

**Parking** from page A1

Officer Gorchow Cooper explained the plans at a community meeting attended by 35 people May 11.

Officials also quelled concerns that the hospital wants to build a parking structure. A structure has never been considered, a hospital spokeswoman said.

"We wanted to be the ones to explain it to them, as opposed to having them hear it second- or third-hand," said Margo Gorchow, Botsford community relations director.

In the preliminary site plan,

the parking lot expansion includes canopy trees, 4-foot high brick wall to match existing masonry and a setback of 25 feet to act as a buffer between residents and the hospital.

As for a decline in property values, other residents spoke on behalf of the hospital, Gorchow said. Many said their property values have increased and the hospital has been a good neighbor.

Kurt Burrell agrees. He is one of the five homeowners selling his house.

"I've lived with the hospital on the back side of my home and my property has gone up every year," said Burrell, who said the hospital is offering slightly above market value for his home. "So has everybody's on the block. They talk about losing value and I really don't see how."

The hospital is seeking to have the property rezoned from single-family residential to a parking district.

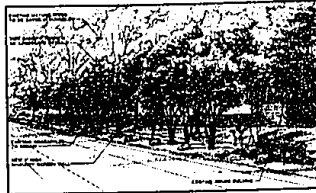
If the rezoning is approved, work could start in the fall and be finished by spring 1999.

If that means her street will no longer serve as a hospital parking lot, at least one resident will be content. Margaret Moreland said folks from the hospital park in front of her house on St. Francis Street.

"I'm sick and in bed and it's disgusting to look out my window and see what they are doing out there," Moreland said. "It started with a little white car and now everyone is parking there."

"I don't feel I should have a parking lot outside my door."

Street-parking is due to a lack of space at the hospital, Gorchow said, although employees are discouraged from parking on res-



Artist's view: Botsford Hospital's parking expansion includes trees and landscaping to help screen the parking lot.

idential streets. The hospital leases the lot at Vladimir's across Grand River to handle overflow parking, but it's not enough.

"We're hoping that, with

increased parking on the campus, that (parking in neighborhoods) won't be a need," Gorchow said. "We would also be glad to go to the city to support no-parking signs."

**Bond** from page A1

one getting bond on first-degree, premeditated murder.

"I'm just wondering if this judge looks at this homicide differently than other homicides. I say 'differently' because this was a homosexual type homicide. I think that is wrong."

Though the hearing dealt with Summerville's extradition to Michigan, Dwyer said the judge should have been aware of the murder warrant and that the man had left the state.

Hennepin County Judge Cara Leo Neville said she merely followed the prosecutor's recommendation on bail.

"The prosecutor here asked me to set bail at \$160,000 on the extradition and that is what I set it," Neville said. "He's an excellent, excellent prosecutor who has been there many years."

"I don't think anyone would ever say he's a softie."

Neville said she wasn't aware that the defendant or victim

were involved in a homosexual relationship. She doubts the prosecutor knew, either.

Summerville was arrested in Minneapolis driving the victim's jeep. He also used Ellis's cell phone to make calls, helping police track him there.

A bond of \$150,000 means Summerville could be released on 10 percent, or \$15,000 cash. He remains in Hennepin County Jail in lieu of bond.

"That doesn't mean someone

still won't come forward," Dwyer said.

Police found two condoms near Ellis's body, which was a message about their more than five-year relationship, Dwyer said. Summerville, who police said confessed to the murder, has AIDS and police said he believes he got it from Ellis.

Summerville was linked to the crime by a bloodied shirt with his name on it found in a wash-

**Katz** from page A1

involved, to know they have to be examples for their children and that zero tolerance isn't just for them (kids). We have to practice what we preach."

This spring's revolt against the taking of the MEAP test in the high schools was "a terrible thing," said the first-time candidate.

Katz said parents must become informed about the need for the test, as flawed as it has been.

"It's all over the place as far as when it's given," Katz said. "It's not a perfect test. But it still shows us where we're at, and how our students learning what we think we're teaching them?" The MEAP test is important because it teaches students an important skill for college: taking tests. And the MEAP remains a key measuring device for districts.

She also said the state needs to step up to reverse the negative public image of the MEAP test. "Although I think the

MEAP needs to be improved, it needs to be explained more."

Meanwhile, Katz said the district's emphasis on schools of choice programs (such as High Meadow Common Campus) doesn't need to be improved, just expanded.

One possibility would be starting a school for students in kindergarten, first and second grade, similar to Gretchko Elementary School in the West Bloomfield district, Katz said.

"You could have a principal that specializes in early childhood development and it makes a big difference."

Doing more programs such as the year-round school at Gill Elementary would benefit students by shortening the gap between school-years.

Teacher scheduling conflicts and other logistical problems likely would hamper any widespread rush to year-round schools, she added.

"But the choice should be out there."

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