised Santamoro.

Anniversary SALE!



2 at 1 low price VELVET CHAIRS



PRICED BY THE PAIR
TO SAVE YOU EVEN MORE!

\$399

A PAIR

\$219 each chair, reg. \$285

Leave it to Towne & Country to bring you this great chair sale...just in time to dress up your home! Our marvelous collection of six outstanding styles...custom-covered in your choice of 11 outstanding colors of 100% acrylic velvet. You save \$171 when you buy any pair. Our quality runs deep with such costly features as: self decking, arm covers, 8-way hand tied construction and an exclusive double poly/dacron cushioning for super seating comfort. Sale is for a limited time only.

Use our convenient charge plan, VISA or Master Charge

Towne & Country Interiors

Open daily 10-9 - Wed., Sat. 10-6

Dearborn—23600 Michigan Ave.—East of Telegraph—565-3400
Bloomfield—4107 Telegraph Rd.—at Long Lake Rd.—642-8822
Rochester—1110 S. Rochester Rd.—in Winchester Mall—652-3500

Machux presents...

Gracious Dining Without Extravagance

Machux Sly Fox

Mother's Day

BREAKFAST BRUNCH
(SERVED AT YOUR TABLE)

Children's Portions
10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

DINNER
1:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

725 SO. HUNTER BLVD.
BIRMINGHAM

RESERVATIONS 642-6900