## Check older trees, limbs Lauhoff emphasized, "just have those (trees) inspected. In an older community people have to be more aware of that. They have a responsibility to safety."

There was nothing anybody could have done to prevent the July 23 poolside tragedy that bigli Melissa Garr. By all actions of police and others, the 18 lost-long, 5-inch-thick tree limb that struck her on the head was completely healthy.

But in Farmington, with many old-trees, the accident should say on a reminder for people to get into the habit of visually coefficient the trees on their property, said city manager Frank Lohoff.

states the public must maintain trees as best as possible and to remove any dead or diseased areas," Lauhoff said Friday. "The problem is determining that. All we can do is remind people."

people."

And, if they spot a potentially hazardous area, to contact professionals to come in and remove it.

Danger signs include branches drooping or foliage yellowing and/or withering earlier than

The day after the tragedy, Farmington Glen director Mark Papineau described the branch as fully vegetated. "Somebody came up... and asked if we'd be checking other things. What can you do except go up in the trees and jump up and down on the branches?" "If they see one part of the tree lose leaves and (another) part where they are retained,"

Mike Wiggins, Farmington public safety spokesman, said the branch that struck Melissa was seemingly healthy.

Road from page A1

With resignation, Kubitskey recalls how their quaint area was suddenly invaded by bull-dozers and construction crows. There was nothing we could do about it," he said.

His wife Carol keeps a photo album handy, which she shows to visitors to indicate how the area looked before developers arrived.

In the transition, Kubitskey said they've inherited good neighbors.

"It's a nice subdivision," he said. "It's young and it's pretty tight-knit. Everyone looks out for everyone."

The Haynes family experienced The Hamlet's hospitality right away.

The family moved in March.

Hamlet from page A1

Garr was critically injured when the tree limb fell and struck her on the head at Farmington Glen Aquatics Center. She was baby-sitting three children at the pool when the accident took place.

enced The Hamlets hospitality right away.

The family moved in March after living in Chihuahua, Mexi-co for 2 1/2 years and a neighbor welcomed them with a plateful of brownies.
The sub also has a picnic,

Christmas cookie exchange and progressive dinner where neighbors go house to house to sample various dishes.

"That was in March when it's the cookies of th

various dishes.

"That was in March when it's still cold out; That's a good sign, said Laurie Haynes, whose family used to live in Taylor before her husband was transferred to Mexico. "I've been in neighborhoods where you don't talk to your neighbors until the summer when it's warm out."

The Hamlet blends country living with suburban convenience, Haynes said. As for the proposed development that will be in her buck yard, Haynes admitted she's not happy, "We can't complain, though; We did the same thing," Haynes said.

The development won't affect

said.
The development won't affect one charming aspect of the sub Haynes likes: The fact there is no fences to separate property and children from playing in

each other's yards.

"I like it that the kids can run around," she said. "In Taylor, thore were fonces and people would say something if you went on their lawn." A guggle of kids gravitate from yards to driveways unimpeded. Only the ringing sound of an approaching ice cream truck gets them to stand at attention in a semi-straight line.

them to stand at attention in a semi-straight line.

That gives parents a moment to chat among themselves. Candy Marra tells Stu and Jean Rose about the skunk she saw in her driveway the previous night. Down the street, Nancy Norman Howard is watching over her grandchildren and wondering how much longer such wildlife will be around. Mallard ducks, rabbits and an occasional deer turn up near their yard.

"It's just a matter of time," Howard said. "Right now, it's just about enjoying the wildlife."

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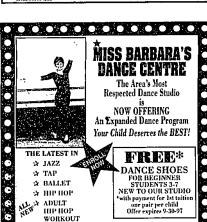
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The existing bridge might not be widened. But proposed improvements, to be funded by a combination of federal, state and local dollars, include the following. Drive.

Midening off-ramp terminals for eastbound and westbound M-5 traffic.

Resurfacing Grand River, Freedom Road and several M-5 on/off ramps.

Farmington Observer

local domain, memory ing many for access to westbound M-5, with an additional lane built to accommodate the traffic that uses the loop.

Converting Freedom Road to one-way westbound at Tree Hill

ONE YEAR (in Dakland Coounty) HOME DELIVERY SERVICE

"The major new thing people are going to see is the loop," said Bekmanis. "That will climinate the left-hand-turn from Grand River to westbound M-5" which often causes bottlenecks. "And

805 E. Maple, Birmingham, MI Mr.: Band address changes to Markens 646-1100

we'll add a right-hand-turn lane for the loop."

Although plans for the project are moving forward enough to show them to the public, the first turn of dirt is months away.

The final design won't be completed until the end of the year, primarily because more sites need to be acquired, Bekmanis anid. Foremost among those is Globe Furniture, which sits in the middle of the planned loop ramp to westbound M-6 (formerly M-102). But no sale appears imminent.

"We have made them an offer and the last thing I knew was that they rejected it," Bekmanis

that they rejected it." Bekmanis said.

Rick Lampi, community development coordinator for the city of Farmington Hills, said the project is needed to: reduce traffic; keep now businesses from finding somewhere else to locate; and keep existing businesses such as Moore's from leaving. "There's a lot of development going on in this area," Lampi said. "To keep that going, we have to be able to move traffic in and out of here."

At least Moore is sticking around. According to Howard Gray, of the Economic Development Copp. of Farmington Hills, "Traffic is getting to the point where business people don't

want to move in here."
Sidney Alexander, also of the
EDC, which penied up \$90,000
in 1933 for an engineering study,
noted that the existing interchange, which is in both Farmington Hills and Farmington,
'has a severe economic impact
on the industrial park around
here. (Businesses) can't get their
trucks in."
Nother could the Farmington.

trucks in."

Neither could the Farmington Hills Fire Department. Lampi said the interchange was so problematic for emergency vehicles that the department, in the early '90s, was forced to close its station in the 10 Mile Road industrial park and relocate to the more-residential Nine Mile-Drake area.

"There's a lot of frustration around here," Gray said.

Despite that frustration. nec-

around hore." Gray said.

Despite that frustration, people such as Derda and Chatham Hills subdivision resident Sylvia Compagnoni said they are encouraged that something is in the works at long last.

"I know they're trying to do a good job." Dorda said. "This is the only alternative they have. It's a little late to lay down concrete and build new bridges."

Compagnoni said the project "seems like it will help a lot, just by dilmtnating the left-hand turns."

Car y

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