

Landlords spruce up house to boost image

By Moreson Flack
staff writer

THE BOTHERSOME Mr. Roper from television's "Three's Company" portrays a lazy landlord unconcerned with tenant needs.

Landlords from the Oakland Rental Housing Association were out to change that "bad guy" image Saturday by organizing the first house painting project for elderly citizens.

"I think landlords have been looked upon as being the bad guy, and many times falsely accused of letting property get run down," said Roy Lindhardt, a Farmington Hills association member who organized the project.

"This is one way we can show we aren't the bad guy and that we are concerned with upgrading the property."

"This gives us a chance to upgrade, but thinking too," he added, "so that once a year, we can improve a house like this for someone who needs it and is worthy of having the work done."

The 376-member ORHA is based in Pontiac. It operates to educate landlords on maintaining clean, safe housing for tenants.

The association also reviews tenant/landlord legislation, legal considerations, leases and credit reports. It boasts a code of ethics designed to promote fairness to tenants, Lindhardt said.

THE 30 landlords, many husband

'I would not rent a house out unless I would live in it myself. And that's how it should be.'

— landlord Roy Lindhardt

and wife teams, met at Jenny Daghljan's home on the 21000 block of Osmus to work from dawn till dusk until the house looked new Saturday.

Volunteers contributed \$169 to buy paint for the green one-story house with yellow trim. All volunteers brought their own supplies, such as paint brushes and ladders.

"Rain or shine, we're going to finish the job," Lindhardt said as it rained most of the day.

Lindhardt contacted state Rep. Jan Dolan, R-Farmington Hills, who, in turn, contacted the Farmington Hills senior adult outreach program, a division of the Department of Special Services, said Maggie Loris, an outreach member.

Daghljan, 81, a 49-year resident of Farmington Hills, was recommended to ORHA. "As soon as I met her, I fell in love with her," Lindhardt said. "This is an elderly lady who deserves our help."

Daghljan said the group saved her a lot of money and trouble — and made the 50-year-old house look much younger.

"Oh my goodness, this is wonder-

ful," Daghljan said. "Everyone is so nice. It is really nice to have them here."

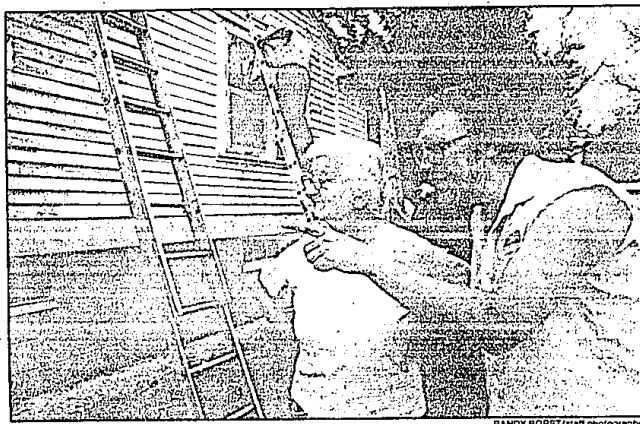
DAGHLJAN MOVED to Michigan from New Hampshire in 1929. She lived in Detroit and Highland Park with her husband George, and three sons before moving to Farmington Hills in 1940. Her husband, a launderer and tailor, died 20 years ago. One son died and two others live out west.

She continues to maintain her garden, where she grows red and white roses and tomatoes. She gave grape leaves, her specialty, to each of the 30 landlords who worked on her house.

The spruceup project included scrapping, sanding, and applying a primer and two coats of paint. Windows also were caulked.

Volunteers came from throughout Oakland County, including Farmington Hills, Rochester Hills, Waterford and Pontiac. One volunteer came from Dearborn.

"I look at it this way, I would not rent a house out unless I would live in it myself," Lindhardt said. "And



RANDY BORST/staff photographer

Roy Lindhardt of Farmington Hills explains the house on Osmus since she and her husband changes that will take place to the house to had it built in 1940. owner Jennie Daghljan. Jennie has lived in the

that's how it should be."

Right now, Pontiac landlords are disputing city legislation, Lindhardt said. If a home isn't maintained un-

der city codes for rental properties,

the city will bulldoze it. "That's discrimination to landlords," Lindhardt said.

In Detroit, he said, many homes being bulldozed are salvageable if people only took the time to fix them up.

police/fire calls

Listed below are some of the Farmington-area police incidents, fire calls and court cases reported during the past week:

SUSPECTS NABBED

Two Detroit men face unarmed robbery charges in connection with the theft of cash from the Clark gas station at Nine Mile and Farmington roads Sept. 14.

Farmington Hills police arrested the two 23-year-olds early Friday after the Farmington Department of Public Safety reported the robbers' descriptions over the police radio. Terry Cornell Green and Willie Al-

exander Maxwell were arraigned Friday on single counts of unarmed robbery. District Judge Fred Harris of Farmington entered not-guilty pleas on their behalf. He set bond at \$2,500 for Green and \$5,000 for Maxwell pending a preliminary examination in 47th District Court. The defendants face up to 15 years in prison if convicted.

According to the Farmington Department of Public Safety and Farmington Hills police:

Two men entered the Clark station at 11:35 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 14, to buy a pack of cigarettes. As the attendant opened the register, the men

grabbed the cash and headed north on Farmington Road.

Shortly after, Farmington Hills officer Chuck Rozum spotted the suspected getaway car at Halsted and Grand River. The car was occupied by two men who appeared to match the suspects' descriptions.

Rozum followed the car north on Halsted into Independence Green Apartments, where it sped up. The car drove behind an address on Roosevelt, and the two men jumped out while the car was moving. It came to a stop after hitting a barbecue grill.

A Michigan State Police dog tracked one of the men to Grand

River and Shiawassee but lost his scent.

At 2 a.m. Friday, Hills officers Al Patterson and Wayne Beerbower arrested Maxwell at Grand River and Halsted after he was seen using a pay telephone at the Amoco gas station. He matched one of the robber's descriptions.

At 3:10 a.m., officer C.J. Van Meter saw a second suspect, who matched the other robber's description, walking along Drake, near Grand River. A wad of cash was found in his pocket.

A PISTOL SEIZED
A 15-year-old Farmington Hills

girl faces a concealed weapons charge after a .38-caliber revolver was found in her purse outside White Castle Hamburgers at Eight Mile and Grand River.

According to a Farmington Hills police report:

While on patrol at 6:30 p.m. Friday, officer John Markey noticed a car full of young people parked in the lot. On closer investigation, he saw at least two men drinking beer, and he detected a strong odor of marijuana.

Markey ticketed a 20-year-old Fowlerville man and a 19-year-old Livonia man for possessing open in-

toxicants in a motor vehicle and a 22-year-old Livonia man for possessing marijuana.

Oakland County Circuit Court Juvenile Division petitions are pending against a 15-year-old Farmington Hills girl after an unloaded, unregistered pistol was found in her purse.

"Investigation is continuing into the possible intended use of the gun, if any," Sgt. Charles Nebus said.

TIRES SLASHED
Damage was estimated at \$180 when the four tires were slashed on the Farmington Hills Showmobile, parked in Heritage Park's picnic area, Farmington Hills police said.

While walking in road, man hit, killed by car

By Bill Casper
staff writer

A 35-year-old Farmington man was killed early Saturday morning after he walked into traffic on Grand River east of Inkster Road and was hit by a car.

Michael Edward Spaulding was pronounced dead at the scene of the accident, which occurred shortly before 2 a.m. Redford traffic police officer Lt. Eric Plater said.

Spaulding was walking west in the median of Grand River and stepped onto the road, where he was hit in the lane closest to the median, Plater said.

THE DRIVER, a 29-year-old Detroit man, braked to avoid hitting Spaulding but was unable to stop in

time, Plater said.

The car's tire marks indicated the auto skidded about 89 feet on the dry pavement before coming to a stop, he said.

Based on the length of the skid marks, police estimate the driver was traveling about 39 to 45 mph, Plater said.

Spaulding's body was carried on the front of the car for about 150 feet after impact and landed in front of the auto in the lane closest to the median, he said.

The driver has not been arrested or charged, but he registered a blood alcohol content of .11 and .12 in tests administered by Redford police, Plater said.

Under state law, a driver is considered drunk with a minimum blood alcohol content of .10, he said.

THE WAYNE County Prosecutor's office will decide whether any charge will be filed against the driver after a review of the police investigation.

The investigation report will be submitted to the prosecutor's office this week.

The dead man's brother told police that Spaulding's car apparently had broken down in the parking lot of the A-1 Market on Grand River, just east of where he was hit, Plater said.

The brother told police that Spaulding apparently was walking home.

Spaulding became the ninth person to die this year in traffic accidents in Redford, Plater said. Seven people died last year in traffic accidents in Redford.

Schools approve pay raises

Continued from Page 1

"WE'RE HAPPY to be here tonight ratifying," Flanagan said. "Both teams did a wonderful job of bringing a fair contract to the community."

The three MEA contracts were negotiated together this year, with bargaining teams reaching a tentative settlement on Aug. 20, 15 minutes before the membership was slated to walk out and the day before school opened.

A contract for the FASA administrators' unit was negotiated informally this year, with membership giving approval last week. "It (the process) seemed to work very well," said Flanagan, who discussed the is-

sues with FASA president William Martin. "We're happy with it."

All four contracts were approved unanimously by the school board.

In addition to pay, one of the major issues in the teachers' contract was insurance, a cost which escalated some 30 percent for the district this year. Chief negotiator for the schools, Sue Zervakis, said the district agreed to allow the FEA to purchase a union package insurance from the Michigan Education Special Service Association, if costs were kept within budget.

ANOTHER ISSUE was the use of electronic delivery of instruction, more commonly known as "Teacher on TV" in the Farmington district.

"We are guaranteeing there will be no layoffs because of EDI use," Zervakis said. "In fact, it may enhance programs."

The addition of 15 minutes of instruction time to the elementary-level school day was also approved in the contract. That meant an earlier starting time for students beginning Sept. 18.

In the area of secretaries and paraprofessionals, the district just received results of a National Education Association study regarding pay equity. Zervakis said. This issue was raised during negotiations with the ESP unit in 1987-88. A committee will soon be formed to discuss the results of the NEA survey and how it may impact Farmington.

Hills ethics code plan rapped

Continued from Page 1

HE HAD written it in anticipation of mortgage financing, which was delayed.

The bill was finally paid 1 1/2 years later in August 1988, shortly after the issue became public. Marks then issued a public apology.

Costick had chosen to keep the debt on city books as a receivable,

accruing interest and penalties. The original \$17,500 fee grew to \$23,535 by the time it was paid.

THE PROPOSED code of ethics is designed to be "preventive in nature rather than punitive" and would apply to all employees, plus elected and appointed officials.

It focuses on accepting substantial

gifts, either in-kind or money, stresses the importance of appearances relating to preferential treatment and warns employees and board members to take care not to adversely affect the confidence of the public or the integrity of the city government.

Costick said most cities do not have written codes of ethics.

Come autumn, land and ski take over for surf themes in our active knits from Quiksilver. Cotton pigment prints with contrasting split crew necks. S-M-L-XL. Striped shirt in green/blue; solid in blue, \$40.

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