

# Rent rebate bill passes Senate

The Michigan State Senate last week passed legislation to insure that senior citizens won't be forced to pay more than 40 percent of their incomes for rent.

The measure is sponsored by Sen. Doug Ross, an Oak Park Democrat whose district includes Southfield, Livonia, Livonia, Farmington and Farmington Hills.

The legislation passed 26-8 in the Senate, which gave the proposal bi-partisan support. It is hoped for prompt action on the bill by the State House of Representatives.

"Rents are rapidly escalating," Ross said. "This is due in large part to increased costs, particularly utilities, and a severe shortage of rental housing. Combined with the general ravages of inflation, rental costs are becoming a severe burden for many, especially senior citizens."

"All too many people are faced with either moving into substandard housing or giving back on expenditures for other necessities. For at least 20,000 senior citizen households in Michigan, rents are taking an excessive portion of income."

## Driver killed in mishap

A 27-year-old Southfield woman was killed Tuesday morning when her car struck a utility pole on the northeast corner of Grand River and Riverview Ct.

Nancy Ferguson, of 27223 Adeline, was pronounced dead at Botsford Hospital.

Farmington police said the vehicle was traveling eastbound on Grand River when it crossed the center line and struck a utility pole on the other side of the street.

Police said there were no witnesses. The accident is still under investigation.

It was the second traffic fatality recorded in Farmington this year.

A 68-year-old Farmington man remained in critical condition yesterday at Botsford Hospital after he was struck by a car while crossing Grand River east of Grove Friday afternoon.

Claude Robinson was struck by a car as he stood in the center turn lane of Grand River.

The driver of the car was exiting the Good Year Tire Store eastbound onto

Grand River at 1:25 p.m. when the accident occurred.

Farmington police said the accident is still under investigation. No charges have been brought against the driver.

Farmington police said the intersection has not been a problem in the past. However, one source said that a crosswalk across Grand River will be revamped when the city's senior citizen housing development is built.

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