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Arthritis Today

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THE TREATMENT OF PSORIATIC ARTHRITIS

Psoriatic arthritis is a joint condition that occurs in up to 10% of patients with psoriasis. Some people with mild psoriasis will develop intense joint pain and swelling, while other patients with more severe skin disease have no joint complaints. The reason for this discrepancy is unknown. This arthritis often strikes the legs and feet or may be limited to one, two, or a few digits in the hands. Most often, but not always, the joint swelling is accompanied by psoriatic skin lesions. While identification of psoriatic arthritis is straightforward for your doctor, the treatment is not. The basic problem is that we do not know the cause of the arthritis. The theory is that in some people with psoriasis, a common element in the skin and the joint linings react that cause an auto immune reaction with accompanying inflammation. The same theory, with more evidence, forms the basis for treatment in rheumatoid arthritis. Thus, patients with psoriatic arthritis receive salicylates, aspirin, gold, and methotrexate just like patients with rheumatoid arthritis. However, psoriatic arthritis is different, and the medication borrowed, while useful, often lacks the same efficacy as occurs in rheumatoid arthritis. When the medical community understands psoriatic arthritis better, and can develop drugs based on that knowledge, then physicians will be able to provide psoriatic patients with proper therapy.

Bread from page A1

at Grand River-Whittaker, about a half-mile west of the city's central business district.

Panera will sell baked goods, as well as soups and sandwiches to be consumed there. Great Harvest, Downey explained, will be "more of a bakery," with breads, muffins and cookies.

Meanwhile, the convenience of two major bread retailers on downtown isn't being viewed in negative fashion by Jeff Pavlik, who along with his wife, Becky, own the Farmington Bakery, at 33250 Grand River.

Pavlik said that his full-line "neighborhood" bakery will continue serving a different segment of the community than

'I welcome any business that's willing to invest in Farmington, and sees Farmington as a growing community.'

Jeff Pavlik
—Farmington Bakery owner

Great Harvest or Panera.

"I welcome any business that's willing to invest in Farmington, and sees Farmington as a growing community," Pavlik said. "But it doesn't worry me in my business."

According to Downey, the arrival of Great Harvest is being viewed as a positive addition largely because it is a known

commodity.

"They've come to the Farmer's Market (in downtown) for two years," Downey said. "We're very familiar with the quality of the product. ... We just know they'll be a top-notch business in downtown."

Downey said Great Harvest uses unbleached flour for its products, "and people seek them

out for that reason."

On another front, negotiations to bring a new tenant to the vacant Farmer Jack space in the downtown center are "moving along favorably," Downey said.

Apparently, nothing is going to be settled soon, however, between Kimco, Farmer Jack's parent company A&P, and the prospective tenant.

During the Dec. 14 Farmington Planning Commission meeting, however, City Manager Frank Laubhoff gave a conservative estimate of March 1, 1999, for the eventual deal to be consummated.

Project from page A1

intends to buy. Developers could have up to a month to resubmit those plans, city officials said.

■ From there, city staff will whittle the number of proposals.

■ City council will have a second study session to look at each site plan and the financial aspects involved. Ideally, the

council will narrow the field to a few or one candidate. Negotiations would take place if necessary with the finalist.

■ Depending on the proposal chosen, the plan would go before the city council for conceptual approval and, perhaps consideration for a planned unit develop-

ment or some other type of contractual arrangement.

■ The development would proceed through the planning commission process.

Parks and Recreation and beautification commissioners will be offering suggestions, too.

"There will be lots of opportu-

nity for input," Brock said.

Submitting proposals are: Windmill Ridge Development, Lautree, Bestek Land Co., Silverman Development Co., Sherr Development, Crosswinds Communities, Lake Forest Partners 2, PM Group and CED Construction.

Sorrows from page A1

won't be, pending another meeting with the school.

"Their system is working well," Goss said. "There might be a couple things we might suggest to them."

Meanwhile, Goss added that any traffic woes around the 71-year-old campus are "minor," compared to other areas, such as Grand River-Halsted.

Goss said the traffic flow issue will likely need to be looked at again, after the first phase of Sorrows' \$5.9 million renovation and expansion — a 25,000-square-foot Family Center — is completed.

The free-standing, multi-purpose facility, on the Raphael Street side of the 19-acre campus, "will be ready for some segment of occupancy in mid-March," said Frank Jonna, president of project contractor Jonna Con-

struction.

According to plans unveiled this summer, the Family Center will feature the following: (for the parish's growing athletic program); four general meeting rooms; a small chapel; and 70 additional parking spaces.

The second phase of the project will upgrade existing school facilities, which Sorrows officials earlier said would enhance the effectiveness of the education program. With new space, including specialized rooms for computer and art, students no longer would need to leave the main building and attend classes in portables. It is estimated that the entire project will be done sometime during the year 2000, Jonna said.

A strong fund-raising effort in fall 1997 netted \$3.4 million in pledges and donations

for the project, with the remaining \$2.5 million being loaned through the Catholic Archdiocese of Detroit.

Currently, the parish is comprised of about 3,000 families, drawn from Farmington, Farmington Hills and several surrounding communities.

Continuing growth of the parish, with many younger families moving into the community, combined with aging facilities, required need for the renovation and expansion, Monsignor Walter Hurley of Sorrows said earlier, when the project began.

A task force was established in 1996 to study remedies for the space crunch, Hurley noted.

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