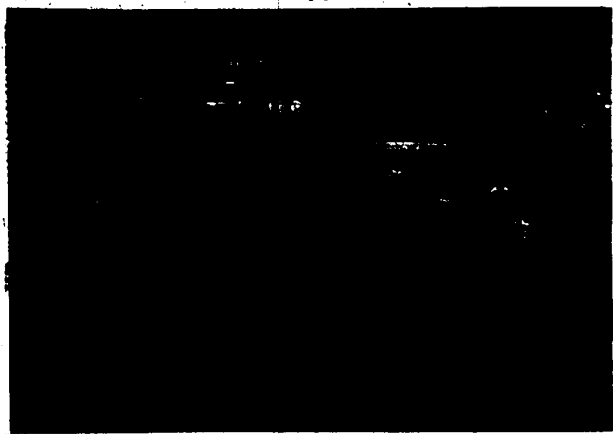


editorial opinion



The groundbreaking ceremony for the tree plantings began Thursday, April 24, in front of the Botsford Inn on Grand River. (Staff photo by Harry Mauthe)

Community effort spruces city

A Farmington Hills Bicentennial project will give a much needed facelift to the boulevard section of Grand River.

The city's beautification commission spearheaded the effort to upgrade the median section which is lined with pylons to carry the high tension electrical wires. The city council agreed to foot the bill for the 194 trees which will be placed along the nine sections of boulevard between Eight Mile Road and Purdue.

The project will serve as a living monument of community effort which can carry on perhaps for the country's 300th birthday.

As the major eastern entrance to the city, it will present an attractive first view to visitors.

The commission is now urging merchants whose businesses front on that section of Grand River to join in the effort.

A spruce up of those storefronts with appropriate plantings would help to make a valuable contribution to the commission's work.

It could also have a positive effect on their own business.

From our readers

Millage will save

Editor:

The soon-to-be millage vote in the Farmington School District will again show the usual confrontation of residents who vote purely from feeling and not from educated reasoning. Those with school-age children will vote for the kids. Those without, will mistakenly vote for themselves.

Those who do not have school age children should take a cold calculating look at the cost-benefit relationship of the very minor cost of supporting the local schools and the erosion of the actual value of the large investment they have in their house.

JOE DODD
Farmington

School could close

Editor:

We hope you are aware of what the defeat of the millage would mean. If Farmington Junior High School should have to close, the number of students in each classroom of East, Power and Dunkel junior high schools would increase some seven to 10 students.

We recognize vandalism and shoplifting as but two of the many problems which plague our entire nation. And, honest people pay the entire bill.

But, to characterize one school as being the chief culprit for an entire downtown area is irresponsible journalism.

27 FACULTY MEMBERS
Farmington Junior High School

Unfair to students

Editor:

In Monday's Farmington Observer & Eccentric, right on the front page, I noticed the article on vandals in the downtown area and I also took note of the businessmen who feel that because of vandalism by a "few" the whole school system should be punished just so they in the downtown area are not bothered anymore.

I personally resent their attitude. It just isn't fair to the good students—my two children included.

A great many parents are working very hard to get the millage passed as they are deeply concerned about their children's future. I, for one, want my children to have the very best education possible—including art, music, sports, etc.

As far as I am concerned, I am taking note of the stores that have the "Yes, Kids Count in Farmington" tags displayed and I shall definitely patronize them, but I will not patronize any stores who are not for the millage and our children.

Please vote yes on both propositions.

Mrs. Shirley E. Weber
Farmington Hills

Abominable timing

Editor:

We must strongly protest the lack of objectivity and fairness in the article entitled, "Vandals, shoplifters mar downtown area," which appeared on the front page of your April 21, 1973, issue.

Your timing was abominable. Running such an unfair story just prior to an important millage election is potentially damaging to the efforts of hundreds of concerned citizens who are working to pass a much-needed millage proposal. Students throughout the entire school system will suffer if this should happen. The entire community will suffer.

The inflammatory headline, conspicuous front page location and especially misleading beginning to the story smear Farmington Junior High students as being chiefly responsible for the woes of many downtown businessmen.

It will cost me \$394 to save the \$6 per year actual cost of the four-mill increase in school taxes.

"What's in it for me?"

To a great number of residents their home is their only large investment. Its value is their retirement nestegg.

Farmington Observer & Eccentric
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RIBBON CUTTING
by Livonia Mayor Edward H. McNamara Friday, May 2 at 10:30 a.m.

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