

## Library from page A1

that needs some polishing."

First, during late spring, there will be upgrades to the heating, ventilation and air conditioning system.

Then, added Papai, a second cycle of improvements will begin in August. One of the big expenses is window replacement.

The major windows on the north and south sides of the building will be changed from single to thermal pane glass.

"High windows" in the center of the library, that now cause extensive glare on computer screens, also will be replaced.

Some of the other projects, all included in the Farmington Community Library's successful August 1998 property tax election, include the following: replacing the roof; installing new carpeting; putting in new light fixtures; renovating the children's department; and trans-

forming the "quiet area" into a computer training center - requiring extensive wiring.

"To accomplish all of that while the public is also using the building is dangerous," said Papai, explaining why the branch needs to shut down for a month.

Farmington City Manager Frank Lauhoff, after the meeting, agreed that closing the library in August, as opposed to June or July, "won't inconvenience people as much."

Lauhoff concurred that ensuring the safety of patrons is enough of a reason to justify closing the branch.

"With major construction, major renovation, you can't have people around."

Bill Plummer, president of the library board, also talked to the council about some of the progress being made since the \$11.7 million tax was approved.

Benefiting from a favorable 4.31

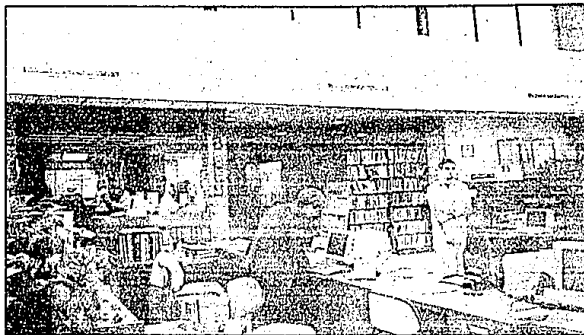
percent interest rate, the library successfully sold more than \$12 million worth of bonds.

"So we now have money in the bank," Plummer said. "We're getting ready to spend it."

Last week, Papai and Plummer presented the Farmington Hills City Council with a check for nearly \$650,000, to buy property needed for expansion of the Hills branch of the library on 12 Mile Road.

Plummer said it will be early 2001 before that expansion is completed. "And then we have the matter of making renovations" to the existing facility.

"We do have a goal of completing all of this with very little, if any, disruption to the operation," he said. "We'll certainly have some closing time at both branches. But we'll keep that down to weeks, not months."



STAFF PHOTO BY BILL BOZLER

**Renovate:** The downtown Farmington Community Library will close in August for renovations, including changing windows, renovating the children's department and changing the quiet room into a computer area.

## Rebuild from page A1

being a significant corner for the city," Lauhoff said. "It's on two of our primary corridors... I'm sure (plans) will be significantly different and improved."

"It's going to be a new start, with a new building. So it will have to go through the entire (site plan approval) process."

### RECREATION NEWS

The following is a listing of recreation events sponsored by the city of Farmington Hills:

#### Easter event

The Farmington Hills recreation division will hold "Parkey's Easter Eggstravaganza" 10 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Saturday, March 27, at the Heritage Park Day Camp Building. Cost is \$10 per child.

Activities for children ages 3-5 will be 10-11 a.m. and noon-1:30 p.m. for children ages 6-10.

For more information about this event, call (248) 473-0570, \$5.00 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday.

#### Youth soccer

Registration deadline for youth soccer is March 12 for young people in kindergarten through third grade.

#### Adult softball

Farmington Hills is accepting new adult team registration for men's, women's, and co-ed softball. Registration is on a

first-come first served basis. Leagues will play one night per week. For fees and nights of play, call (248) 473-9570.

#### Family night

A free family night will be 7-10 p.m. at the William Costick Activities Center. There will be free open swimming, animal shows, stage acts and more.

Sign up as an individual or as a team for a euchre night 7 p.m. Friday, March 19, at the Heritage Park Visitor Center. Refreshments and prizes are included as part of the \$12-per-team or \$6-per-person fee.

#### Youth hockey finals

The Farmington Hills Ice Arena will be the site of the Pee Wee "A" Finals hosted by the Farmington Hills Ice Hockey Association 6-8 a.m. Friday, March 5; 9 a.m.-7:30 p.m. Saturday, March 6, and 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Sunday, March 7. The final game will be 6:30 p.m. Sunday. The public is welcome.



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