

# Community Corner

This week's question:

How do you feel about fire training burns? Do you think there's a safety hazard?

We asked these questions Monday at a training burn on Orchard Lake Road, south of 11 Mile.



"I think it's a good idea, if you want to be ready when the real thing comes. It's a necessary evil. I think these guys have it pretty well under control."  
— Chris Grattani, Farmington resident



"I think they're a very necessary aspect of training in a fire department. I don't have any safety concerns above the normal ones we have at any fire. You're always at risk."  
— Christina Gubhard, Hills firefighter



"Farmington Hills is pretty conscious about safety. It prepares you for a real situation. Without training, you won't do as well."  
— Terry Holman, Hills firefighter



"How else would you be able to train for this? There's nothing like a live fire to get you acclimated to a situation."  
— Gordon Barwick, Hills firefighter



"It's fine. It looks like it's very well protected. I have every confidence they will do a good job."  
— Mike Millar, Hills businessman



"I think it's a good idea. I don't think they should go out cold. It's a lot more realistic than bookwork, or somebody telling you what to do."  
— Brian Vickers, with Hills film crew

# Farmington council eyes changes in traffic signal

News briefs from the Farmington and Farmington Hills city halls will appear regularly in this column.

**FARMINGTON**  
 • Traffic signal change? — The city council will recommend the pedestrian-activated signal at Grand River and Grove Street be converted to a fully operational signal.  
 The operation of this signal was reviewed by the Farmington Department of Public Safety and the Farmington Traffic and Safety Board, which both recommended the change.  
 Traffic volumes are continuing to increase in the downtown commercial district. The pedestrian-activated signal is unusual and causes some confusion for drivers, City Manager Robert Deadman said.  
 A fully operational signal would

## CITY HALL newsbeat

synchronize with the Grand River/Farmington Road signal to regulate traffic and provide gaps for safe pedestrian crossings in the downtown area, Deadman said.  
 • Leadership continues — Downtown Farmington Center merchant Harry Wingerter said Tuesday he wanted to continue as head of the Downtown Development Authority, after being given the nomination by his peers.  
 "I am disappointed we aren't able to do our road work this year," he

said. "I wouldn't mind hanging in there until the big (parking) lot is done."  
 The DDA may have to postpone its streetscape work this summer, including the parking lot, because of a major city sewer upgrading project.  
 • Downtown action — Residents may spot demolition action in the Metrobank parking lot in downtown Farmington in coming weeks, according to bank president Robert Helarich.  
 Underground gasoline storage tanks, although filled, must be completely removed before the old bank building can be demolished and a new building constructed on the site.  
 The bank will operate out of a portable, temporary facility while the new building is being constructed.  
 Helarich said they hope to break ground for the new building May 1.

• Purchase on hold — The owner of a house at 33213 Orchard Street has not yet responded to the Downtown Development Authority board's offer to purchase the property, because he plans to obtain appraisals, DDA executive director Wendy Strip Sittsamer said.  
 The DDA wants to purchase the house — the only one left on the block — so it can ensure development plans will dovetail with streetscape improvements downtown. No specific use has been planned.  
**FARMINGTON HILLS**  
 • Census Day — As part of their efforts to earn a Census Merit Badge, Girl Scout Troop 541 of Warner Middle School prepared posters to hang in public buildings and also assisted city official Rich-

ard Lampi in preparing a special proclamation.  
 The proclamation, signed by Mayor Jean Fox, honors the 200th anniversary of the census.  
 It acknowledges "the importance of an accurate population count that will determine our representation in the House of Representatives."  
 It proclaims Sunday, April 1, as Census Day and encourages "all citizens of Farmington Hills to participate in the 1990 census."  
 • Restroom donation — The executive board of the North Farmington/West Bloomfield Baseball and Softball for Youth has donated \$10,000 to the city to build restroom and storage facilities at Pioneer Park.  
 "We're here to say thank you," board member Jerry Ellis told the city council Monday, noting the new

fields the city built were in response to a board plea a few years ago. His group represents 1,400 kids.  
 "We can't tell you how much we appreciate this gift," Mayor Jean Fox said.  
 A ground-breaking will be held on May 3. Pioneer Park is visited by upwards of 1,000 people on spring and summer weekends.  
 • Rezoning approved — The city council Monday approved rezoning 0.3-acre on the south side of Mulfordton, between Greening and Highway, from RA-4 one-family residential to OS-1 office service district.  
 In favor were Jon Grant, Larry Lichtman, Ben Marks and Terry Sever. Opposing were Nancy Bates, Aldo Vagnozzi and Jean Fox. An office building is planned for the vacant parcel. The planning commission recommended approval.

# Area employment program expands into Farmington

Southfield Employment and Training has opened a satellite office at Farmington Community School.  
 By providing a local site for services, SET hopes to better address the needs of the Farmington community.

SET job developer Molly Avery will coordinate outreach at the Farmington Community School.  
 "We're striving to make it simpler and more convenient for people to take advantage of our services," she said.

ON MONDAY afternoons initially, Avery will be on-site, helping applicants identify preferences and obtain complementary jobs.  
 SET conducts several programs for eligible Oakland County residents.

"Our programs give people the work experience and job-seeking skills they need to compete in today's job market," said SET manager Gloria Kennedy.  
 On-the-job training offers the applicant an opportunity to gain paid work experience in a variety of positions, including office, labor and professional fields.  
 The employer benefits, too, from the job screening and receives 50 percent reimbursement for the predetermined training period.

Work experience programs focus on helping youth and adults gain marketable work skills that will enable their future placement in the private sector.  
 ONE OF these, the Summer Youth Employment and Training Program, offers paid work experience to young adults during the summer.  
 Farmington Public Schools and Farmington Community School administration officials have responded enthusiastically to SET's proposal

for its satellite operation, according to Avery.  
 "They're there to help; their support is wonderful," she said.  
 SET hours of operation at Farmington Community School are Mondays, 12:30-4 p.m.  
 Expanded hours will be considered shortly.  
 Applications will be available at the SET office in the Farmington Community School, 30415 Shiawassee, Farmington Hills 48024.

**OSCAR DE LA RENTA**

Collection Show  
 Monday, March 19  
 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.  
 Tuesday, March 20  
 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Designer Salon  
 Birmingham  
 Color, delightful color...the spring '90 collection of Oscar de la Renta.  
 By day, it comes to life in soft clean-line suits, coordinates and dresses. At night, palest to iced colors with dramatic embellishments.  
 Shown: three-piece study in pink silk.

**Jacobson's**

We welcome Jacobson's Charge, MasterCard, VISA and American Express.  
 Shop until 9 p.m. on Thursday and Friday. Until 6 p.m. on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Saturday.

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The Downtown Farmington Business Association and the Downtown Development Authority

Invite You to Celebrate "Downtown Day" with a **500 FOOT LONG HOT DOG LUNCH**

Serving at NOON WEDNESDAY MARCH 21, 1990

(Rain Date - Thursday, March 22)  
 Corner of Grand River & Farmington Rd.

Featuring: "Street Organ" & Banjo Player

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Duben Optometric Clinic • Patricia Brennan • Boston Shoppe • Dimetri's Farm Rest • Farmers Insurance Agency • William E. Matz Attorney at Law • Rosen Vision Clinic P.C. • Farmington Civic Theatre • Joyce Agency A. Farm Agency • Gerald C. Grace • Farmington Bakery • Thayer-Rock Funeral Home • The Rocking Horse • Mason's Ltd. • Dogwood/Proctous Comm. • Pictures & More • Ronald Oglesby • The Art Alcove • Castle Dental Laboratory • Russell A. Buyers • RCI • The Baker's Loaf, Inc. • Books Abound • R & R Office Service • M.A. Hilper, Inc. • James Elman • Center Tire, Inc. • The Wooden Heart • One Hour Photo Moto • Michelle Marc's Flowers Ltd. • Crowley's Old Village Inn, Inc. • Marco's Dining & Cocktails • Eliezer Monge, M.D.P.C. • S. Cyril Leib DPM, P.C. • Farmington Cleaners • National Bank of Detroit • Arbor Drugs • International Minute Press • The Corner Barbers • Heaney Sundquist • Dr. Bruce Lowin • Baskin-Robbins No. 821 • Real Estate One • Milo Properties, Inc. • Clothes Encounter • Dr. H. J. O'Connor • Focal Point Studio • Carole's School of Ballet • G.J. Sundburg & Assoc. • John A. Allen • Ray Interiors, Inc. • AAA Insurance • Country Miniatures, Inc. • Warrins Country Corner • Village Clippers • Re Run's Shop • Lace Curtains Shop • Downtown/The Village Shoe Inn • Metropolitan National Bank • C&S Cosmetics-Merie Norman • Executive Office Supply, Inc. • Dress Barn • Sweet Cravings Inc. • Entertainment Time • Farmington Shoe Repair