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## Farmington sweeps up

# Snowstorm barely causes a flurry

By LOUISE OKRUTSKY  
While their neighbors in southern Michigan found themselves helplessly mired in an early winter storm, Farmington area residents managed a four inch snowfall.  
"It wasn't as bad as they said it would be," said Farmington Hills Department of Public Works Supt. Bob Shaw.  
"It wasn't nearly as bad as a week ago Sunday. They had it all cleared but nothing developed."  
Shaw's DPW crews quit their snow removal tasks at 10 p.m. Monday night and resumed work at 4 a.m. Tuesday.  
"It was no big sweat, really," he said.  
Although residents and students returned home earlier than usual, Monday, most found that the giant snowfall they were expecting failed to materialize.  
Farmington School Administrators took the precaution of sending their buses on a homebound route 45 minutes ahead of schedule.

"WE WANTED to beat the traffic," said Assistant Supt. Lynn Nutter.  
"We didn't want the elementary school children to be on the roads late in the afternoon with rush hour traffic," he said.  
Administrators decided to send the students home earlier at 11:30 a.m., Monday.  
"We had a lot of compliments," Nutter said.  
In addition to the public schools, Oakland Community College's Orchard Ridge campus closed at 3:30 p.m. Monday to allow students to return home earlier.  
Campus administrators used weather reports and an assessment of traffic conditions in their decision.  
One factor which helped the situation in the early afternoon was the campus' new ban on through traffic using Oakland Drive. Without extra cars and illegally parked vehicles, crews found it easier to remove snow from the campus, according to a school spokesman.  
ONCE STUDENTS and workers left for home, their snow problems became the concern of Farmington area police.  
Both Farmington and Farmington Hills police reported minor fender benders during the snow fall. Farmington Police dealt with three minor accidents while the Hills department handled 16 complaints.  
"We had a few extra accidents but not nearly as many as anticipated," said Farmington Hills Traffic Bureau head Arlo Newell.  
"There were no problems. Obviously, people stayed home," Newell said.  
Drivers were more careful, due to the snow, Jim Grabski, of Carl and Jerry's Marathon Service, 3971 Ten Mile, Farmington said the station received about five calls from stranded motorists.  
"Mostly they were cars that wouldn't start," he said.  
DOWN THE ROAD at Chuck McCracken's Auto Service, 29420 Ten Mile, the situation was busier. By Tuesday afternoon, McCracken hadn't a chance to do his books and had yet to count the number of tow calls he received due to the storm.  
"We were very busy. Most of the calls were from people who missed their driveways in the snow," he said.  
Stranded motorists notwithstanding, AAA offices closed and its employees were sent home early.  
"We closed in anticipation of a blizzard," said Division Manager C.A. Spencer, of the club's Farmington office.  
"It wasn't as bad in our area as most people would have led us to believe," he said. "We didn't receive an unusual number of calls. Our south offices caught it. The storm didn't hit our area the same."

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## Obituaries

**ALICE TOOLEY**  
Services for Alice Tooley, 78, of Farmington, were conducted at Taylor-Rock Funeral Home, Farmington on Dec. 5. Officiation was the Rev. Kenneth Hoffmaster.  
She died Dec. 2. A housewife, she was born in Canada.  
Surviving are three brothers, Thomas, George, Eugene Rakestraw, sisters, Mrs. Louise Lossing and Mrs. Helen LeDoux.

**GILBERT EDDY**  
Services for Gilbert Eddy, 65, of Farmington, were Nov. 22 at the St. Andrew Episcopal Church. Arrangements were made by the Fred Wood Funeral Home. Officiation was the Rev. Kenneth Davis.  
Mr. Eddy died on Nov. 18. He was a sales manager at Diamond Automation.  
Survivors are: two sons, Allen and Brian of Farmington Hills.

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