

## Goodfellows need help

Again this year, the Farmington Area Goodfellows need your support to help provide a holiday lift to needy children and less fortunate elderly residents in Farmington and Farmington Hills.

With the money donated, the Goodfellows deliver baskets of joy typically containing canned foods and knitwear. Each includes gift certificates redeemable for fresh food and winter clothing. Toys, games, dolls and children's clothing are included when appropriate.

Family makeup dictates the size and content of each basket. Potential recipients must document need. Special dietary requests are honored when practical.

Cash donations come back to the community. About the only things the Goodfellows have to buy are stamps to mail solicitation letters and boxes to make into baskets. Volunteers are the Goodfellows' backbone.

Please fill out the coupon below and mail it, along with your donation to:

Farmington Area Goodfellows  
c/o Farmington/Farmington Hills  
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Donation (check, money order, other) \_\_\_\_\_

Thank you

## 12 Mile segment opens to traffic

Continued from Page 1

CITY OFFICIALS have long planned to widen the office corridor home to many national and international corporations — not only to relieve traffic congestion, but also to boost development.

Improvements on 12 Mile also are necessary for the long-discussed Haggerty Connector, which is still in the planning stages.

The second one-mile phase, from Halsted to Haggerty, is supposed to be built next year. The city received a \$3.6 million matching grant from the state transportation development fund earlier this year.

This phase is expected to be more expensive because "the ground conditions are worse and the Seelye Drain runs through there," Call said.

A public hearing is scheduled at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 19 to hear opinions about the second phase. The hearing will be held in council chambers, 51555 11 Mile.

Oakland County Road Commission, Farmington Hills and Novi staff members will be at the hearing. The environmental assessment, which covers the area west of Drake to Haggerty Road, is available for review at the Farmington Hills and Novi libraries.

NOVI IS EXPECTED to make improvements to 12 Mile with part of a \$18.8 million bond proposal approved by voters this year.

**'This is the first time we have combined a state grant, city funding and cooperation with Oakland County on a county road. We've gone from a two-lane road to a four-lane boulevard.'**

— David Call

City officials applied for grants under the state fund's economic growth category for areas experiencing development along a major road incapable of handling the growth.

The third phase of the boulevard would run from Drake to Halsted. But that area is not experiencing development and would not qualify for the same grant used for the first and second phases.

After years of disappointment trying to get 12-Mile improvements moving, the Farmington Hills Economic Development Corporation lent a hand. In 1988, the EDC financed and completed a computerized right-of-way plan for the boulevard.

## Hartsock wants quicker action on sledding hill

Continued from Page 1

bumper blocks and installing asphalt curbs on top of the hill to prevent washouts.

That work can't come soon enough for Farmington City Councilman William Hartsock. He raised the sled hill issue at a city council meeting Dec. 3 because it had snowed heavily that day and children were using the hill for sledding.

The city had put straw bales and other safety items at the base of the hill in previous years, but were awaiting school district direction before installing them this fall. Hartsock said he was concerned because residents were already using the hill without those items.

"If there's any snow on it (the hill), the kids will be sledding on it," he said. "I think we're facing a worse situation than we did a year ago."

"If they (school district) want us to participate, they need to inform us in a timely manner. My concern is nothing's being done."

City attorney John Donohue was directed to send a letter to the school district asking for specific timing for installing straw bales and trees. Baumunk said he did not believe those items should be put in until after the work on the hill is completed.

REGARDLESS OF the work timetable, members of an Inspection Committee of the Farmington Area Jaycees will begin daily spot checks on the hill Dec. 15 to ensure there is no debris or other items causing safety concerns. If they find anything which needs routine maintenance, they will refer the matter to a Jaycee Repair Committee whose members will repair the problem within 12-18 hours.

The program will run through March 15.

The community group got involved after Jaycees President Matt Ratliff heard about the sled hill dilemma from Farmington city manager Robert Deadman.

"The Jaycees concern is that there's not a lot to do in Farmington. The big highlight is to go sledding."

he said. "We asked 'what part can we take in this... so children in the community can still enjoy it?'"

Ratliff said his group was also seeking donations of materials and money from businesses around the community to help the program go.

The sled hill issue came to light last June, when school district officials considered planting evergreen trees on the hill, effectively closing it. Members of the community spoke in favor of keeping it open, and several of them formed a committee with officials from both Farmington and Farmington Hills and the schools to come up with a solution.

In a joint meeting of Farmington City Council and Farmington Board of Education members in October, the decision was made to leave the hill open to sledding, close the skating rink at its base and make improvements to the hill.

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## Hospital's emergency capacity to expand

Continued from Page 1

Efficiency is expected as a result of the expansion though some new jobs are expected to result, Reihner said.

In the old days, competition was pretty much restricted to status, now it's having enough business volume to maintain the hospital and invest in the ever-changing technology.

One of the new buildings — on the east side of the complex between the existing north and south towers and the administration building — will provide more space for emergency services and inpatient surgery on the first floor. The second floor will be devoted to medical records, laboratories and supplies. Parking will be in the basement.

The other new building, near the professional building on the west

side, will house expanded outpatient and recovery services. The third floor of the building will be available as rental units for physicians.

HOSPITAL OFFICIALS expect to get the required certificate of need from the state Department of Health by year end for the new west-end

building with construction sometime next year.

Officials are in the process of applying for certificates for the east-end building with construction to begin in fall 1991. The expansion, including renovations to the existing building are expected to be fully complete by 1994.

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