



DOUGLAS SUSALLA/staff photographer

Downtown spotlight

Bryan Collins of Collins Signs of Redford Township puts up one of 21 new seasonal banners in Farmington's central business district as part of the Downtown Development Authority's streetscape program. The green and white banners extend a Happy Holidays-Downtown Farmington message.

Hills OKs traffic controls

Farmington Hills motorists, take note.

The city council Monday:

- Approved a traffic control order prohibiting right turns on red from southbound Farmington Road to Eight Mile.

- Awarded a contract to install a traffic signal at 11 Mile and Halsted. The right turns on red will be prohibited between 7 a.m. and 7 p.m. weekdays at the request of the Wayne County Office of Public Services.

The prohibition is designed to generate additional gaps in westbound

Eight Mile traffic, west of Farmington Road, so motorists can enter the traffic stream safer and more efficiently, city manager William Costick said.

Utica-based Rauhorn Electric, lowest of five bidders, was awarded a \$4,950 contract to install the traffic signal at 11 Mile and Halsted.

The bid is 14 percent below the engineer's estimate. Rauhorn has done traffic installations for state, county and city. Work is scheduled to be done by Feb. 8.

Focus is on drunk, drugged driving

Farmington Hills Mayor Terry Sever Monday declared Dec. 10-16 as National Drunk and Drugged Driving Awareness Week. He urged all residents to join forces against drunk driving.

The U.S. Conference of Mayors called on cities to join in a national mobilization to raise awareness of the threat posed by drunk driving, which kills 23,000 Americans and injures 540,000 each year, Sever said.

Traffic crashes are the greatest single cause of death for people between the ages 5 of 34. More than half of these are alcohol related, he said.

Three of Farmington Hills' six fatal traffic accidents this year involved drivers who had been drinking. The number of repeat offenders arrested for alcohol-related offenses

has increased by 25 percent each of the last three years, Sever said.

"The city of Farmington Hills has incarcerated over 340 people for operating under the influence of liquor or controlled substances since Jan. 1," he said.

Sever urged participation in Mothers Against Drunk Driving's "Tie One On For Safety" project Red Ribbon, a national public awareness campaign for the holiday season.

"By tying a red ribbon to a visible location on their vehicles, Americans can show their commitment to driving sober this holiday season and throughout the year," Sever said.

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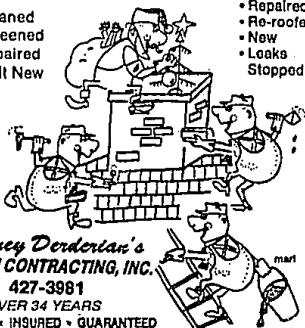
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