

**GROCERY**  
FROM PAGE A1

Twelve employees are expected to lose their jobs. Lossia and Denha, who have owned the IGA business since 1999, don't plan to reopen elsewhere.

**OWNERSHIP**

Half the plaza is owned by AIBS Investments in Detroit and the other half by Frank Nager, Pastue said. The development company doesn't own Greene's Hamburgers or the end site, where medical offices are located. The Farmington Planning Commission approved a site plan for expansion at the center April 14.

Pastue recalled that Robert Allen, the architect, said Atisha wanted to expand to include a new tenant but representatives never said it would result in the loss of the IGA.

"When I first started working for Mr. Atisha, he said the added area would be one or two separate tenants," Allen said Friday. "Now, I guess, that's not the case."

Allen said he doesn't know who will occupy the space. "I'm not sure if he knows yet," Allen said.

A message was left for Atisha who will be back from vacation Monday, according to a representative who answered the phone at his office.

Lossia, too, said Atisha was on vacation and said he plans to speak to Atisha when he returns.

Atisha's plans included landscaping at both ends of the center and removal of an old sign.

There's been no landscaping, but the building has been maintained for the last 16 years, Allen said.

Plans also call for some parking in the right of way to be brought back on the site. Lights will be replaced and the parking lot will be restriped.

The entire center faces Orchard Lake Road. The addition would face Orchard Lake and an adjacent bowling alley.

Farmington City Council member/Planning Commissioner Arnold Campbell had also suggested in April that if the landlord



The Orchard-10 Market unexpectedly announced the market's closing this week.

planned a restaurant, he might want to also design an area specifically for outside seating, because outside seating is a trend of both new and older restaurants today.

"None of us on council knew this was going out," Campbell said Friday. "We were blindsided completely. It's a great loss to the community."

It was Campbell's understanding the expansion would house additional new businesses, not replace the IGA, he said. The planning commission hoped the two owners would discuss facade improvements together so the area looked more unified.

That hadn't happened when the site plan was approved.

**CUSTOMERS REACT**

Angie Caverly, a Farmington Hills resident, was dropping off some items to be cleaned at The Neighborhood Cleaners in the strip mall when she learned the IGA was closing. "Well now, that's news,"

Caverly said. "I used to live north of 10 Mile and it was so convenient. I still stop in once in a while."

After leaving the cleaners, she headed to the IGA with her son. Employees at The Neighborhood Cleaners make a stop at the IGA every day, according to employee Peggy Nakamura.

"We're upset about it," said Nakamura, a Redford resident. "We'd get something there every day, either change or something to eat."

Jamie Shaberly, an employee of Mrs. Maddox Cake Shoppe, has appreciated having the store as a neighbor. "We all like them next door," she said.

At Farmington Vision Clinic, where a sign boasts its service to the community for 20 years, employees also learned a couple days ago about the IGA's closing.

"We'd go there for water, something to eat," said employee Angela Shammus. "It's nice to have something around the corner."

**GRADUATES**  
FROM PAGE A1

The purpose of the committee is to stimulate and improve voter participation in all elections and to increase the quality and quantity of publicity and information regarding elections.

"Did you know that statistics show that young adults, ages 18-26 are the least likely to vote?" asked committee members in their June 4 letter.

"There have been several situations in the past, both in Michigan and across the country, whereby offices have been filled and ballot questions passed or failed by only a few votes and in some instances by only one vote. That vote could be yours! Can you see the importance in this great right we have been given?"

The group tells students to register if they are at least 18 by Election Day, are United States citizens and have lived in the community for at least 30 days. Voters must be registered to vote 30 days prior to an election. They can register to vote at any secretary of state branch office, local or county clerk's office, or by mail.

The law requires that the voter registration address match the address on the driver's license.

"Therefore, if you apply for a new driver's license in the city or state in which you are attending school, your voter registration must match the new address. If you are already registered at your home address, then change your driver's license, your voter regis-

tration will automatically change, too."

If students are away at school during election time, they may be eligible to obtain an absentee voters ballot so they can vote via mail.

They must have registered in person the first time, however.

Students can contact the Farmington Hills City Clerk's office at (248) 473-9051 or the City of Farmington at (248) 474-6500 to obtain an application.

Anyone can download the application, which is generic, from the Farmington Hills City Web site at www.ci.farmington-hills.mi.us by clicking on government, city clerk, election information. Applications aren't available on the City of Farmington's web site, but can be obtained at City Hall at Liberty and Grand River.

Applications are generally available 8-10 weeks prior to an election.

The City of Farmington Hills has an upcoming City General election scheduled for Tuesday, Nov. 4.

On the ballot will be the Mayor position, a two-year term and three city council positions, each for a four-year term.

In Farmington, voters will elect three council members, two, four-year terms and one, two-year term.

The last day to register to be eligible to vote in this election is Monday, Oct. 6.

Voter Participation Committee members are chairwoman Rose Christoph, Christopher Cummins, Gregory Clarke, Gail Haynes, Deb Kendzierski, Mike Leads

and Jennifer Shatwell. Barry Brickner is the Farmington Hills City Council liaison.

There was a taped interview with two Farmington Public School board members to emphasize the school board election is important, said Clarke, who joined the committee last year.

School elections are a challenge because they traditionally have a low voter turnout, Clarke said.

In order to improve participation, the committee looks at the availability of adequate parking and whether it's easy to get in and out when students are going to school.

"We have had cases where people have let us know that, 'Hey, you know what, I couldn't really vote or it took me too long to vote because I had to park and I had to walk to the other side of the building and there wasn't adequate signage and I ended up leaving and coming up later,'" Clarke said.

"We're looking to do a program this summer to highlight some of the millage projects, to highlight some of the improvements to the library, the golf course, driving range, some of the parks improvement, public safety improvements," Clarke said. The goal is to air in July.

The committee wants to add a student leader member next year, preferably a junior, so he or she can be on the committee for two years.

"We want to continue to try to do new things to get people to really see the importance of voting," Clarke said.

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