

# Septic systems must be maintained

Monday, May 2, 1983 O&E

(P2A)

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WHEN CITY officials became aware of the failure rate of the Hugo Street neighborhood's septic tanks, City Council members asked all the street's property owners to participate in the special sewer assessment, said James Subera, a Farmington Hills city engineer in early April.

Sewer line construction along Hugo Street is expected to begin within two weeks, Thomas Blasell, Farmington Hills Public Services director. Council members last week awarded a \$71,850 construction contract to Dennis Sinacola, a Farmington Hills resident.

But septic owners in the targeted sewer construction area are expected to abandon their septic tanks and fill them in, Blasell said.

"They don't have to physically re-

move it, just fill it in," Blasell said, adding that the work must be completed before a property can be issued a permit to tie into the sewer.

If a property owner fails to fill-in the septic tank, the sewage left in the tank turns to sulfuric acid and could cause the ground to cave-in, said James Rothschild, a supervisor for the county health department's environmental health division in Southfield.

But for property owners who are not in-line for sewer systems, Rothschild suggests having the septic tank pumped by a licensed septic tank cleaner about every three years to prevent clogging, sewage seepage or complete failure of the system. Houses with garbage disposal

should be cleaned annually while those without disposals can be done every two-to-five years.

"When we say 'attempt to' that is exactly what is meant because septic tank and disposal field installations are only temporary systems," Rothschild said. "Most soils will eventually become plugged."

Problems with septic tanks usually peak in late May and June because of increased micro-organism activity that causes excessive turbulence and a higher rate of loss of solids in the tile field, Rothschild said.

So April through mid-May is the best time of the year to have tanks cleaned to prevent failure, he added.

## Enrichment courses offered for youth

A series of "Enrichment Short Courses for K-12 and the Academically Gifted and Talented" will be offered at the Orchard Ridge Campus of Oakland Community College beginning in late May, July and August.

Courses are designed to enrich the school experiences of students who wish to pursue their intellectual and creative talents and interests.

Registration is in progress and will continue up to and including the first class meeting.

Students may select courses which are offered during various time slots. Minimal fees are charged.

Spring/summer 1983 Enrichment Short Courses include: Basic I Introduction to computers and computer programming — ages K-high school; Basic II computers and computer programming — ages 7-high school; Beginning conversational French — ages 8-13.

For information, call 471-7695 or 471-7587.

## Family beats poverty

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Joan said. Dealing with the financial problems at a definite strain on the family. "Men are taught as children to work

and earn a living, and when they can't their manhood is crushed," Joan said.

Even searches for employment in other states were futile and frustrating for her husband.

"A man doesn't just lose his job, along with it goes all his self-esteem and self-worth," she said. "Given the right amount of money and the wrong time we probably would have ended up in divorce court."

WHEN HER husband was laid off, Joan said she lost her job as housewife and mother, because he took over many of her responsibilities like grocery shopping, cooking and driving the children.

"I felt like a live-in housekeeper as I still was allowed to do the cleaning and laundry," Joan said.

A major problem they encountered was they didn't collect enough money through unemployment benefits, but they made too much money to qualify for many other assistance programs, Joan said.

Joan attributes her family's survival to faith, hope, love and the generosity of many "good" people.

She is especially thankful to local churches, the Goodfellows and city workers like Loretta Conway, senior adult director and Mary DiManno, outreach coordinator, who came to their house with food baskets.

## Headlee watches

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In response to the Farmington Observer-Examiner question asking if Headlee should be recalled, the vast majority said yes, and stated that Headlee should take his place.

The media was obsessed with issues concerning women and didn't emphasize his economic platform, which he believes would have better represented the effect he would have made on the state if he were in the governor's seat, Headlee said.

He said the media was "abundantly distorted" but some distorted his position on the Equal Rights Amendment. He stresses his support for equal pay and job opportunities for women, but he opposes the approval of homosexual acts.

## Cable watcher appointed

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Samouelian has been involved with the cable industry for the past three years as an independent producer of cable commercials which were purchased by a commercial network, as well as her own local talk show. She also has worked as a cable consultant to governmental authorities and helped promote cable television as a guest on talk shows and as a speaker before community service groups.

Meanwhile, about 2,000 households in the tri-city consortium area have been

hooked-up to cable television, said Tom Bjorklund, MetroVision general manager. Most of those households are along 12 Mile in Farmington Hills; the Chatham Hills subdivision in Farmington; and southwest of 10 Mile and Haggerty in Novi, Bjorklund said.

"We're very much on schedule," Bjorklund said, indicating construction is expected to be completed by the end of the year.

Cable line construction also has been scheduled for residents in Farmington Hills' Hunters Ridge apartment/condominium complex on Orchard Lake Road.

## "Where can I see

"My little girl's cold has really become worse. And my doctor isn't available."

There are times when a visit to the doctor's office isn't possible. Your doctor is out of town. Or it's the middle of the night — and you or your child need prompt medical attention. Maybe your two-year-old's cold isn't getting any bet-

ter. Maybe you have a severe sore throat or an infection. Maybe you don't even have a personal physician.

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It isn't meant to replace your personal physician but to provide help when your

doctor isn't available (whether your doctor's office is at our center or not).

The cost is slightly higher than for an office visit, but much lower than charges for non-emergency treatment in an emergency room. And, best of all, we're just minutes away.

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