

# Hills OKs land purchase for expansion of library

BY BILL COULTANT  
STAFF WRITER

Farmington Hills is buying land next to its library on 12 Mile to provide for an expansion.

The Hills City Council unanimously approved buying 2.57 acres of land bordering the west side of the 12 Mile branch property for \$550,000.

"We will use money from the sewer fund on a loan basis," said Tom Blasell, director of public services.

Councilman Jon Grant said that after the library board, and the Farmington and Farmington Hills city councils met, the plan seemed the best way to solve a space problem at the library.

A tax proposal to pay for a new library failed two times, the last

time being in August of 1993.

"We (the library) do not have enough money to buy the land," said Library Board Treasurer Bob Plummer.

Farmington Hills will buy the land, and if the library builds the expansion as expected, it can buy the land from the city, probably through a voted bond issue.

"This is quicker and easier if we (the city) own the property," said Hills Finance Director Charles Roach.

If the expansion does not go through, the city can then sell the property.

"It hasn't been decided yet, but my guess is that the property south of the library, which is now the parking lot, would be used for the expansion and the new pro-

erty would become the parking lot," Plummer said.

The council also enacted an ordinance allowing outdoor seating as an accessory use to restaurants in the city.

Councilman Terry Sever cast the lone dissenting vote because of concerns over the use of alcohol.

Although the change would not change the process of granting liquor licenses, Sever has argued that restaurants with bad track records on violating liquor laws should not be "rewarded" by having the added outdoor seating.

But several other council members said they were satisfied with the controls the city has put in place and the police department's vigilance of liquor violators.

## Celebration to mark Kroger remodeling

The Kroger Co. will host a grand opening celebration for its expanded and remodeled store in Farmington Hills. The store, at 11 Mile and Middlebelt roads, is one of Kroger's 18 Oakland County locations.

A ceremonial ribbon-cutting will take place at the store at 7 a.m. Wednesday, Oct. 4. The store will be open 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

The expanded Kroger store occupies 44,000 square feet, an increase of nearly 14,000 square feet, and offers shoppers the latest in customer conveniences.

"Our expanded operation enables us to bring The Kroger Co.'s latest merchandising innovations to shoppers in the greater Farmington area," said Don McGeorge, president of The Kroger Co., Michigan Marketing Area.

The store was renovated with the time-conscious customer in mind. Customers can grocery shop, conduct banking transactions, get a greeting card and flowers, rent a movie, get prescriptions filled at the pharmacy and stock up on health and beauty care — all under one roof.

"This expansion allowed us to visually open up the store and increase our merchandise selections, as well as offer new departments such as a full-service video center and a cosmetic and fragrance area," said store manager Dave Berg.

Employment at the store will

increase from 95 to approximately 160 full- and part-time positions. American Express, Visa, MasterCard, Discover and Mageline cards will be accepted.

Farmington Hills' expanded Kroger will offer customers access to a number of new and expanded customer convenience departments. The specialty departments include:

- Customer Service Center that includes UPS Service, Western Union, check cashing, copy and fax services, Lotto and lottery tickets, money orders, gift certificates, stamps, credit card acceptance, electronic checking and full-service banking.

- Full-service American Bank with extended hours.

- Carry-out service where purchases will be carried — free of charge — to vehicles of customers needing assistance.

- Full-service pharmacy for all health care needs with a pharmacist on-site for consultation. Most major insurance plans are accepted.

- Grocery offering larger selections of merchandise plus new product varieties. This area will be highlighted by the Wall of Values, featuring specially priced items.

- Fresh catch seafood shop featuring salmon, shellfish, seafood salads and smoked fish.

- Custom-cut butcher shop featuring a variety of fresh cuts of meat, trimmed to the customer's specifications at no extra charge.

er's specifications at no extra charge.

- Video center featuring movie releases. Membership is free.

- Pastry shop featuring custom-decorated cakes and fresh baked breads, pastries and rolls.

- General merchandise featuring an expanded assortment of cosmetics and designer fragrances.

- Deli that is expanded to include a larger assortment of table-ready, prepared foods, salads and fresh-cut lunchmeats and cheeses.

- The Kroger Garden featuring varieties of peppers, mushrooms, fresh herbs and spices and greens, as well as tropical fruits.

- Natural health foods including crackers and snacks, juices, mixes and other prepared and packaged foods.

This renovated and enlarged Farmington Hills store will also feature handicap carts for customers needing assistance and automated bottle return. It is part of Kroger's commitment to renovate old facilities or open larger operations, giving customers more shopping convenience.

The expanded Farmington Hills Kroger will welcome customers with a grand opening "Sollabration," offering customers special promotions and savings throughout the store.

Kroger has been a part of the Michigan grocery scene since 1917.

## OBITUARIES

### CATHERINE H. ZAHER

Mrs. Zaher, 98, of Farmington died Sept. 17 in Heritage Hospital.

Born in Adeline, Pennsylvania, Mrs. Zaher was a homemaker.

Survivors include her four grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

Services were at the Thayer-Rock Funeral Home, Farmington, with the Rev. Bery Leas of St. John Episcopal Church officiating.

ing. Burial was in Roseland Park Cemetery, Berkley.

### MARY JEANETTE MONTGOMERY

Mrs. Montgomery, 66, of Farmington died Sept. 17 in Botsford Hospital, Farmington Hills.

Born in Royal Oak, Mrs. Montgomery was a secretary for 15 years at G.M.C.

Survivors include her husband, Charles; son, Bill; daughter, Patti

Montgomery; brother, John Lester; sister, Margaret Ansdill.

Services were at the Church of God in Farmington Hills with the Rev. Gordon R. Steinko officiating.

Arrangements were made by the Thayer-Rock Funeral Home, Farmington.

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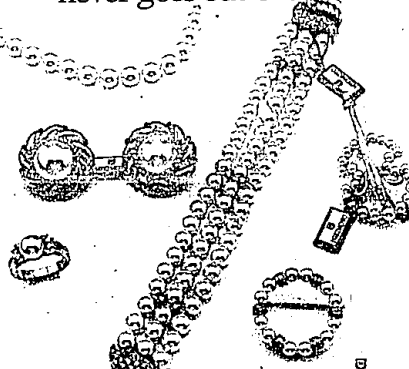
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