

Paving the way: Farmington Hills workers (from left) Dave Edwards, supervisor, Walt Lay, Paul Pinkowski, James Burton and Ronnie VanDyke make emergency repairs on 11 Mile Road, east of Farmington Road.

DPW from page 1A

traveled road, something Pickworth keeps in mind. He makes sure to walk the area before mowing because of the debris that could be kicked out and injure someone.

"You've got to be careful," he said. "But most of these guys have done this kind of work before. They do a good job."

The city has 17 seasonal workers, used mostly for the summer's grass maintenance. But Pickworth, who works right along with his charges, is versatile enough to go from Weed Wacker to snow plow.

"People around here expect you to do a good job," he said. Rooney, who has been with the city since 1979, said the DPW's safety record has been a good one.

"We haven't lost anyone," he

said. "But you can't get complacent about safety."

And with a new expansion at the DPW's garage on Halsted south of 12 Mile in the works, problems with air quality and work space should be relieved.

That's good news to Jerry Brock, equipment services supervisor. Brock makes sure the city's fleet, including police cars and fire trucks, 85 pieces of heavy equipment and power tools and landscaping equipment are kept in good shape.

"It will really be a lot better, especially in winter when we're crammed in here," he said.

Brock says for the most part the city has been able to keep its equipment in good working order. But sometimes a low-bid vehicle that is difficult to get parts for winds up in his lap.

"People sometimes don't realize that that will end up costing us more than something more expensive that lasts longer and that has interchangeable parts, like a snow plow," he said.

And yes, he too has to take his turn on the snow plow. "Sometimes it's good to get away from the paperwork," Brock said.

Computerization has been a sign of the times at the DPW, allowing one man to do the work of two with the help of a computer.

"We used to be able to make eight signs a day," said road supervisor Bob Malley, who runs the sign shop. "Now we can make up to 80."

Adding new street signs, repairing damaged signs and making special signs, such as those for the Farmington Activities

Center (formerly the Mercy Center), is ongoing, he said.

With a large road network and some major road and sewer projects (12 Mile Boulevard and Minnow Drain), the city contracts out a lot of work.

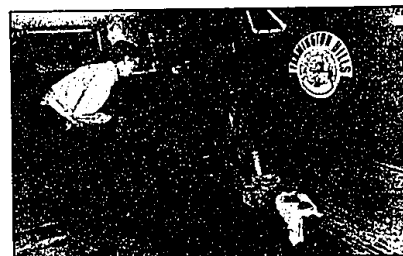
"A lot of construction work requires special equipment," Rooney said. "Plus we have to maintain a lot of roads. But we do some projects ourselves, and we have inspectors on the job overseeing contract work."

And no, although he doesn't get into a snow plow truck himself, it's not far from his thoughts, even in June.

"That's one thing we do ourselves," he said, adding that his department gets few complaints. "People will give you 24 hours (to plow all roads). We've been able to meet that. Nobody does this as well as we do."



Mowing them down: Equipment operator Bryan Pickworth cuts the grass on city property in the Grand River/Halsted area.



A tire-ing job: Fred Ort, a DPW mechanic with seven years of experience, works on a Farmington Hills vehicle.

Filling school district's openings: an inside job

BY LARRY O'CONNOR
STAFF WRITER

Some not so unfamiliar faces will be in new places in the Farmington Public Schools this fall.

Pam O'Malley, director of School and Community Relations, has been appointed principal at O.E. Dunckel Middle School. O'Malley served as acting principal there for the past year.

District science coordinator M. Kathleen McAdaragh-Hain has been named assistant principal at the middle school.

Also, Highmeadow computer/enrichment teacher Margaret McKinley is the new Kenbrook Elementary principal. Dearborn Public Schools elementary assistant principal Norma Jean Sasa takes over at Beechview Elementary.

Superintendent C. Robert Maxfield announced the appointments at the June 7 board of education meeting. Three of the four appointments are from within the district.

"I think you want to be sure that people feel that there are opportunities," Maxfield said. "If a teacher, a counselor or a coordinator would feel a building principalship is something that is at-

I think you want to be sure that people feel that there are opportunities.'

C. Robert Maxfield
superintendent

tractive to them, your inside people know there is a chance.

"I think the selection process in this district recognizes that, but isn't skewed one way or the other."

Applicants went through a paper screening committee and an interview committee, which both include parent and teacher representatives from each school. Names of finalists were forwarded to Maxfield, who made the selection.

O'Malley has been with the district since 1969, serving as a teacher, counselor, and assistant high school principal. She was assistant principal at Farmington

High from 1984-87 and became director of school and community relations in 1987.

McAdaragh-Hain has also been with the district since 1968, working as a teacher, a boys' tennis coach and a summer school principal. McAdaragh-Hain has been the district science coordinator since 1983.

"They'll make a real nice team," said Maxfield about O.E. Dunckel's new administrative staff.

McKinley has been a computer enrichment teacher at Highmeadow Common Campus since 1988. She previously worked as a bilingual teacher in the Austin, Texas, school district.

McKinley taken over for Carolyn Plack, who retired this year as Kenbrook principal.

Sasa has been the acting principal the past two months at Maples Elementary in Dearborn Public Schools. She has been assistant principal there for two years.

She also has been a reading consultant, counselor and teacher. Sasa succeeds Walter Prince, who retired as Beechview principal this year.

Applicants sought for commissions

The city of Farmington is looking for residents to fill several vacancies on its boards and commissions.

There is one opening on the planning commission and one on the Farmington Area Commission on Aging and three vacancies on the beautification commission.

Applications are available in the city manager's office, which is open 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Commission functions and duties include:

■ Planning commission has nine members who serve three-year terms. The commission meets 8 p.m. the second Monday of each

month. The planning commission makes and adopts the community master plan, the city comprehensive six-year capital improvement plan, approves subdivision plans, reviews and approves building site plans, approves special exception uses and makes recommendations to city council as planning map.

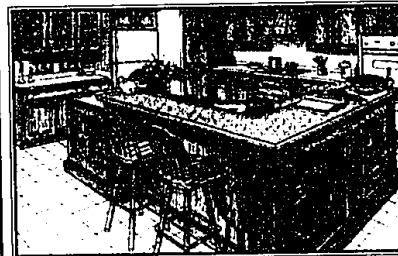
■ Beautification commission has 15 members who serve a two-year term. The commission meets the second Wednesday of each month. The commission advises city council of recommendations for the beautification of the city; promotes and publicizes projects

and acknowledges community and private projects that enhance and beautify the city.

■ Farmington Area Commission on Aging has 11 members — eight from Farmington Hills and three from Farmington — who serve three-year terms. The commission meets 7:30 p.m. the third Thursday of the month. The commission promotes community awareness and attitudes to protect the rights of older adults by providing the opportunity to live independently with dignity.

For information on applications or commissions, call the Farmington city manager's office at 474-6500.

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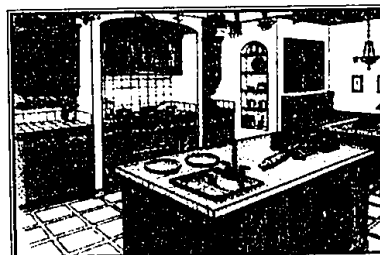
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