

on the agenda

Below are highlights from agendas of government meetings this week. All meetings are open to the public.

Farmington Hills City Council
51555 11 Mile
7:30 p.m. Monday, Nov. 28

The council will hold two public hearings:

• Consider vacating the entire public alley between Collax and Arnold, Tabarbusi Roseland Gardens subdivision, Section 33.

• Consider vacating the stub street Liberty and the north-south alley feet of public alley at the east side of the previously vacated plat of B.H. Wark's Aviation subdivision.

Under unfinished business:

• Consider enacting zoning map amendment at 24385 Halsted, west of Halsted, north of Grand River, OS-1 (office-service) to B-2 or B-3 (general business). Proponent, Paul

Hendrickson; owner Four Friends.

• Consider enacting zoning map amendment at 20830 Pearl, east of Pearl, between Grand River and Eight Mile, Lot 9 of Supervisors Plat No. 10, RA-3 (one-family residential) to B-3 (general business). Proponent/owner, Walter Sarcevic, Vladimir's.

• Consider enacting zoning map amendment on west side of Orchard Lake Road, south of 13 Mile, B-3 (general business) to B-1 (local business). Proponent, Farmington Hills Planning Commission; owner, Drs. Kall & Fedorowicz, Oakland Orchard Vet Clinic and four others.

The council will consider introducing an ordinance to regulate drilling for gas, oil and other natural resources and a variance from a fence requirement for an in-ground pool in Woodcreek subdivision.

It will receive a city manager's report on adoption of a code of ethics.

C'ville alternative is turning out well

Clarenceville High's new alternative education program is working as well or better than expected, school officials say.

"It's going real well, the kids seem to like it," said Rose Govig, community education director and principal of the program dubbed OASIS — On-going Alternative School for Individualized Scheduling.

"Attendance is outstanding, the kids are not missing school," said Patricia Vickery, the district's administrative assistant for instruction.

THROUGH THE program, which debuted nearly three months ago, 15 students ages 16-19 can take as many as three hours of classes per day — and all have elected to take the full schedule, Vickery said.

Students who qualify for the program fall under the state's definition of "at risk" students — those having trouble coping with regular high school for various reasons, including emotional or economic problems.

"The program is for students who really want to get an education," Vickery said.

They attend math, science, English and social studies classes in the morning. Out of need, many have afternoon jobs.

WHILE SIMILAR programs have

been implemented in other school districts, this is the first time an alternative high school program has been offered in the Clarenceville district. The district includes portions of Farmington, Livonia and Redford.

In a report on the program to the board of education in July, Vickery said the Clarenceville Curriculum Council "identified the unmotivated student or at-risk child as the most important concern held by the Clarenceville teachers."

Students are housed in two rooms in a separate portion of Clarenceville High and are under the authority of Govig, not the regular school principal, David Simowski.

A MAIN feature of the OASIS program is a more relaxed atmosphere, in which a student meets requirements stated in a contract drawn up between the student and teacher.

"They have an opportunity to make choices. They need to feel they have a lot more control," Govig said. "We really did not think the students would take three courses at a time," Vickery said.

The students have elected class officers and are developing "a tight-knit group," she said.

To enter the program, a student must be recommended by the high school counselor.

"Court referrals would be possible," Vickery said.

F'ton supports sewer aid plea

By Casey Hans
staff writer

Farmington city officials have asked state and federal legislators to help pay for environmental clean-up projects, including the Rouge River basin.

The city council passed a resolution Nov. 21, asking the larger governmental units to back up their clean water concerns with money. It is the same position taken recently by the city of Birmingham.

The biggest environmental concern in Farmington's case is a partially combined storm and sanitary sewer system that overflows into the Rouge River. The city will have to pay its share to clean it up, but Farmington city manager Robert Deadman said help was welcomed from the state and federal levels.

"Farmington supported it," said Deadman. "We're certainly one of those (cities) that will need to have some major capital improvement on the (sewer) system."

"Without such assistance, the local cost to some communities may be so high, it would be impossible

for them to finance the necessary improvements."

Deadman estimates it will cost his city "several million" dollars to separate storm and sanitary sewers to keep raw sewage from being dumped into the local river.

THE CITY is making the effort to correct its own system before federal mandates are put into place. A major study of the city's sewer system is currently underway; results are expected in about 60 days, Deadman said. The recommendations will require "major capital outlays," which will be funded by grants and bonds — either general obligation or revenue type.

Completion of the Farmington study will dovetail with new requirements by the state Department of Natural Resources for combined sewer system permits for 1989. The new permits may carry clean water requirements which, hopefully, can be handled with the city's proposed changes, Deadman added.

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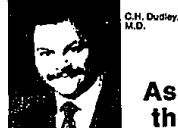
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Ask
the
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Ask
the
Internist

Q: What do we mean when we speak of the "holiday blues?"

A: So often in the media, typically around Christmas or Thanksgiving, we notice a feature article that points out a sudden inexplicable outbreak of depression, a precipitous rise in suicide rates or increased domestic conflict. It can shake us profoundly, all the more so because so-called "holiday blues" by definition occur at times when we anticipate contentment and peace.

Essentially, holiday depression can be thought of as a special kind of loneliness which, like separation anxiety, is most common when a person feels uncertain, threatened or hurt. People without emotional partners therefore feel especially lonely on occasions that celebrate attachments and remind them of what they lack: engagements, weddings, anniversaries, the family hours of early evening and Sunday afternoon and, of course, Christmas and Thanksgiving. Like grief, adult loneliness expresses itself in yearning, not for a lost person but for an unspecified person who might become an emotional partner.

We all suspect that loneliness of any kind is bad for health. Sensible and knowledgeable therapists are able to treat loneliness as a problem in its own right rather than a symptom of more fundamental problems. Consult your psychiatrist or ask your family physician to refer you for further information or treatment.

C.H. Dudley, M.D.
26211 Central
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Dr. Dudley is available for small group discussions on the subject of depression and a variety of other mental health related problems.
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Q: Doctor, why am I feeling so run-down and tired?

A: Fatigue is one of the most common problems that people complain to us about. This is because it can be a manifestation of just about any organic disease, psychological problem or ill-advised life style habit.

As your internist carefully listens to your history, asks questions and performs a thorough physical examination, he or she will be looking for clues regarding the cause of your fatigue. Often an underlying depression or chronic anxiety will be the culprit, but your internist knows that anemia, infection, hypo or hyperthyroidism, heart failure, cancer, side-effects from medications, diabetes and other metabolic disturbances, sleep disorders, kidney or liver diseases, rheumatoid arthritis and other rheumatological conditions are but a few of the many possible causes.

In most cases, after your history and physical examination and just a few simple laboratory tests have been performed, the correct diagnosis will become apparent.

One tip-off that your fatigue may be of serious organic nature is if it is of fairly recent onset, is worse with activity and better with rest, and has become progressively worse with time.

Michael A. Sills, M.D. has joined the practice of his father, **Richard D. Sills, M.D., F.A.C.P.** Both are board certified by the American Board of Internal Medicine. They are accepting patients.

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