

# Parts of 12, 13 Mile roads closed

**BY JOANNE MALISZEWSKI  
STAFF WRITER**

Beginning today, 12 Mile Road between Orchard Lake and Middlebelt roads will be closed as construction begins to lower the hill just west of Harrison High School.

Thirteen Mile Road, east of Farmington Hills, also was closed as of Friday for a widening project in front of North Farmington High School. The road is closed for through-traffic to Chesterbrook. Local access to businesses and residences will be maintained.

Both safety projects are expected to be complete by Aug. 25 in time for the start of school, said Farmington Hills City Manager William Costick.

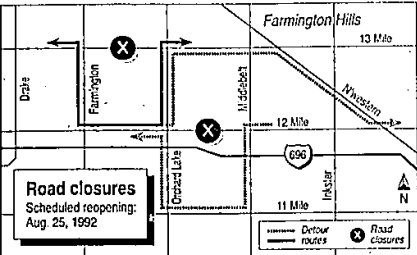
The 12 Mile hill, near Rollcrest, will be reduced about five feet.

"That has been a high accident intersection in the city," Costick said. Reducing the hill will improve the sight distance for motorists traveling on 12 Mile.

In addition to reducing the hill, the 12 Mile project includes turn lanes, as well as relocating the driveway to Harrison to line up with Rollcrest. "So when you come out, the signal will line up with Rollcrest," Costick added.

As with the 13 Mile project, through traffic will be prohibited on 12 Mile during construction. Local access, however, will be maintained. The project is financed by Oakland County, Farmington Public Schools, Oakland County Road Commission and the city.

The good thing is that August is the lightest month for traffic. But



signs have been posted in both construction areas warning motorists of the closures. Detour signs also are up, Costick said.

The 13 Mile Road project involves widening the two-lane road.

## Court from page 1A

Her teaching skills have not gone unused. "It was valuable because I've done a lot of work with children in abuse and delinquency cases. Teaching gave me an insight into relating with children."

Her Farmington Hills private practice includes civil and criminal litigation, as well as probate matters.

She is also, by appointment, an independent mediator in circuit court, and a special assistant attorney general for workers disability compensation.

Saltzman has served as a referee and analyst in the Wayne County Juvenile Court. She has also worked in the Detroit office of the Michigan attorney general.

Her career as a sole practitioner

will come in handy. "You learn very quickly how to think on your feet. You learn to resolve matters in an efficient and cost-effective way. When you're on your own, the buck stops with you."

If elected, Saltzman, who believes the court building needs expanding, also wants to start a tracking system of cases that would be reviewed 30, 60 and 90 days into the process.

She also wants an active role in resolving cases before her, including meeting with parties to determine if agreement can come without trial in civil cases, and a bench trial — without a jury — in criminal cases.

"The goal is to be sure cases resolved are fair to all parties."

Saltzman believes judges' involvement is necessary to campaign

for an expanded courthouse.

Talking to community groups, providing specific information about expansion, including detailed costs in literature, as well as making use of cable TV, are methods she would use to spread the word.

"The public is concerned about costs. They also should be told that if the expansion is deemed suitable and appropriate, how would money be raised to pay for bonds."

Her willingness to go to the public, both for the court expansion and her own judicial campaign, is her rule.

"They'll see me on the street. They'll see me door-to-door. What is important is that voters know I will work hard and do my very best. It's important for people to see who

I am. I have the interest of the public at heart."

And she says she's willing to work with court employees and the public so the 47th District Court "is a place everyone can respect and enjoy."

Saltzman says she enjoys working with and in the community. For example, she was chairwoman of the Oakland County Bar Association's committee for bicentennial celebration of the Bill of Rights.

She's president of the Women's Bar Association, Oakland region, outgoing president of the Yvoni B'rieth Barristers Bar Association and first vice president of the League of Women Voters, Oakland region. She also belongs to the Farmington-Farmington Hills Optimists Club.

## Cops from page 1A

Preston was found by police behind a Perry drug store in Livonia, reportedly chased by Edward Hopkins. Carter was found lying on the sidewalk in front of the Farmington Hills house.

Livonia Sgt. William Bryant, the first to arrive at the scene, said the first thing he noticed was a man lying on the sidewalk in front of the house with his head facing east.

"He (defendant Hopkins) came out of his house with his hands over his head and said, 'I did it, officer. I shot him.'"

Livonia police secured the scene until it was turned over to Hills police. A marked car with two police officers was patrolling the Eight-Mile Inland area. An off-duty sergeant was also in the area which marks the boundaries of Livonia, Redford and Farmington Hills.

Although Hills police received three signed search consent forms from Hopkins, his brother Mikel and their mother, Ella Hopkins, who owns the house, that evening, an affidavit for a search warrant secured by Hills police at 1:18 a.m.

the next morning listed the wrong address, McGinnis said.

Dr. Robert A. Kurtzman, an Oakland County medical examiner, performed autopsies on both Preston and Carter. Neither was shot at what the medical examiners' office would consider close range.

"Close range, to me, is two feet or less," Kurtzman said. Preston was shot at 10 or more feet; Carter was shot at six feet or more, Kurtzman said.

Carter's body showed evidence of extensive medical treatment, which

included "a heroic effort" to resuscitate by the hospital, Kurtzman said.

"Both had severe internal bleeding," Kurtzman said.

Preston, who had entry wounds in the left upper back and left lower arm, fell after he was shot, Kurtzman said.

Templin sustained Oakland prosecutor Roman Kalyiak's objection that Kurtzman not discuss toxicology reports on the two men.

The trial resumes today.

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SUROWIEC "OUTSTANDING"**

47th District Court candidate Gerald S. Surowiec was rated "outstanding" by the Oakland County Bar Association Public Advisory Committee on Judicial Candidates.

"Outstanding" is the highest rating given. In evaluating judicial candidates the Committee takes into account experience, legal ability, reputation for integrity, temperament and suitability for judicial office.

The Committee was formed by the Oakland County Bar Association to serve the public interest by evaluating candidates for election to judicial office.

"I'm not at all surprised," said Farmington Hills Councilman Aldo Vagnozzi. "Surowiec has outstanding credentials and would be an excellent judge."

For info see the Commission to Elect Judicial Personnel District Court Judge

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