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Botsford seeks state approval for expansion

By MARY GNIEWEK

Botsford General Hospital is planning a \$28 million expansion project that would increase by half the size of the health care facility and include drug and mental health care units.

The project was announced by Gerson Cooper, chief administrator of the Farmington Hills hospital, last Thursday. Botsford will submit a certificate of need application to the Michigan Department of Public Health in June of 1980. State approval is required for projects with expenditures of more than \$100,000.

The hospital's administrative board voted to proceed with the plan despite a 14-month state im-

posed moratorium on new hospital construction expected to take effect this month. If the project is approved by the state at the end of the moratorium period, Cooper said new construction could be completed by 1982.

Botsford employed James A. Hamilton Associates of Minneapolis to develop a master plan for the hospital. It calls for a 160,000 square-foot two story addition to wrap around the north end of the original building and connect with the professional building to the west.

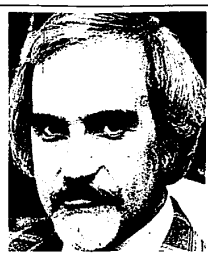
The new area would house medical records; public meeting rooms for community-oriented classes like emergency medical training and

natural childbirth; a cardio-pulmonary center; more space for the emergency room; a staff lounge for the 250 medical employees; and rehabilitation therapy and labor-delivery rooms.

FORTY NEW BEDS — 20 for mental health care patients and 20 for drug and alcohol abuse patients — would be added to the 310 bed osteopathic hospital.

"Most of the 160,000 square-foot addition will be devoted to outpatient services," Cooper said. "We are a teaching hospital out of proportion to our size. We're terribly stifled for space. We recognized the

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Gerson Cooper.

Baptist Manor housing unit unveils plan for addition

There will be room for about 100 more senior citizens in Farmington Hills when Detroit Baptist Manor finishes building its latest addition next year.

The senior apartment building scheduled to be completed by June 1980 will be the third one of its kind in the complex. Baptist Manor also includes a line of duplexes.

The new building, called Epitilon, will contain 95 one-bedroom apartments and five two-bedroom units, according to Rod Smith, executive director of the complex.

Ten of the apartments will be designed to accommodate handicapped residents. Elevators will be available for them to reach the second floor of the two-story building.

But on the grounds of the building, those handicapped residents will be unable to reach a sunken patio surrounded by stairs, Smith admitted.

The \$3 million building will have a cove of activity rooms and service areas located on the lower level. In addition to recreation areas, the service area will include a kitchen and community dining area.

Under contract, senior residents will be required to take one meal a day in the public dining room, according to Smith.

Currently, residents in other buildings are encouraged to eat in the dining room.

ALTHOUGH residents must be self-sufficient to obtain a lease in the build-

ing, Smith adds that many persons living alone fail to prepare nourishing meals for themselves.

The meal program would insure that the seniors were receiving proper nourishment, according to Smith.

In addition to the mandatory supper, each apartment unit contains an efficiency kitchen.

White residents are required to eat in the public dining room once a day, their presence at other activities in the building is optional, according to Smith.

But the activities and the evening meal offer residents an opportunity to expand their social life, Smith added.

"We start serving dinner at 4:30 p.m. But at 4:10 p.m. there are residents lined up and waiting. There aren't any chairs there. We don't encourage them to wait in line. But they do."

"And you should see how the residents, especially the women, dress for dinner. They're freshly powdered and have their nice clothes on," Smith said.

Persons must be at least 62 years old to be eligible to live in the complex. Under HUD subsidies, some of the residents in each building are given aid in paying for the rent. These seniors pay 25 percent of their monthly income as rent and HUD subsidizes the remainder.

Seniors must have an maximum income of about \$11,000 a year for one person or \$12,500 for two to be eligible for the subsidy. Of the other buildings, Alpha building has 40 government sub-

sidy slots allotted to it and Gamma has 30, according to Smith.

The Delta section of the complex is comprised of duplexes which are given to the occupants at a life lease, according to Smith.

The life lease is paid throughout six years. A lump sum is given to the Manor. Out of that sum, monthly installments are taken.

If the residents leave after living there less than six years, the remainder of the money is refunded to them, according to Smith.

"After six years, the money is ours," he said.

Baptist Manor has been in Farmington Hills on Thirteen Mile near Orchard Lake Road for seven years.

In recent years, senior activist groups, such as the Gray Panthers have criticized such all senior complexes as the beginnings of a move to place the elderly in a ghetto.

But Smith sees the complex as a chance to escape the chores and cost associated with maintaining private property. The activities and freedom available in the complex help seniors enjoy life, he said.

"THEY DON'T HAVE to compete with the younger generation," Smith said.

"They are free from the threat which comes from living in certain communities," he said.

There is a four year waiting list for occupancy in the Manor, according to Smith.



Rod Smith enjoys a leisurely walk around Baptist Manor after learning that the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) has approved additional units for the senior-citizen housing complex, which he manages. (Staff photo by Harry Mauthe)

Small street turns into big neighborhood spat

The controversy over barricading Tulipwood in Farmington Hills has quieted down after three appearances in city council chambers and a series of street openings and closings.

Opponents of blocking off the street are studying their options before continuing their fight to keep the block open to traffic.

The subdivision controversy seemingly ended March 19 when Farmington Hills city councilmembers voted 4-2 in favor of blocking off the street which connects Kendallwood subdivision with its newer neighbor, Farmington Green.

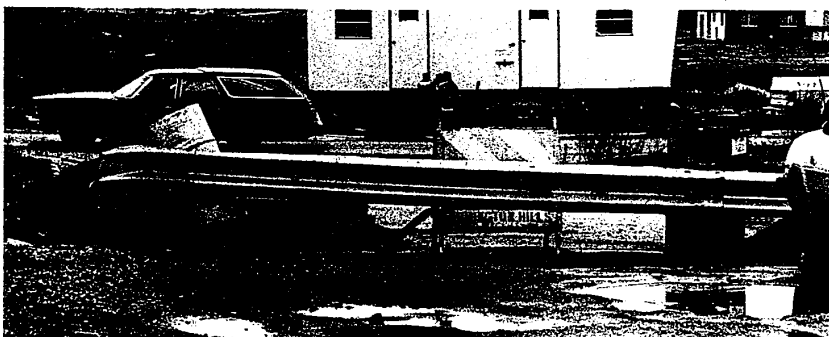
At that time, Kendallwood's argument that traffic through Tulipwood was becoming unbearable for residents kept the road closed.

Kendallwood's residents complained that since Tulipwood was one of the few east-west streets in a mile radius of the Twelve Mile-Farmington Road-Thirteen Mile area, traffic was unusually heavy on the road.

Drivers would take Tulipwood to avoid Farmington Road during rush hour and in the late evening, said Grace Howell, a Quail Hollow Street resident for 17 years.

While houses don't front on Tulipwood, homes are designed with their backyards facing that street.

TULIPWOOD ALSO is an access road for the subdivision's elementary school, Wooddale. Residents of Kendallwood complain that parents driving their children to school create a traffic jam each morning.



This innocent looking barricade on Tulipwood Street in Farmington Hills has caused neighbors to turn against one another in anger. (Staff photo)

"Children are being denied the right to walk to school," said Mrs. Howell. Residents who live near the school drive their children to class because traffic is so congested in the morning, according to Mrs. Howell.

While most of the homeowners in the Kendallwood subdivision have grown children, a wave of second owners in the area has added to the child population in the sub. Most of the children live

in Farmington Green and surrounding, newer subs.

Mrs. Howell and her neighbors cite the concept of schools within walking distance to argue for the closing of Tulipwood. A quieter street would allow children to walk in safety.

Parents from other subdivisions who wait for their children to leave school also block driveways, said Mrs. Howell, who signed the original petition to have Tulipwood closed.

Some refuse to move for residents, she said.

"I can't believe their attitudes," she said.

"THEIR ATTITUDE is 'we don't care about your child, but we'll take our child to school.'"

Farmington Green residents voice similar complaints about Kendallwood residents.

"They have an 'I-don't-care-about-

my-neighborhood' mentality," said Casper Connelley, attorney for the Farmington Green homeowners.

Parents find it difficult to drive their children to school. With Tulipwood closed, mothers are forced to use Twelve Mile Road to arrive at the school.

But residents of Kendallwood argue that Tulipwood is a longer winding street and that Twelve Mile is a more efficient route to Wooddale.

Access to the subdivisions through Tulipwood for ambulances and police is hindered by the closing, said Farmington Green residents.

Residents are contemplating bringing up the matter again. Connelley argues that the residents might file suit in Oakland County Court questioning the city's right to close streets.

City attorney John Donahue argues that the Home Rule Cities Act allows cities to close streets.

FARMINGTON GREEN residents might also suggest that the city open another street to eliminate congestion caused by school traffic. Then they'll suggest re-opening Tulipwood, Connelley said.

The controversy began last July when Kendallwood residents circulated petitions to close Tulipwood. On Dec. 18, 1978, Hills city council members voted 6-1 to close the street.

Farmington Green residents were not notified of the original city council session and instead went to Oakland County Circuit Court to obtain an order reopening the street until the subdivision could argue for keeping it open.

In February, the street was formally reopened by the city. Two weeks ago, the city council voted to keep it closed.

More counts added to fraud scheme

By MARY GNIEWEK

Farmington Hills attorney P. Scott Scherrer, who will stand trial on charges of operating a phony bond scheme, was slapped with another arrest warrant Friday for embezzlement related to fraudulent land investment deals.

Police said they expect to uncover

more than \$10 million in fraudulent land and bond deals in their ongoing investigation.

The latest warrant, the seventh lodged against the attorney in the past month, was signed by 47th District Court Judge Michael Hand. The felony carries a maximum 10-year prison sentence.

Scherrer was arrested March 15 on

six counts of uttering and publishing false bonds and taking money under false pretenses, offenses that could net him 14-year prison sentences on each count.

He is free on \$40,000 personal bond. A pre-trial exam in 47th District Court scheduled last Friday morning was postponed until April 20.

According to Judge Margaret

Schaefer, defense attorney Alex McGarry requested the delay. Judge Schaefer said a prime witness at the full term of her pregnancy was a major factor in the postponement decision.

Detective John Heek of the Farmington Hills police, who is heading the 17-member investigative team, said police have uncovered more than 70

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ACTION AGENDAS

Bored, listless, wondering what to do on a Monday evening? You can always wander over to one of the two city council meetings slated for tonight. Tomorrow night you can visit the school board. To see the agendas, turn to Page 4A.