

## Wall collapse renders building unsafe

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The partial wall collapse at
the former Racquetball Farmington building at 34200 Nim
Mile Road is now in the hands of
an insurance company, according to John Koncsol, Farmington
building inspector.
Public Services Director Kevin
Gushman declared the building
unsafe following an accident
May 17.

"A guy doing demolition work

took down a wall which took down the roof," Koncsol said. "Half the building fell in. They are trying to retrofit the build-ing." A structural analysis will fol-low.

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The building is now owned by Dennis Rice of Modern Moving in Livonia. The company planned to gut the inside of the building making room for their mini-storage and warehouse service. Their semi-trucks will be parked outside.

"We're getting the damage fixed now," Rice said. "We hope to be operational by September." Immediately following the accident, the area was cordoned off with a snow lence and Farmington Public Safety officers were warned to be careful if they entered the building for any reason.

son.
"All employees responding should exercise care and cau-tion," said Mike Wiggins, deputy public safety director, in notes contained in the daily police log.

## C'ville officials respond to S&P study

BY LARRY O'CONNOR STAFF WRITER loconnor@oe.homecomm.net

A Wall Street firm's analysis implies Clarenceville district

implies Ciarenceville district taxpayers are not getting enough bang for their buck. What the study doesn't take into account are the higher costs to run a suburban district, espe-cially one in Onkland County, Superintendent Tom Tattan said.

Supprintenance said.
Standard & Poors' study was part of an overall look at the state's more than 500 public school districts, which examined 1,500 items of data involving financial and neadenic achievement. S&P analyzed school data from 1996-99.

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In Chreneeville's case, S&P's School Evaluation Services summary stated the district "produces average student results with comparatively high spend-

with comparatively high spending."
Under strengths, S&P cites
Clarenceville for moderately
above-average MEAP composite
scores and AP participation. The
1,900-student district includes
portions of Farmington Hills,
Livonia and Redford.
The school chief doesn't dispute the conclusion, but takes
issue with the way it was
derived.

"I guess their assessment is correct. I'm not sure the state aid average is the benchmark we should be using." Tattan said. "I prefer to use the benchmark in part of Bloomield Hills and Birmingham at \$11,000 per kid."

Clarenceville spent \$7,646 per student in 1999, which is well above the state average of \$6,565 and higher than systems with similar demographics, the report said. \$28P\$ a evaluation is available on the Internet: available on the Internet. Some students in districts like Birmingham and Farmington they. When they lower sees standardand-poors.com.

Clarenceville was compared to

nttp://www.ses.standardand-poors.com.
Clarenceville was compared to districts outstate, which don't have to pay the same wages or cost of living expenses, Tattan

cost of living expenses, Tattan said.

The study also doesn't take into account that Clarenceville came in as a "hold-harmless" district under Proposal A, meaning its per-pupil spending rate remained the same.

To achieve passing scores on the MEAP, the district had to spend \$134 a student, which is \$26 more than the state average and higher than its peers, according to the report.

A district's performance cost index - or PCI - was measured by per-pupil spending combined with MEAP composite scores

test, which has had an effect, Tatan said.

ACT participants reflect the number of university-bound students. Many Clarenceville graduates go onto Schooleraft College or Oakland Community College, which doesn't require they take the ACT, Tattan said.

Below-average graduation rates is a symptom of the district's transient population, Tattan said.

S&P's findings could be useful.

tan said.

S&P's findings could be useful, especially as a management tool, Tattan said. One problem is the information is more than a year

old.
"I don't want to spend too much time on it because it's old data," he said. "We're well beyond this anyway."

Harrisoncounselormakes the hot seat on 'Millionaire'

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It took two years for
Amy Proctor Mantyla to
get on the "Who Wants to
be a Millionaire" game,
show with host Regis
Philbin.
The Harrison High
school counselor hopes
everyone tunes in this
Sunday at 9 p.m. on
ABC's Channel 7. Mantyla made it to the hot seat la made it to the hot seat but is not willing to divulge any further infor-

divulge any further information.

"They asked me not to
reveal anything," Mantyla
said. "Ive been trying to
get on for two years."

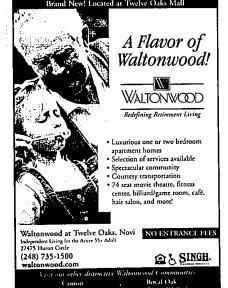
She found out she was
selected June 3 following
an April 12 audition.

"I like Regis and the
studio is smaller than it
looks on TV. There are
only about 150 people in
the audience."

Mantylas husband,
bantylas husband,
beto, is a Farmington
school district teacher
who coaches girls and
boys basketball.

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