hreatened Kroger closing worries shoppers

Farmington **Observer**

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Hose Fertig of Farmington Hills will "really miss the store," because she shops there "all the time."

Preferring Kroger to other major people have been shopping there for a hinten Penny Varience, a Multiwood apartment's resident, said the supersons at the complex.

"Til just have to go somewhere cisc," of the store's closing "was a suprise." Preferring Kroger to other major hains, Penny Varilone, a Mulrwood Apartment's resident, said the supermarket's location is convenient for persons at the complex.

Perling of Detroit, who said he shops at the Farmington chain every Friday. Mary Brown of Novi said it's "not right" to close the store, because many people have been shopping there for a

MONEY EARNED by Farmington through property taxes wouldn't be af-fected by the store's closing, according to Winona Woods, the city's finance di-

The land is owned by the shopping center, which is still responsible for paying the property taxes, she said. However, Kroger annually pays the city \$2,600 in personal property taxes on equipment, Woods said.

"We would miss the store's ser-

vices," Woods said. "But there is still grocery store takes over in that kind of an A&P, Farmer Jacks, IGA and some situation," Costick said.

Farmington area shoppers also have a Chatham on 11 Mile and Middlebelt and a Great Scott at Orchard Lake and 13 Mile.

The Farmington site has 80 employ-ees, and if the store is closed, not even management personnel are guaranteed positions at other locations. "Of the store and crew managers, some will probably be offered jobs, and some will not," Bernish said. "We're very proud of our managers."

ri-city group wants more tourists

points of interest. Implementing hospitality training, and developing a means of tracking and evaluating tourism are other committee suggestions. Many of the responsibilities listed by committee are already provided by the cities' chambers of commerce.

"We here in the chamber of com-

merce office do work on tourism," said Jody Soronen, Farmington Chamber of Commerce executive director. Even though the chamber offers bro-chures and information on museums and other sites, Soronen supports the travel and tourist concept, "This would augment what the chamber does, because we don't do it on a very elaborate base," Soronen said.

said.
Surunen anticipates immediate implementation of the ideas, because "the

feeling of the community is let's not drag this thing on, so we can see that we can do it as quickly as possible."

DURING PRELIMINARY discussions, offices in the Farmington city hall and chamber of commerce have been cited as possible sites for the director of travel and tourism to work from, Soronen said.

The concept of developing tourism in the three communities is surfacing at a time when the state as a whole is reaching for the traveler's dollar. Sio-

gans like "Say Yes to Michigan" are promoting new attractions like Auto World in Flint and the riverfront changes in downtown Detroit.

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