

Library from page A1



DARY PHOTO BY PETER WILKINS

Closing: Marilyn Smith, Farmington head librarian is getting ready to close the downtown branch temporarily.

gramming is done by then."

Smith said the book drop will close as of Monday, Aug. 2. But materials with an August due date can be returned to the Hills branch until the

What's in store for Farmington branch

Following are some of the planned renovations for the downtown Farmington branch:

- The glass on the north and south walls will be replaced with energy efficient, insulated glass.

- The glass at the roofline will be replaced with special glass to reduce glare in the area where computers are used.
- The roof will be replaced and new gutters installed.

- Light fixtures will be updated, with lighting levels in some areas increased.
- Display areas will be changed.
- New carpet will be installed.

Farmington branch opens again sometime in September.

"We're telling people they can return materials to the Hills or, if they'd prefer, they can keep them until we reopen," she said.

The branch will remain open through the close of business on Sunday, Aug. 1.

Overdue fines will be waived for items checked out at the Farmington branch before the library closes and returned after it reopens, Smith added.

The Farmington staff will temporarily work out of the Hills branch.

For library patrons the renovation will require some adjustment period - and perhaps a new place to study or browse.

While studying for her bar exam from law school, the library's been a regular destination for Nicole D'Anna of Farmington.

But she's almost ready to take the exam, so "the closure won't really affect me," D'Anna said, taking a break from her studies on Monday afternoon.

Meanwhile, D'Anna said she does see value in the upcoming renovation project.

"I think the renovations are going to be great for the library," D'Anna said. "Being here every day, you see so many families coming here with their children for the various activities. You see college kids studying, younger kids coming in for the (music) CD's."

Flipping through a magazine nearby, Farmington resident Mike Prentice said he wouldn't be terribly inconvenienced by the closing of the library.

"I don't come here very often," Prentice said. But, if he does require a library during the month of August, he'll head on over to the Hills branch. "I would if I need be."

■ 'We're telling people they can return materials to the Hills or, if they'd prefer, they can keep them until we reopen.'

Marilyn Smith
—Head librarian

Death from page A1

Excedrin PM in the motel room where the couple lived for six months, police reports said.

"To tell you the truth, she was kind of beat down," said Milton Maples, who lives at the motel. "She was just kind of a depressed person."

"She had her problems," Maples said the couple lived in isolation. They didn't have a car and depended on a man from a church named Richard, who often took her to do laundry and shop for groceries.

The couple also received meals through the Meals on Wheels program.

Maples, who moved in January, would go to the store for them to get pop or ice. Around 7 p.m. Saturday, she asked her neighbor to buy a bottle of Excedrin.

He went to her room and knocked on the door on Sunday. Maples heard her husband yell that something was wrong but the door was locked.

He got the manager and they went inside where they found Lewis. Maples didn't find a pulse.

Maples described the couple's room as "pretty nasty." They didn't

■ 'It's unfortunate they had to live in that condition. He laid there for 24 hours before anybody could help him. It's nobody's fault ... It's just unfortunate.'

Sgt. Tim Swanson
—Hills police

n't allow the motel's cleaning crew inside, he said.

Her husband Jim had difficulty talking because of his MS, police reports indicate. He was taken to Botsford Hospital.

"She just took care of him 24 hours a day," Maples said. "She was just a little depressed." She'd say things like "I'm just so tired of everything."

His mother who is in a Southfield senior home declined to comment.

"It's unfortunate they had to live in that condition," said Farmington Hills police Sgt. Tim Swanson. "He laid there for 24 hours before anybody could help him. It's nobody's fault ... It's just unfortunate."

Not much is known about Lewis' background. The woman is believed to have two children from a previous marriage.

Maples said.

Her body remained at the Oakland County morgue on Wednesday. Her husband is named as immediate family. Arrangements hadn't been made yet.

"That's why she's still here," a person at the morgue said.

Charter from page A1

passed bike helmet ordinance is trying to collect 4,300 signatures - or 15 percent of the vote cast in the last election for Secretary of State - to put the matter up for referendum.

Ironically, if one proposed charter amendment had already been in effect, those opposing the bike helmet ordinance would need slightly less than 3,000 signatures.

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