

High school gets expanded media center

MODERN — THAT'S the look of the newly expanded Farmington High media center.

The new 12,000-square-foot center, which will house high tech equipment to be used by the entire Farmington school district, is part of the \$2.7 million renovation of the district's oldest school building, built in 1953. The media center was doubled from its previous 5,000-square-foot space into a courtyard area in the center of the school.

Also completed were upgrades of the school's lobby area and front building facade facing Shawasssee. In the media center, space has been doubled for student use and shelf capacity. Conference rooms, a teacher resource room and an all-purpose classroom are in place.

With the exception of some exterior groundwork, the construction portion of the project is now complete, say school officials.

The next phase of the project will include purchasing high-tech equipment for the center. Superintendent Michael Flanagan has estimated the district could save up to \$40,000 by centralizing technologies at the center.

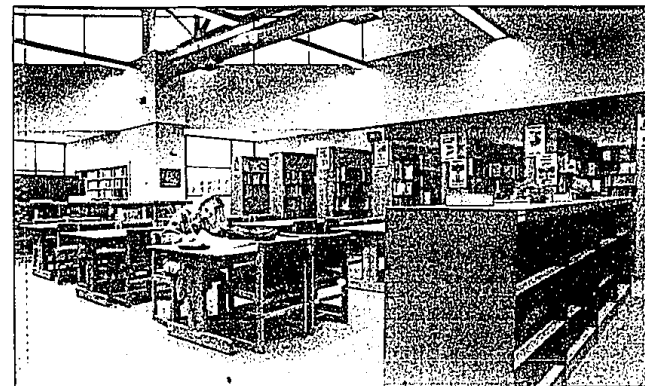


Junior Jill Traa researches her topic using a computerized periodical listing service.

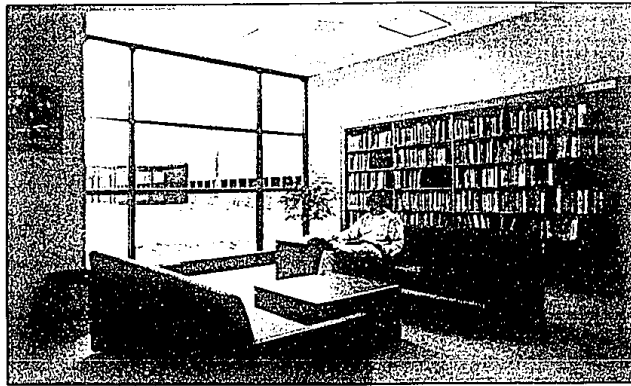


Photos by PATRICY BOST, staff photographer

Farmington High media specialist Cindy Clement poses at the front desk of the revamped media center.



Senior Jennifer Bommarito studies during the school day at Farmington High. Renovations to the media center, pictured here, doubled the space and made room for high tech advancements at the school.



The view is great for Mike Ciemiaga, a sophomore and student aide at the Farmington High media center. The revamped center offers high ceilings with skylights and much more natural light.

Restaurateur flees holdup try

A masked gunman who tried to take a wristwatch from a co-owner of the Ginopolis Restaurant, 27815 12 Mile, fled with a companion when an employee apparently startled them in the restaurant's parking lot early Saturday.

No one was hurt in the robbery attempt. No arrests have been made.

According to a Farmington Hills police report:

As the co-owner was approaching his car shortly past 1 a.m. with a carryout meal in hand, he heard rust-

ling in shrubs in the northeast lot.

When he turned, he found a gunman wearing gloves and a ski mask and pointing a large, black semiautomatic gun at him.

When the gunman demanded his watch, the man threw his carryout meal in the air, screamed and ran to the front of the restaurant.

Meanwhile, when they saw another employee walking toward the business from another part of the parking lot, the gunman and his companion, who stood about 30 feet

from the robbery attempt, scaled a fence along the parking lot and ran north.

In the shrubs, officers found a pair of handcuffs and a roll of duct tape, which they believe the would-be robbers planned to use to subdue their victim.

"We're still trying to determine the exact motive," said Lt. Gordon Ross of the Farmington Hills Police. "We don't know if the robbers planned to abduct their victim or just rob him."

police/fire calls

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

● **Bullet hole**
A small-caliber round was fired into the driver's side of a car parked in front of a house on the 22000 block of Inkster between Jan. 21-27, according to a Farmington Hills police report.

● **3 ticketed**
Three Mount Clemens teenagers were ticketed for trespassing at Farmington High School, 32000 Shawasssee, Friday morning.

The youths, two 16-year-olds and one 17-year-old, were confronted by police as they came out of the school shortly before noon. They were at the school, they told police, to meet a 16-year-old friend who is a student there.

The Macomb County Probate Court Juvenile Division was notified of the tickets.

● **3 hurt**
A Farmington Hills man and his two daughters received minor injuries when his car lurched out of control and became lodged on the concrete stairs in front of O.E. Dunekel Middle School, 32800 12 Mile, Friday afternoon.

The driver told Farmington Hills police that when he put his car in gear about 2:15 p.m., the turbo locked, causing it to race. The car, which had recent repair work, went forward and he couldn't stop it before it became lodged on the stairs, according to a Farmington Hills traffic report.

Underage drinking

● Three 17-year-old men were ticketed for possessing alcohol in a motor vehicle when beer was found in their car during a traffic stop at Putt-Putt & Games, 30749 Grand River, Friday night.

Two teens were from West Bloomfield and the other was from Pontiac, according to a Farmington Hills police report.

● Also on Friday, a 20-year-old Livonia man was ticketed for transporting alcohol in the city of Farmington. He was also ticketed for possessing marijuana when a quantity of the controlled substance and a marijuana pipe were found after he was stopped on Orchard Lake Road near Astor, according to a Farmington Department of Public Safety report.

Man hurt

● A 25-year-old Farmington man suffered face and head wounds during a fight outside Country Lanes, 30250 Nine Mile, Saturday night. He was treated at Botford General Hospital, according to a Farmington Hills police report.

Beer seized

● An 18-year-old Farmington Hills man was ticketed for possessing alcohol and a 15-year-old companion was turned over to a parent pending further investigation when open beer was discovered in their truck while it was parked at Larkshire Elementary School, 23800 Tuck, Saturday night, according to a Farmington Hills police report.

● A 20-year-old Detroit man and a 19-year-old Redford Township man were ticketed for possessing alcohol when open beer was discov-

ered in their car while it was parked at Putt-Putt & Games, 30749 Grand River, Saturday night. A 19-year-old companion was arrested on a felony warrant out of Detroit, according to a Farmington Hills police report.

Windows smashed

Rocks were thrown through windows of two neighboring businesses on Orchard Lake Road Sunday morning.

Damage was estimated at \$1,400 when a rock thrown from the front window also hit a mirror inside at Your Cleaners, 29571 Orchard Lake Road. Damage was estimated at \$1,000 when rocks were thrown through two front windows also hit a glass display case inside at Antonio Salon, 29557 Orchard Lake Road, according to Farmington Hills police reports.

Trespassing complaint

A 21-year-old Farmington Hills man was ticketed for trespassing after he twice returned after being asked to leave the 7-Eleven convenience store, 22323 Middlebelt, Sunday night, Farmington Hills police said.

The first time the man came in to buy beer, he was accompanied by two minors, and the store employee refused the sale. An argument followed.

It's store policy to ask for identification from each member of a group when alcohol is bought, police said.

House fire

Damage was estimated at \$500 when a fire broke out in the laundry room of a multi-story house on the 28230 block of Harwich Drive Tuesday morning.

Investigators think the fire was touched off by a short-circuit in a dryer wire.

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