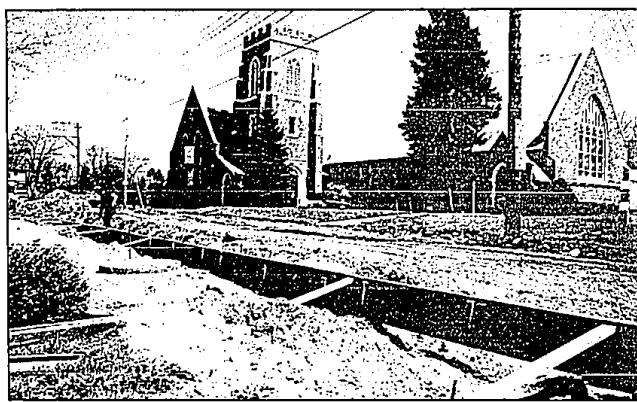


RANDY BORST/staff photographer

Scott Robinson digs a hole along Grand River across Grand River. The light will look like the one pictured on the banner visible in the upper right corner of the picture.



This is a view looking northeast across Warner Street. First United Church of Farmington is in the background.

Downtown Renovation project right on schedule

WORK IS progressing as planned on the first phase of a \$1.4 million Downtown Development Authority renovation project, says the DDA's executive director.

The project is moving on schedule, says Wendy Strip Sittsamer, although everything will depend on the weather. The DDA is aiming for a construction date of no later than July 1, to avoid conflict with the Farmington Founders Festival in mid-July.

The five-year project will yield new sidewalks, new trees, pedestrian lights, more parking and general beautification, among other public improvements.

Some of this week's highlights:

- The first layer of asphalt should be placed on the parking lot north of Grand River, making it us-

able, while contractors continue work in the Thomas Street and Warner Street area.

- Sidewalks are being torn up for replacement beginning on the east end of the DDA district. Contractors will work west, along the north side of Grand River, then begin sidewalk replacement on the south side of Grand River. Sidewalk replacement will be done in sections.

- Half the lightposts for the pedestrian lighting have arrived and are being warehoused by the city. The primed posts will be installed, then painted in a dark green color.

- Cement bases for more than half of the lightposts have already been poured throughout the downtown.

"Everything's been going really smoothly," Strip Sittsamer said.



David Kotulski checks his progress on the backhoe as he digs a trench where a curb will be placed. This is the parking lot on the north side of Grand River.

business briefs

If you recently opened a shop, captured an award, earned a promotion, are planning a new venture or project, or have information about other business-related happenings and there's a Farmington-area connection — we'd like to hear from you so we can share your news item with other Observer readers. Send items to: Business Briefs, Farmington Observer, 33203 Grand River, Farmington 48024.

SCIENCE ADVISER

Dr. George T. Wolff, of the General Motors Research Laboratories, was appointed by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to serve on a special committee.

The Farmington Hills resident will serve on the Clean Air Scientific Advisory Committee (CASAC) of the EPA's Science Advisory Board. The seven-member panel was created as a result of the Clean Air Act Amendments of 1977. Wolff is the only person from private industry on the committee.

CASAC's duties include advising the EPA administrator on the adequacy and basis of existing and new air quality standards; the research needed to obtain such information; the relative contributions from both man-made and natural pollution sources; and adverse health, welfare, social or economic effects that may result from the introduction of air pollution abatement strategies.

A principal research scientist, Wolff joined the Research Labs in 1977. In 1983, he was honored with the General Motors Environmental Achievement Award for work on the 1978 Denver Brown Cloud Study, the first comprehensive investigation of an urban particulate visibility problem.

In 1984, he received the Research Labs' John M. Campbell Award for "Characterization of Urban Atmospheric Pollution." He is a director of the Air Pollution Control Association

and a member of the American Meteorological Society.

NEW ASSOCIATE

The 80-attorney Atlanta-based firm of Small Golden & Gregory announced that Andrew Perrin has become an associate in its Atlanta office.

He is practicing in the area of securities regulation and general corporate law.

Perrin is the son of Mr. & Mrs. Kenneth Perrin of Farmington Hills.

OPEN HOUSE

Homes across the nation will be open for inspection during the second annual Coldwell Banker Spring Open House Celebration through May 1. Last year, 60,000 open houses were featured.

This year, prospective buyers will be invited to visit 300 Coldwell Banker homes in suburban Detroit, including the Farmington area.

"The great variety of Coldwell Banker homes available in our community includes styles and price ranges for first-time buyers, move-up buyers, families, and retiring home buyers," said Robert Neal, chief operating officer for Coldwell Banker's Detroit region.

"Our sales associates are working with local home sellers to help them prepare their homes for showing. They have suggestions to help make a home more attractive and appealing both inside and out," Neal said.

JOINS FIRM

Julie Abel of Farmington has joined D'Arcy Masius Benton & Bowles/Bloomfield Hills as senior research analyst.

She will work on the Pontiac Motor Division and Dow Chemical Co. accounts. Previously, she was a market administrator at Robert Bosch Corp., Farmington Hills.

D'Arcy Masius is the world's seventh largest full-service advertising and communications company, with 1987 billings of \$2.5 billion.

CEO AND PRESIDENT

James Blain, chief executive officer and chairman of AmeriCenters, Inc., announced the appointment of

Marc Hollerbach to chief operating officer and president.

Hollerbach is responsible for organizing and establishing systems that will carry the company into national expansion.

AmeriCenters, a Farmington Hills-based company, has complexes in Troy, Southfield, Livonia and Bloomfield Hills.

The "No Overhead-aches Office Centers" are one-level buildings that provide an executive package, including reception services, secretarial support, word processing, conference rooms and facsimile and photocopy services.

Hollerbach, of Detroit, previously was a partner at Laser Dynamics in Birmingham, which he helped start in 1985. He was also an independent contractor and consultant specializing in business start-ups.

AmeriCenters is at 31800 Northwestern Highway, Southfield, Suite 333, 855-8484.

ACCOUNT ADDITION

Farmington Hills-based Sepanek & Leder Enterprises has announced the addition of Bryant Heating and Air Conditioning Distributors of Michigan and northern Ohio to its account list.

ASSISTANT VP

Farmington Hills-based Douglas & Lomason Co. announced that John V. Liggett has joined the company as assistant vice president-operations.

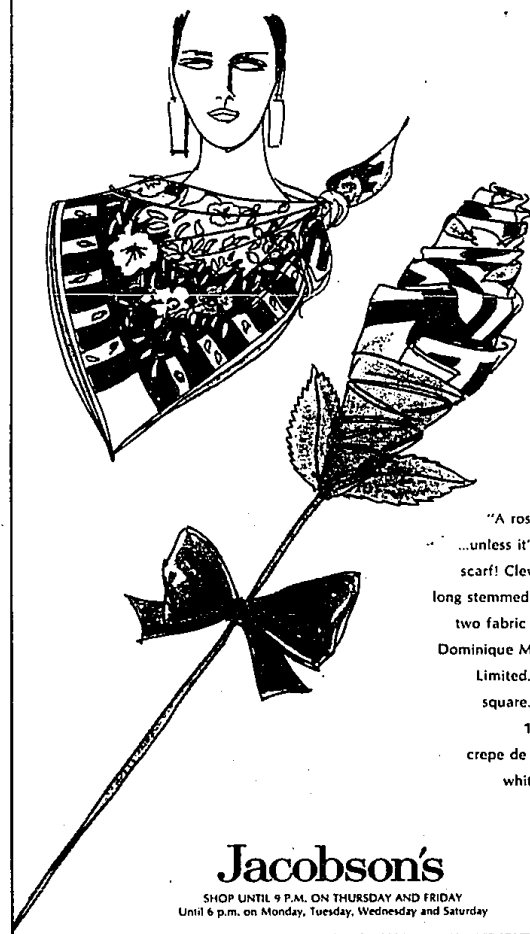
Liggett was formerly president and chief operating officer at Ryerson & Haynes in Jackson. He comes to Douglas & Lomason with years of experience in the automotive supply business.

The Farmington Hills resident is a registered professional engineer in Michigan. He holds several patents.

Headquartered in Farmington Hills, Douglas & Lomason is a major automotive parts supplier of complete seating systems, aluminum bumpers and ornamental trim.

The company has 30 manufacturing facilities in the U.S. and Mexico. In addition to automotive parts, D&L manufactures material handling equipment, custom truck bodies and industrial chemicals.

R O S E S



"A rose is a rose"

...unless it's an accent scarf! Cleverly folded long stemmed beauties in two fabric choices. By Dominique Martine Paris Limited. 28" cotton square. Multi, \$16; 12 x 54" silk crepe de Chine. Red/white/pink, \$24.

Jacobson's

SHOP UNTIL 9 P.M. ON THURSDAY AND FRIDAY
Until 6 p.m. on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Saturday