



STAFF PHOTO BY BILL BECKLER

Future: Discussions continue with the landlord and A&P, the parent company of Farmer Jack, about the future of the vacant downtown store. A specialty food store may be an option.

Farmington Observer

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The Farmington Observer

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Farmer Jack

Fate of building may be determined soon

BY TIM SMITH
STAFF WRITER

The future of the vacant downtown Farmington Farmer Jack might be determined by the end of October, said City Manager Frank Lauhoff.

Although nothing is definite yet, Lauhoff said Downtown Farmington Center landlord Kimco Realty Corp. is "having discussions with a specialty-type food store to take a portion of the vacant space."

Kimco hopes to have a definite answer within three or four weeks, Lauhoff said.

If those talks prove fruitful,

'I see some silver lining here that the downtown could experience by bringing in a specialty food store.'

Frank Lauhoff
—city manager

Lauhoff said Kimco would then put a proposal before Greater Atlantic & Pacific Tea Company officials to determine whether an agreement can be reached. A&P is the parent company of Farmer Jack.

Under that scenario, senior citizens and other nearby residents would have the kind of food service they may need. And Farmer Jack wouldn't have to — in effect — compete with itself. Farmer Jack closed its downtown location on June 27, but still maintains a superstore at Nine Mile-Farmington roads.

City council members have, on several occasions, stressed that they will pursue legal action if the empty store remains vacant for an extended period of time.

"I see some silver lining here that the downtown could experience by bringing in a specialty

DOWNTOWN

food store," Lauhoff said. Speculation is that the old Farmer Jack would be divided into two stores of about 10,000 square feet, with the specialty food store taking up shop in one of them.

Lauhoff said that, if A&P were to reject such a proposal from Kimco, that information would be sent to council members "and I'd expect them to act."

Task force aims at business burglaries

BY RICHARD PEARL
STAFF WRITER

A police undercover task force from three area communities may have halted a string of business burglaries along the Orchard Lake Road corridor with the arrest early Sept. 29 of two men.

The two, Leroy Gatewood, 37, and Ravenna Porter, 17, both of Detroit, were arraigned Thursday in 47th District Court with five counts of breaking and entering to commit burglary.

Each count carries a maximum 10-year sentence.

Judge Maria Parker set cash

surety bonds of \$5,000 per man

per charge. The pretrial examination will be Oct. 14. The two are being held in the Oakland County jail.

Farmington Hills detectives are attempting to link the two to at least six other burglaries in the past two weeks on Orchard Lake.

"We feel they are certainly responsible for the dramatic increase we had" in burglaries along the corridor recently, Hills Police Chief William Dwyer said Thursday.

Hills police had recently reported an upswing in burglaries with 40 complaints in August, 30 of which were busi-

nesses. The men were apprehended just minutes after they allegedly committed an early-morning burglary at AirTouch Paging, 28800 Orchard Lake, Dwyer said.

Arresting officers found 175 pages plus batteries in the rear of their vehicle, he said.

One of the men told police "he is responsible for at least nine burglaries," probably all in Farmington Hills along the corridor, the chief said.

The string of burglaries include "smash-and-grab" breaking and entering cases in the area that includes both the Hills and West Bloomfield.

Dwyer said the undercover task force, including one officer on a bicycle, had been watching the area closely since the rash of burglaries.

Late Tuesday, Sept. 29, they spotted a car cruising parking lots slowly, as if "reconing" the area for a burglary site, Dwyer said.

HILLS POLICE

The car eventually parked near the AirTouch building and officers saw one man shatter glass at the rear of the building's main entrance, Dwyer said. One went inside while the other kept watch, he said.

The pair left after about 10 minutes, heading south on Orchard Lake, where they were eventually stopped by a Hills police cruiser and taken into custody. Neither offered resistance, the chief said.

Officers also found property on them relating to other burglaries, including something from a breaking-and-entering burglary Sept. 27 at 28511 Orchard Lake, Dwyer said.

"We expect to have additional counts added" to the charges against Gatewood and Porter "once we are able to contact the other complainants," he said.

Tickets on sale for Cornucopia

The Fourth Annual Cornucopia Ball will be Saturday, Nov. 7, at the Costick Activities Center in Farmington Hills. This gala event is sponsored by the Farmington Community Foundation for Children, Youth and Families as an annual fund-raiser to support the award of financial grants to community organizations.

The event will begin at 5:30 p.m. at the Costick Center with

a gala cocktail reception where exceptional items will be auctioned. A five star gourmet dinner with open bar add to the festivities, along with dancing to the Mark Phillips Orchestra. Throughout the evening, a Silent Auction will provide more opportunities to acquire unique, special items.

The Cornucopia Ball is the cornerstone of the foundation's ability to attract the support of individual and corporate supporters. Individual contributions to attend the gala, which is event are \$150 per person. Honorary sponsors contributing \$10,000 receive special recognition and a table for 10. Honorary benefactors, at \$5,000, receive a table for eight, and honorary patrons, for \$3,000, dinner for four. They too receive special recognition. An additional distinction is made for honorary contributors, at \$1,000 with dinner for two.

Examples of the Foundation's commitment to children, youth and families include funding, summer youth activities. For ticket information, call Cathy Webb at 474-5600.

SPOTLIGHT ON

Orthodontics

by Josephine Finazzo, D.M.D.

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The tendency to develop too many teeth, known as supernumerary teeth, appears to be inherited. Extra teeth, which are more likely to occur among permanent teeth than among primary teeth, usually appear in the upper jaw. In most cases, the extra tooth is either a fourth molar or a small incisor called a mesiodens ("middle tooth") that develops between the upper central incisors. When more than one supernumerary tooth is involved, it may be an indication of Gardner's syndrome, an inherited disease characterized by extra bony growths in the jaws, face, or long bones. Supernumerary teeth are usually extracted either to avoid orthodontic problems (extra primary teeth), or to pave the way for orthodontic treatment (extra permanent teeth).

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