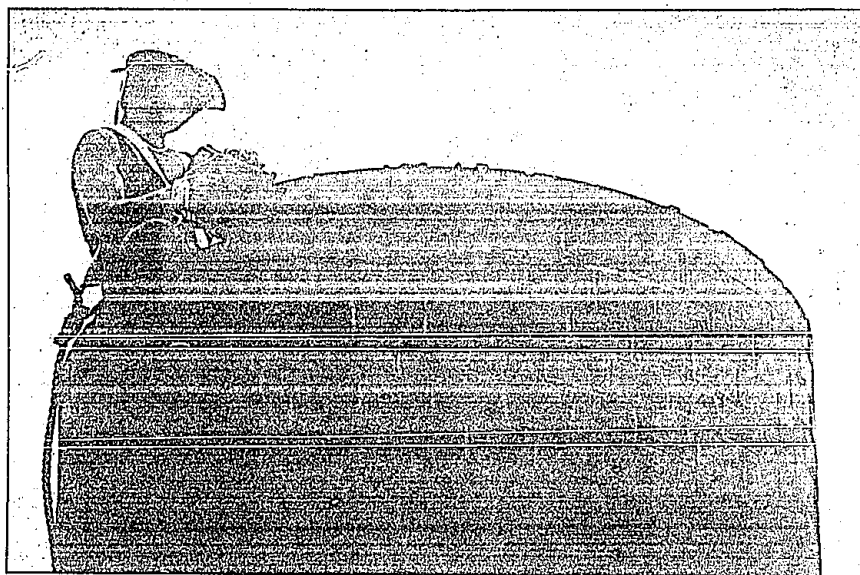


High atop the 100-foot smokestack, John Hamilton begins taking the structure apart, brick by brick. This is a view taken from the old courtyard within Farmington High School. The new media center will occupy this space when it is completed this year.



John Hamilton of North American Dismantling started taking down the center of the stack where they are hauled away. The apart the Farmington High smokestack last week. As he pries the bricks loose with a crowbar and hammer, he drops them. The smokestack will be taken down at the rate of about seven feet per day.

## Smokestack coming down

This summer's renovation at Farmington High includes taking down the smokestack, which rises 100 feet above the center of the school, which was built in 1953.

Contractors from North American Dismantling began taking down the structure

last week, brick by brick. There are approximately 2,700 bricks in all. The smokestack will be taken down at the rate of approximately seven feet per day, according to a company representative.

The renovations, expected to cost just un-

der \$3 million, include a front facade improvement, a renovation and doubling of the school's media center, and major changes in the school lobby area. The school is the district's oldest building.

## Mayor queries teens on summer activities

By Noreen Flack  
special writer

Mayor Terry Sever met with nine Farmington Hills teens at the Farmington/Farmington Hills Community Center Thursday night to discuss social programs and improve communications for local teens during the summer.

"We have a concern for what the 13-, 14-, and 15-year-olds are doing in the community," Sever said. "In this community, both parents work. There is a need to have something, some activities for these teens in the summer."

"The city has allocated \$5,000 toward this teen program and we would like to offer them more activities," Sever said.

The Farmington Hills Department of Special Services sent 350 letters to local teens announcing the meeting. Sever said the programs' success depends on interest of local teens.

"With the community center, the YMCA and people at Oakland Community College, we are making a broad effort in expanding the services in the area," said Dan Potter, Farmington Hills special services director. "We are all looking at the needs of this particular age group."

Wearing jeans, cut-off shorts and T-shirts, the nine 13-year-olds from Farmington Hills decided what they really want to do during the summer is "party all day and all night."

A TEEN party is scheduled for Wednesday, July 19. It'll begin at Heritage Park and will include games such as volleyball, a water balloon toss and a dunk tank.



Terry Sever wants to help

The teens will then head to the community center for "loud music" at the amphitheatre played on "a CD player, a tape player, and a turntable with big speakers."

Sever asked for a description of the type of music teens want for the party. Although he has a teen daughter, he said, "She never likes what I listen to."

The Farmington YMCA will be available Aug. 5 for 13-14-, and 15-year-olds in Farmington and Farmington Hills. Teens suggested that an overnight event called a "lock in" be scheduled at the Y that day.

"We have to maintain some type of control and some type of discipline," Sever said. "We need to organize security people and chaperones for every activity."

A dance at Oakland Community College is planned for late August.

Sever suggested a membership plan for Farmington and Farmington Hills teens offer a package of trips, dances and parties throughout the year. The plan may have a \$5 or \$10 annual fee to assure interest in the program; members may bring two guests for each event.

TEEN GIRLS at the meeting said they spend their summers swimming, talking on the phone and gossiping; the boys said they caddy and attend basketball camps.

"I'm sick of doing the same activities all the time," Ashley Nelson said. "This will be a great change. This will get our friends from school together over the summer."

"There are only three or four dances during the school year," Jenny Taylor said. "I don't usually do anything in the summertime."

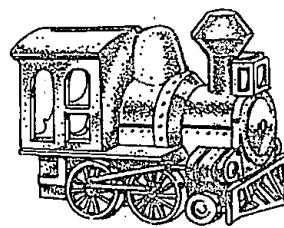
Farmington Hills recreation programmer Jeff Middleton organized a trip to Cedar Point with 40 local teens on June 23. He plans to do the trip again next year.

"We got a good response for the Cedar Point trip, but we need to work on promoting these programs," Middleton said. "We have trips like this planned, but they don't know about them."

Dorothy Pfaff, community center executive director, said transportation is the main problem with teen programs. By the time teens get a ride to the center, they have to leave because it's too late for them to be out, she said.

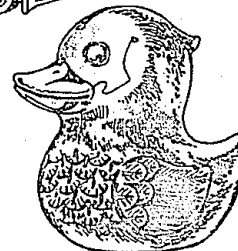
A meeting to plan the July 19 party will be held at 4 p.m. Tuesday in the community center, 24705 Farmington Road, Farmington Hills. All Farmington and Farmington Hills teens may attend.

## A PENNY SAVED

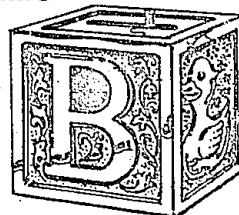


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## Man shoots at motorist beside him on freeway

A man driving a Geo Tracker fired one shot at an 18-year-old Livonia woman shortly after they entered westbound I-696 from Orchard Lake Road Friday afternoon.

Neither the woman nor her car was struck in the first drive-by freeway shooting reported in Farmington Hills, police said. The woman told police she was turning left from Orchard Lake Road onto westbound I-696 at 3

p.m. Friday when she noticed the vehicle cut in front of her. Once on the freeway, the driver of that vehicle pulled alongside and pointed a pistol at her. She then saw a muzzle flash.

The gunman was last seen driving west on I-696. His vehicle was a bright metallic blue with red-and-silver plating. The red-and-white license plate appeared to be from out of state; the number was

not discernible.

The gunman, facing possible felonious assault and felony firearms charges, was described as black, about 25, 6-2, 200 pounds with a medium build, a dark complexion and short hair. He was wearing a cream-colored shirt and gold-rimmed glasses.

Anyone with information should call the Farmington Hills Police Department at 474-0101.