

# Commissioner carves out donation for sculpture

**BY SUE BUCK**  
**STAFF WRITER**

Oakland County Commissioner Donn Wolf presented a \$500 check to the Farmington 125th Anniversary Sculpture Committee Monday on behalf of Detroit Edison. Wolf is employed by Detroit Edison.

The funds will be used to erect a sculpture, designed by Kesham Tazian, outside the Farmington City Hall.

Some \$12,500 of the \$20,000 needed has been raised, said Nan Reid of the committee. The committee wants to raise 75 percent of

the money before finalizing plans with local sculptor Tazian.

"Donn Wolf has been personally involved both as a resident and as a member of the anniversary committee," Reid said.

Wolf spoke of his fight to retain a cultural affairs council recently in setting a balanced budget.

"One of those cuts was the cultural affairs council, which concerned me," Wolf said. "I think that cultural affairs council lends the quality of life to the community that we need."

"So, I fought hard to keep it. All the members of the Farmington Area Arts Commission supported me all the way on that, with letters and phone calls. Some came out to back me on that. It's back in the budget again, and we'll know Thursday if

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ton Area Arts Commission supported me all the way on that, with letters and phone calls. Some came out to back me on that. It's back in the budget again, and we'll know Thursday if

it is going to stay there."

In the process of talking to commission members, the sculpture topic came up, and Wolf decided to look into other sources to support fund-raising efforts.

Corporate and utility sponsorship seemed to be the place to start, Wolf said.

He added that he's willing to help the sculpture committee address other corporations, using Edison's name.

The sculpture will sit 8 feet off the ground on a granite platform. It will measure 24 inches square and 3 feet high, Reid said.

It will be placed at the east entrance of Farmington City Hall on Grand River. Dedication will take place in spring.

Tazian, a Farmington Hills resident and a professor at Oakland County Community College, recently completed a clay model.

The sculpture attempts to blend abstract and realism, reflecting the community's diversity in terms of ethnicity, race and age through the faces depicted.

The five faces included are: an elderly man, an African-American man, an angelic infant, an ageless woman and an American Indian, Reid said.

The sculpture combines Farmington's historical significance as a site on the underground railroad and the Shawassaw Trail which was traversed by the Potawatomi tribe.

Each one of the five columns represents 25 of Farmington's 125 years of existence.

The 125th Anniversary Committee provided \$4,000 in seed money for the project. The sculpture committee was formed and members approached Tazian with some basic guidelines earlier this year.

## OBITUARIES

**JOSEPHINE C. PHILLIPS**  
Mrs. Phillips, 88, of Livonia died Dec. 2.

Born in Ohio, Mrs. Phillips was a supervisor at J.L. Hudson for 25 years.

Survivors include her daughters, June Rees and Lorraine Terri; seven grandchildren, four great-grandchildren and one great-great-grandchild.

Services were Dec. 4 at the Thayer-Rock Funeral Home, Farmington, with The Rev. Leonard Partensky officiating. Burial was in Oakwood Cemetery, Farmington.

Vogel; sister, Irene Kokko; brothers, Urho, Osmo and Paul; six grandchildren.

Services were Dec. 6 at Emmanuel Lutheran Church, Southfield, with the Rev. Roland Troike officiating. Burial was in Fort Custer National Cemetery, Augusta, Mich.

Arrangements were made by the Thayer-Rock Funeral Home, Farmington. Memorials may be made to Emmanuel Lutheran Church.

West Wood Community Church, Livonia, with the Rev. Charles E. Bernal officiating. Burial was in Grand Lawn Cemetery, Detroit.

**GERTRUDE SOMERS FLEMING**  
Mrs. Fleming, 85, of Farmington Hills, formerly of Bloomfield Hills, died Dec. 6 in Montclair, N.J.

Born in Detroit, Mrs. Fleming was a homemaker. She served as a volunteer to help the elderly and was featured in the 1978 book Farmington's Centennial Families. She spent part of her childhood near the Red Deer River, Calgary, Alberta and on returning to Detroit, attended St. Leo's High School.

Survivors include her son, Phil Somers Fleming; six grandchildren.

Mass will be celebrated Friday, Dec. 10, at 11 a.m. in St. Fabian Catholic Church, Farmington Hills, with The Rev. Norbert Kendzierski officiating. Burial will be in Grand Lawn Cemetery, Detroit.

**PAUL V. LANG**  
Mr. Lang, 90, of Farmington Hills died Dec. 6 in Dorvin Convalescent Center.

Born in Detroit, Mr. Lang was a printer for the city of Detroit. He was a charter member of West Woods Community Church. He was an avid gardener and loved to oil paint.

Survivors include his wife, Margaret; sons, Lawrence and David; six grandchildren and many great-grandchildren.

Services were today, Dec. 9, at

**AULIE KARNA**  
Mr. Karna, 71, of Farmington died Dec. 2.

Born in Baltic, Mich., Mr. Karna worked as a floorless operator in the automotive industry. He was a member of V.F.W. in South Range, Mich.

Mr. Karna was a Army veteran. Survivors include his wife, Irene; sons, Timothy, Thomas and Theodore; daughter, Pamela

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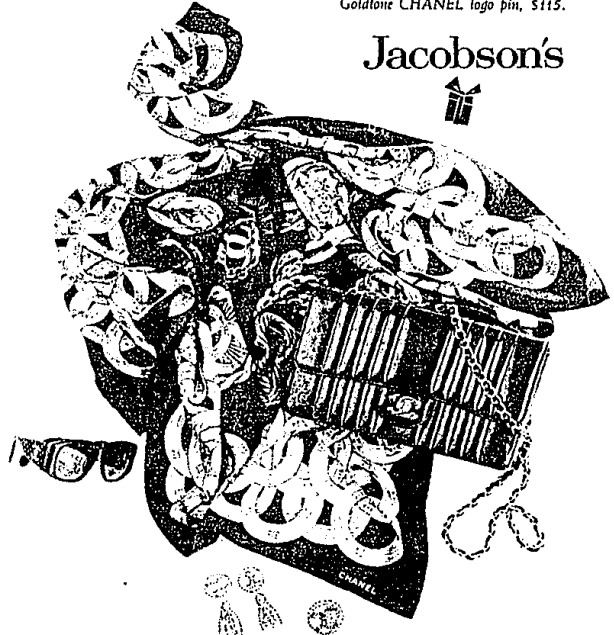
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