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The opening might not take place until the end of summer or early autumn, Lauhoff said.

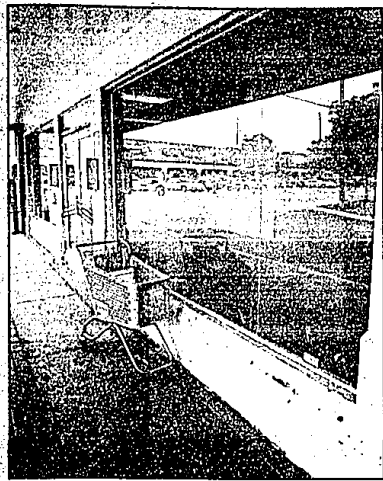
"They've got a lot of work to do in there to create a full baking facility,"

Frank Lauhoff
—City manager

Novelly, who could not be reached for comment Tuesday, had hoped to take control of the storefront in February or March, having received a long-term lease from landlord Kinco Realty Corp.

Those plans were put on hold because the 99 Cent Store, operating on a month-to-month lease, balked at leaving.

In late March, a civil lawsuit was filed in 47th District Court by Kinco against the 99 Cent Store, but the tenant-landlord matter eventually was settled out of court.



Closed: The 99 Cent Store is gone, making way for the Great Harvest Bread Co.

STAFF PHOTO BY BILL DARRIN

Mission from page A1

the report is indicative of the hard work and commitment toward achieving the Mission 2007 goals. "When you put 1,600 hard-working people together you can get a lot done in one year."

White noted the approval of block scheduling for North and Harrison high schools as an example of the district and community working together. Those programs will begin in 1999-2000 and 2000-2001 at North and Harrison, respectively.

"That (block) is a real win in the area of evaluation and assessment," White said.

During the transition, studies on middle school-to-high school transition and physical education also were ok'd. The latter focuses more on fitness and health curriculum rather than gym-type activities.

About the transition, White said plans are to hold several teacher training workshops this summer, to help faculty members at all levels align instruction.

"It's not only just taking a look at individual needs of students, but to look at a systemized approach," White explained.

Several elementary technology classes were begun this year, with others planned, White added.

The elementary school curriculum had other major new initiatives, such as the expansion of vocal music and foreign language.

White said Dance Collective classes were expanded, and that hopes are to have the program at all three high schools by 2000-2001.

One particularly challenging area is how to get more students to take the high school Michigan Educational Assessment Program test. "We need to convince the parent population that we need that data ... If we aren't able to succeed, we need to find another way," White said.

According to Cannon, progress was made on several fronts in completing construction projects funded by the September 1997

bond issue. Work will continue this summer and throughout 1999-2000.

Series II bonds were sold, "with significant savings," and an internal web site for staff members was developed.

Cannon touched on a couple of other developments: readying of a district-wide security system that will be Y2K compliant; and the beginning of a computer replacement program, which the district created a special technology fund to pay for. A computer bid is expected to be on the school board's June 15 agenda.

Zurvallec highlighted the completion of new labor agreements with all employee groups, using "interest-based" negotiations.

An expanded schedule on education channel 10 and "user-friendly" district web page were among other accomplishments in the area of staff and community relations.

Voters guides available for June 14 school elections

Voter guides prepared by the League of Women Voters Oakland Area are available to citizens for the school elections to be held on Monday, June 14. Guides have been published for 14 school districts with contested elections: Birmingham, Clarencville, Farmington, Ferndale, Hazel Park, Holly Area, Lake Orion, Oak Park, Oxford, Pontiac, Rochester, South Lyon, Walled Lake, Waterford and West Bloomfield.

Copies of the voter guides for each school district are available at their respective school buildings. All public libraries, which serve a school district with a contested race, have voter guides for that school district. Some city and township halls also have appropriate school district voter guides.

For information about the League of Women Voters Oakland Area, call (248) 647-1350.

Soupy from page A1

Partly because of the business challenges faced by small theaters, Hohler left his position with the Farmington Downtown Development Authority in order to devote more time to the Civic, said Frank Lauhoff, Farmington city manager.

According to Lauhoff, he is all for Hohler bringing in acts such as Soupy Sales to keep the Civic viable.

"If he can have more events going on at the theater, it's good for him and it's also good for the downtown area," Lauhoff said.

"He started Soupy several years ago, as almost a niche entertainment that's very attractive to the baby boomer groups."

Meanwhile, Lauhoff said the Civic — which annually draws 80,000 to 100,000 patrons — remains the most-identifiable place in Farmington to people from around the region.

"We receive calls here on a regular basis on where things are located," Lauhoff said. "Nine times out of 10 they can use the Civic as a focal point. People know all about it."

Another downtown fixture is Books Around co-owner Skip Rosenthal and his banjo. He credits Hohler for bringing in big-name acts to promote his theater and surrounding area.

"He (Soupy) does very well," Rosenthal said. "They're always filled. It's very nice that they do it. It certainly doesn't hurt."

Rosenthal added that the theater is "very important here. People identify with it."

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