

Traffic backed up for a quarter of a mile on southbound Farmington Road at 6:15 p.m. Thursday when a power outage knocked out the light at Nine Mile and Farmington Road.

The light that isn't working is the one in the background, not the one in the foreground, which is at Freedom Road and Farmington Road.

Power outages prompt study

this summer. "We're used to it. We go out about four to five times a

go out about four to tive umes event," he said.

He's becoming almost resigned to the situation. "As long as you keep the refrigerator closed, it (food) will last 24 hours," he said.

Most of his appliances operate or gas, not electricity, but the restaurant closed Thursday evening when the building became too dark to eserve enutomers.

this customer support to bark to save customers cross the street at 2059 Farmington Boad, clerks at the 7-Eleven convenience stort made change with money kept out on a Styrofoam tray and wrote down the amount of each transaction. The store's cash register, which operates on electricity, was as much use as a Siurpy in a snowstorm. Many customers call city hall if they're unhappy with Edison's response. The Farmington Hills city manager's office keeps a list of the compilaints.

complaints.
"Last year, we had a few com-

'But there are so many small fixes needed, there's not enough time for the larger picture.

— David Call assistant city manager

plaints in the fall," said assistant city manager David Call. Those were generally alleviated by trimm-ing trees near power lines or repair-ing storm damage.

BUT IN the last few weeks of this summer, complaints have become more common. Call and Edison rep-resentatives say several factors could contribute to the area's power

could contribute to an extraordise.

More residents are turning up their air conditioning systems as this summer's weather approaches the record high temperatures of 1935.

That alone is putting a strain on the system. "In certain areas of the city, we found tree trimming problems where branches touched power lines," Call said, Some power lines may need to be upgraded, he said. In the last few years, a healing cononny has allowed road repair projects to flourish. Sometimes, not crows insdeventify dig up a line event fits iocation is marked. "But there are so many small fixes needed, there's not enough lime for the larger picture," Call said.
That bigger picture could include an increase or a change in the elec-

That bigger picture could include an increase or a change in the electrical wires throughout the area it callow the system to handle an increased load, according to Vecchioni. Another option involves putting in new transformers so each unit handles fewer customers. Edison's most extreme solution would involve installing a new substation. "It appears we have problems," Vecchioni said. "This is not the only area in which we're having problems this summer."

Hills council recall effort now on hold, backers say

Place resident Lucila Hempel, a 23-year city resident. "We cannot make these decisions hastily," she said, stressing that the recall effort is "very valid. It is not just an idle threat."

HOWARD ALTMAN, Oakland County election director, said residents made loquities several weeks ago about recall petitions for Farmington Hills council members; although no language has been submitted to the county for consideration. Language would have to be approved by the county elections commission before petitions could be circulated.

considered for November's ballot. It residents decide to attempt a recall they would have to obtain about 4,861 signatures — 35 percent of the total voice cast in Farmington Hillington the 1888 general election.

Those involved said they are not looking as much at individual issues as overall operation of the city, Aithough many live in the southeast sector of the city, they say they represent the interests of all residents.

"The main issue is that the city hall enforces (the laws) capricious ly," Flum added.

IN A prepared statement read at last Monday's city council meeting resident Janet Hulbert said many city actions have contributed to the "crosion of residential community standards through the down-sizing of

lois, non-conformity housing and capriclous planning for land use."

She added: "The practice of land use planning." is not responsive to the seeds of the residents and to the wise development of the community at large."

Hulbert's speech involved other issues, specifically targeting council members 100 a Mistech and Ber Marks for their perceived alding with local developers. Altaketh answered Hulbert, then stalked from the meeting offering a verbal resignation. He is expected to return to this seat tonight.

Hulbert has decried Alkatech's comments. He said she was not present at a city council meeting where a land-use issue involving Keating Community Homes was discussed she maintains she was present at that Feb. 8 meeting. "I was there as many of my neighbors, who were also present, will confirm," she said.

The statement she read praises council members Terry Sever, Jear Fox and Aldo Vagnozzi for their responsiveness and non-shuse of power."

Farmington **O**bserver

UPDET LUE

(UPDET ST-840)

Published every Mnday and Thursday by Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 1225 Bowers, Birmingham, 225 Birmingham, 225

Hills council opposes Southfield rezoning bid

Continuod from Page 1

The 50-acre tract in question alts on the east aide of Inkister, between 10 and 11 Mile. School officials wish to rezone it from single family real-dential so it can be sold to Occidental Development Co. for an apartment development. The district stands to gain \$2.5 million from the purchase price, and another \$350,000 per year in property taxes if the apartments are developed. Inkister is the boundary for the two cities, and Hills city officials contend such a development "would not improve the quality of life for area residents."

THE COUNCIL originally dis-cussed passing a resolution stating the city's position but decided, in-stead, to write a letter signed by the

stead, to write a letter signed by the entire council.

"A personal letter . . . could do us a lot of good without ruffling feath-ers," added councilman Ben Marks. Hills officials also contend the re-zoning to allow the two-story apart-ments would:

THE SOUTHFIELD Planning Commission recommended a denial of the rezoning in May, saying such a development would have a negative effect on single family homes in the

Be contrary to the single fami-ly residential plans for Farmington Hills, according to that city's Master Plan.

Result in a significant increase in residential density, and contribute to traffic congestion.

Result in a land use not compatible with single family homes in neighboring Farmington Hills.

Allow low-rise development, which contributes to further incompatible with a compatible with the contributes to further incompatible.

On the city's master plan, the parcel is scheduled to be developed as single family houses and a park. A representative from Southfield's city planning firm has warned "there is a potential threat" if the city does not follow its master plan.

O&E Sports—more than just the scores

If you don't like the idea of a nursing home! HAVE WE GOT A PLACE FOR YOU

Forget the nursing home expense and environment, This supervised residential care community is none of that. It's friendly, homey, placant and attractive. It lets you live your life as independently as you like, yet provides all the personal assistance you need in daily living.

assistance you need in dairy bring.

24-Hour Professional Staffing makes sure you always get your medication. Your morn is comfortable. Your meals are appetizing and there is no extra charge for special diets. Your laundry and housekeeping are done for you. You go on shopping trips and excursions. There are a lot of social activities. And recreational facilities are great. You're going to love it!

Accept Our Invitation to visit us for a cup of coffee and a tour.
Come anytime and bring a friend, Just call ahead, Or, better yet,



The Farmington Hills Inn 30350 W Twelve Mile Rd., Farmington Hills, Mi 48018 (313) 851-9640

Observer & Eccentric
CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING

644-1070 Oakland County 591-0900 Wayne County 852-3222 Rochester/Avon



It hardly seems possible, but fall is just around the corner. Check our calendar and join us for the fashion events of the season.

WEDNESDAY

AUGUST, 24 12 NOON-1 P.M.

During our accessory seminar, learn how to accessorize your wardrobe in a way that's uniquely you. Box lunch included, \$5 per person. R.S.V.P. 591-7696, ext. 269.

FRIDAY

AUGUST 26

5-7 P.M.

The Livonia Symphony Ensemble is looking forward to a successful first year. Listen to classic arrangements in our Designer Salon. Top of the Escalator.

SATURDAY **AUGUST 27**

9:30 A.M.

We invite you to attend our fall Signature Collection show. Breakfast included, \$3 per person. For your reservation, call 591-7696, extension 275,

See our fall fashion shows for men and women, 2nd Floor.

Summer Isn't over yet! Sample your favorite Michigan made ice cream toppings and barbecue sauces in our Kitchen Shop.

Jacobson's

We welcome Jacobson's Charge or the American Express* Card. Shop until \$ p.m. on Thursday and Fridey. Until 8 p.m. on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Saturday.