

Mayor pleased with downtown revitalization

Mayor Richard Tupper said he is "pleased with the results" of work being done to rejuvenate downtown Farmington. He encourages continued involvement in the effort.

"We are proud of Farmington, and have a reason to be now," Tupper said. "I have lived here for a long time. I've seen it when it was down and out and tacky."

"I don't want that to happen again."

In a recent report to the city's Downtown Development Authority,

Tupper suggested the city council and the authority keep in constant touch about on-going development.

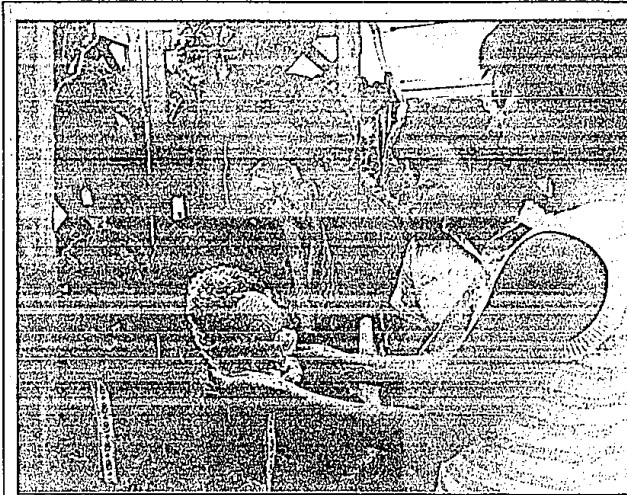
The mayor, who will end his two-year term this year, suggested a representative of the city council periodically attend DDA meetings, and that the DDA board report in person to the city council about the on-going project.

Tupper also offered business tips he received from attending a recent National League of Cities Conference in Minnesota. He suggested

merchants "do the things the customer wants, not necessarily at the merchant's convenience." He also said businesses might consider expanding hours.

"People have money to spend, but limited time," he added.

The DDA is in the midst of a \$1.4 million downtown rejuvenation project, including the addition of pedestrian lighting, more trees, new sidewalks and curbs, and on-going promotion projects.



SHARON LEMUEUX/staff photographer

Hats galore

Eileen Beltz (left) and her sister-in-law, Sue Beltz, both of Livonia, browse through Jane's Crafts, run by Jane White of Jackson, during last week's Farmington/Farmington Hills Founders Festival. The colorful

straw hats with dried flowers were just part of the many craft exhibits seen in the downtown area. Eileen visited the festival on her day off from work at Botsford General Hospital, Farmington Hills.

Bonelli's exam extended

Nader, a childhood friend of Bonelli, testified in Bonelli's preliminary exam April 18, that Bonelli told him of his plans to kill Fracchia on Tuesday, March 14, the day before her death. He told the court on that Tuesday that Bonelli twice tried to pre-arrange a ride from Orchard Lake early the next morning.

phone call, "He said he was going to kill her."

ON THURSDAY, March 16, Nader said, Bonelli called and "said she was no longer living." He asked for help in returning Fracchia's automobile to the site of her death, the water pump control station on Orchard Lake. Nader testified that the two drove in separate cars to the site that same evening. Bonelli dropped off Fracchia's car and they returned in Nader's.

Bonelli's defense is expected to be based on insanity. His attorney, James Andary of Detroit implied at the April preliminary examination that Bonelli was being treated by a psychiatrist for "severe mental and psychological problems" prior to Fracchia's death.

Other friends of Bonelli testified in the April examination that Bonelli believed Fracchia was interfering with his relationship with another girlfriend.

Family wants protective fence

Continued from Page 1

tion to the racial slurs, as opposed to the fence variance — the matter at hand. This is the first time the Successes have come before court, although they have dealt directly with city administrators.

Several neighbors appeared in support of the Successes, and said their children were learning about bigotry and hatred because of the incidents. "These are real hard lessons for them to learn," said one neighbor.

bor. "Why should anybody who lives in this community should be subjected to that behavior? There's no reason for it."

CITY COUNCIL members reacted with concern to the Successes' continued dilemma. "I must say, I was not aware you were still being treated as you had been," said councilman William Hartsock. "It is disturbing. I would hope we could do something more than erecting a fence."

"We're certainly not pleased with what's going on against your family," added Mayor Richard Tupper, urging them to continue calling the police department.

The Successes were subjected to spray-painted racist remarks and broken windows just days before the Christmas holiday in 1987. Police believe that teenagers probably were involved in the incidents, but no arrests were ever made. At that time, the couple were considering leaving Farmington, but decided to stay.

Residents reminded of detector law

Farmington residents are reminded that a city ordinance requires that they have smoke detectors installed before selling their houses.

Even those residents in older houses are responsible for either installing the devices before selling their houses or providing the devices to new owners.

"It's the homeowner's responsibility under the ordinance," Farmington fire marshal Joe Schornack said. "They're required to have smoke detectors in any house they sell."

The city has advised all Farmington-area real estate agents, who

might do business in the city, about the ordinance.

New owners of houses are also routinely advised about the ordinance, according to Schornack.

A letter sent out from the city's

building department asks new owners to verify that working smoke detectors are in the house and suggests, if there are not, that the new owner contact the previous owner and real estate company.

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