

# Cable consumers get installation

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 of when their neighborhood will be wired for cable should call the Metro-Vision office at 553-7303.  
 Although McCann's press release says that "the new areas being constructed will make cable service available to many homes which did not meet the density requirements of the franchise," the Southwest Oakland Cable Commission (SWOCC) in February ordered MetroVision to live up to its end of the cable contract agreed upon almost two years ago.  
 The 60 miles of cable line will pro-

vide cable TV for those residents who in October were told that they would have to pay a \$200-\$400 installation fee before cable would be installed.

**AREAS INVOLVED** include residents in West Franklin Estates, Normandy Hills, Blidstone Woods, Quaker Valley, Ridgewood and the 11 Mile and Power Road neighborhoods.

The months-long dispute stemmed from what MetroVision officials called their "line extension policy" under which customers are charged for cable installation in areas which have fewer

than 30 houses in a mile.  
 But in February, Farmington Hills City Manager Lawrence Savage, who took the lead in insisting MetroVision follow its original franchise agreement, made it clear that the homes which would be covered by the 60 miles line have always been a part of the "initial service area" MetroVision had agreed to wire in its first phase of construction.  
 "Our position is that density is not a question," Savage said. "These homes are in the initial service area."  
 Although Metro-Vision officials last

November issued the SWOCC a proposal to solve the dispute that included installing the 60 miles of cable as well as an accompanying rate increase, cable commissioners did not accept the proposal.  
 But Lark Samouellian, SWOCC executive director, said the commission is not in negotiations with MetroVision for a rate increase and would only consider it as a result of changes in the cable TV industry, not the installation of the 60 miles of cable line.  
 "There hasn't been any discussion, period," Samouellian said.

# Seminars conducted by radio personality

Radio personality John McMurray will appear Sunday at the Computer Connection store, 38437 Grand River in Farmington Hills.

The WJR-radio morning weatherman is slated to conduct two seminars at the store at 1 p.m. and 5 p.m.  
 McMurray's seminars will focus on

using computers to tackle the most complex technological tasks, including predicting weather.  
 A native of New York City, McMur-

ray received a degree in meteorology from the New York State Maritime College. He began broadcasting on WJH in 1973.

# Fight looms on antennas

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without a variance, because of aesthetics, the negative impact on surrounding property values and safety.

"Aesthetically, it's devastating," Hartshorn said. "They are unsightly. And it's incompatible with the residential neighborhood we have."

Although Hartshorn acknowledges amending the ordinance doesn't mean every radio operator will put up a 75-foot antenna, she says residents are concerned about the possibility that the tall towers will affect their property values. A potential home buyer may by-pass a particular neighborhood peppered with radio antennas, she said.

As for safety, Hartshorn said, residents have fears that the towers may topple or a child running through the backyards may get hurt.

"I think it's detrimental," she said, also pointing to poor radio and television reception.

But in a petition presented to council in mid-January, amateur radio operators said that antennas would be required to comply with city building and electrical codes. "The safety factor applied to such towers is greater than applied to most structures in the city," according to the petition. "No unsafe structure would be permitted by the proposed height limitation."

Only those towers owned by operators with Federal Communication Commission licenses would fall under the amendment's protection.

Petitioners also argued that the current 25 foot level creates a possibility for electrical interference because the towers are near residential electrical wiring. A 75-foot tower, on the other hand, would extend far above electrical poles avoiding the chance of interference.

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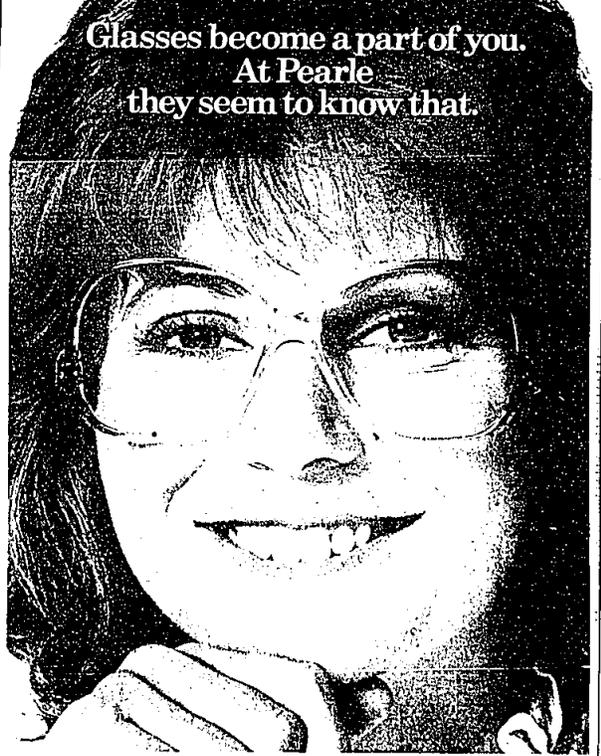


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