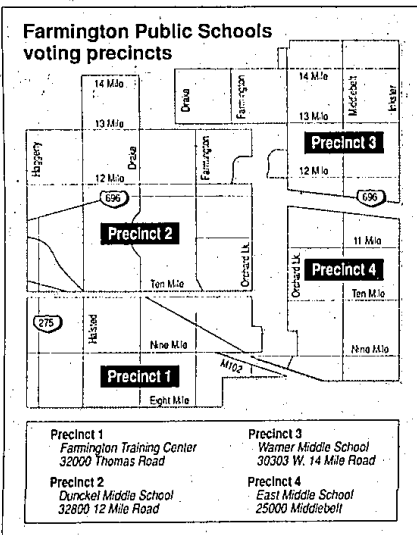


Voters decide tax bid

Continued from Page 1
percent cash reserve.
Proposition 2 — approve one additional mill, about \$2.5 million, for "renovating, expanding and repairing existing buildings" in the district that would also be included in the operational budget. This proposition is contingent on passage of the first.
Property owners of a \$100,000 home with a state equalized value of \$50,000 would pay an estimated \$135 if the first proposal passes and \$185 if both are approved by voters.

SUPERINTENDENT Michael Flanagan has said failure of the first proposal would mean cuts in the district, including layoff of 106 employees including 29 custodial workers and cuts to the transportation program. Other programs would also be affected, he said.
Voters were given a separate option of voting for capital improvements, after a number of parents told the school board last fall they wanted improvements to buildings. The district has spent the last two years earmarking operational money for capital improvements



throughout the district, but Flanagan said a number of other items need to be done.
"This is a democracy," Flanagan

said at a recent information meeting. "The Farmington Public Schools are willing to live with what the voters want."

Census: Hills gains; Farmington loses

Continued from Page 1
HOW AND WHEN state shared revenues will be pulled back — it could be retroactive for cities like Farmington — or given is up to question.
"That's the big unknown. The governor and the Legislature have not told us what they're doing with the census," Deadman said.
For now, the big question is how do city officials plan their new city budgets when they aren't sure what the state is going to do? "What approach can we take for the budget? We can't count the monies before they are there," Costick said.
Deadman believes Farmington's declining population is due in large part to "empty nest" homes. The number of houses built in Farmington in the past decade increased but the size of families decreased. Children of existing residents grew up and moved out.

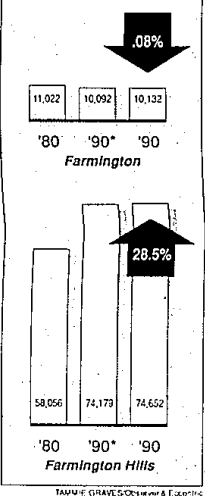
"That's the big unknown. The governor and the Legislature have not told us what they're doing with the census."
— Robert Deadman
Farmington manager

"Population is what it is. But I think the demographics (which haven't arrived yet) will bear out that the average age of the city is older since the 1980 census."
FARMINGTON HILLS experienced its big growth boom in the mid-to-late 1980s. It's a secret city staff were overloaded in facing the influx of residents and business into the city's borders.
"I think it's going to moderate. Single-family home starts dropped two-thirds in 1990. We've seen our big boom and I don't think we'll see it again," Costick said.
About 15 percent of the land in Farmington Hills is left to be developed and most of it is residential, Costick added.
Both Deadman and Costick are looking to the future. Farmington is experiencing a resurgence of young families. "Affordable housing, good schools and safety" will draw young families into the city, Deadman said.
"The perception is that it is a safe community in which to raise a family," Deadman said. "As long as our good reputation is maintained, we should have no problems with empty housing."

Farmington Hills is on the edge of suburban sprawl. Though not of immediate concern, thought will be given to maintaining the vitality and attractiveness of the community in the years ahead, Costick said.
"If we prevent, as a suburb, the abandonment of property, the changes that in other communities cause people to move out. We can't afford sprawl and we can't afford to abandon older areas," Costick said.

Census Figures

For Farmington and Farmington Hills
Comparing 1980 to 1990
* Preliminary figure
Source: U. S. Census Bureau



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BEING ADMITTED TO THE HOSPITAL BECAUSE OF ARTHRITIS

Usually, arthritis arrives slowly, persists and leaves only by degrees. Your body, mind and family adjust to it at a slow pace. Hospitalization rarely hinders along this process of accommodation.
However, there are times when going to the hospital is appropriate. One instance is if you have an infected joint. Then you need intravenous antibiotics and frequent removal of fluid from the affected joint. A hospital is the best place for these interventions.
Hospitalization is in order if your arthritis is part of a "multi-system" condition. Multi-system means the lungs, heart, or in the case of lupus arthritis, the kidneys are part of your overall illness. Hospital admission allows your doctor to study the extent other organs are involved. Often this effort is too complex to conduct in an office setting.
A third indication for hospitalization is for rehabilitation. Arthritis may leave you limited in the ability to undertake self care or markedly impair walking. The effort possible in a hospital rehabilitation unit to reverse this change makes this setting preferable to daily outpatient visits.
The above exceptions aside, physicians caring for your arthritis prefer to see you in the office and to keep you functioning at home.

Sprucing up

Tree gets new home in city park



A crane is used to lift the 38-foot spruce onto a flatbed truck used to transport it to its new home. Some of the branches had to be tied down.



Workers Gary Clark (left) and Mark Grover prepare the ball of the big spruce tree for its move from the Oak Hill Nursing Home to the Farmington City Park.

By Tom Beer
staff writer
How do you move a 38-foot spruce tree across town? Use a ball and chain and a flatbed truck and a lot of skill. And then keep your fingers crossed.
The big blue spruce that has graced the grounds of Farmington's Oak Hill Nursing Home on Grand River the past 40 years or so was in the way of a \$3 million renovation, so it had to go — but not into firewood.
Oak Hill decided to have the tree, which has a special significance to many nursing home residents, moved about a mile and a half to the City Park at a cost of \$2,500.
Saturday was moving day. Four workers from Fred Clark Tree Specialist were on hand for the task, and a police escort stood at the ready.
First a chain was attached to the tree's huge root ball. A crane was used to lift the tree's root ball onto a 3 1/2-ton flatbed truck for its trip down Grand River.
OF COURSE, many of the branches had to be tied down so they wouldn't take out the electric and telephone wires along the way.
The tree was moved with few problems, said Jerry Clark of the Farmington Hills tree service.
"It came up real nice," he said. "Of course, we've moved bigger than that. We moved all the big spruces, sugar maples and pin oaks at the old Farmington Country Club when they built the office complex. They can't cut them down, so we moved them."
Once the tree is settled in its new home and the weather improves, Oak Hill residents will be transported to the park for picnics, said Fran Schultberg, activities director for the nursing home.
"We always considered it our tree," she said. "It was visible from the nursing home. People would wheel themselves to the windows and watch it. It's part of our lives."
"It's a beautiful tree. I hope it makes it."

Uptown Association elects officers

The Uptown Farmington Business Association has elected the following to its executive board: Ken Barthelette, Yankee Consignments; Charles DuQuet, DuQuet Jewelers; Michael Henke, Steve Butcher Furr, Paul King, King's Garage, Joan Nusly, Framery One, Inc.; Dr. John Richardson, Plaza Veterinary Hospital; and Mary Teels, Backyard Birds.
Officers of the Association for 1991 are: Chuck DuQuet, president; Ken Barthelette, vice president; and Paul King, treasurer. Directors are: Michael Henke, Joan Nusly, John Richardson and Mary Teels. Carol Kurth was reappointed executive secretary.
Plans are underway for the special events to be held by the association during 1991 including a Springtime Stroll, scheduled for May 3-18; Founders' Festival activities on July 13 and a second annual Kids' Carnival for the fall.
Other activities for the year will include advertising and promotional plans and beautification projects for the area at Grand River and Orchard Lake Road.
The Uptown Farmington Business Association is a non-profit organization organized three years ago to promote and beautify that area.

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