

# Get ready: Roadwork ahead

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The countdown is on. Around April 15, construction crews will converge on portions of Farmington and begin fixing roads that are deteriorated and just plain dippy.

The latter problem is due to tree roots yanking up road or because of the settling of pavement over time. Roads on the fix-up list are so uneven that water pools up considerably.

Kevin Gushman, director of Farmington's Department of Public Services, hopes the 1999 paving program will help alleviate that problem.

"It'll greatly minimize the ponding," Gushman said. "You can't get rid of it 100 percent, though."

One such problem stretch begins in front of Lee Peel's residence, on Shiawassee just west of First Baptist Church of Farmington. That leg of Shiawassee is plagued by bumps, ruts and unevenness.

But Peel, a 39-year resident, shrugged off the pending construction, even with the promise of noise and inconvenience.

"That's no big deal," Peel said.

His neighbors might not share that opinion later this month after Shiawassee is closed to all but local traffic during the monthlong project. Repairs on both the south and north sides of the road are planned, but Gushman emphasized that the work will be staggered.

"We want to warn people who normally cut through (Shiawassee)," Gushman said. "They'll have to find a different route."

## Not all closed

The leg of Shiawassee going east from Farmington to Orchard Lake roads will remain open as usual.

Other projects will take place at the following locations:

- Mooney Street (from Grand River to Shiawassee) will be transformed into a one-way northbound avenue, while the west side of that street is repaved.

- A number of residential streets between Eight Mile Nine Mile and east of Farmington will be involved, mostly in the Farmington Meadows subdivision.

Targeted for repairs are Maplecut, Chestnut, Tall Oaks, Tall Oaks Court, Kirby, Annwood, Birchwood, Robinwood,

**This marks the sixth year of Farmington's continuing road projects program, which began in 1994 after residents approved a dedicated millage which does not have a sunset date.**

Laurelwood, Meadowlark (between Flanders and Birchwood), Flanders (between Birchwood and Meadowlark), Meadowlark Court and Salvador.

"The residential subdivision, it will be open at all times for local traffic," Gushman said. "And it will (accommodate) emergency vehicles."

Crows from Westland's Hard Rock Concrete will take out portions of deteriorated concrete and patch other areas in need of attention.

Gushman acknowledged that residents would face some hardships while road work continues, such as dealing with noise, dirt and construction equipment.

So too will at least one place of worship. The First Baptist Church of Farmington is located at the intersection of Farmington-Shiawassee, near where the crews will be stationed.

"I appreciate that the city is wanting to fix up roads," said the Rev. Fred Froman. "As long as they make it so people can get into the church parking lot, that's fine. We have a very committed church membership, anyway."

## Impact on church

Froman said about 40 members made it to First Baptist on Sunday, Jan. 2, the morning of the "Blizzard of 1999."

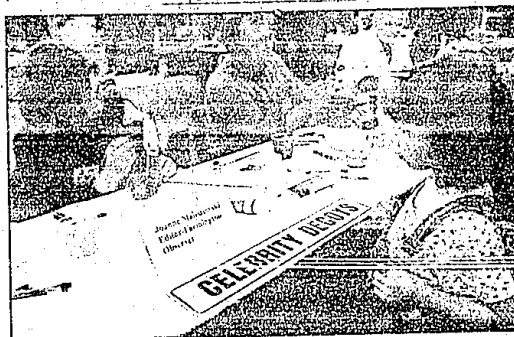
The church draws about 140 members for Sunday morning services and another 80 for midweek services. Bible study and Sunday school classes add another 100 persons each week.

But Froman noted that there will be little impact on the church during weekday business hours, when road crews are likely to be working.

"We only have three employees, including myself" in the church office Monday-Friday, he said. Meanwhile, it's a safe bet that some of the dirt stirred up at the Mooney Street site will land on top of new Bill Demmer Lincoln-Mercury vehicles parked nearby.

This marks the sixth year of Farmington's continuing road projects program, which began in 1994 after residents approved a dedicated millage which does not have a sunset date, Gushman said. Approximately \$570,000 is earmarked for this year's program.

## Staying in the lines



STAFF PHOTO BY BILL BRENNER

**Can I try? Five-year-old Adrienne Hall watches celebrity decoy painters Joanne Maliszewski, Farmington Observer editor, and Roger Bukema, an outdoors writer, during the Michigan Wildlife Habitat Foundation's annual art festival. The decoys were later auctioned, with proceeds going to the foundation for wetland preservation and wildlife education.**

## POLICE AND FIRE NEWS

The following are police and fire incidents that occurred in Farmington and Farmington Hills during the past week.

### SHOPLIFTING

#### In Farmington Hills:

When police arrested a Westland woman, 41, for shoplifting at Kohl's, they found more than store merchandise March 26. A search of her car turned up an illegally obtained bottle of Vicodin, a pain medication, and a blank prescription pad. Officers also found credit cards in different people's names. Police talked to one of the women whose credit card was found. She said someone stole her purse at Target in Westland. Someone phoned her and returned it minus the wallet. The good Samaritan matches the description of the woman arrested for shoplifting.

### THEFT

#### In Farmington Hills:

A woman reported someone stole her purse with credit cards and \$100 cash at Mrs. Maddox Bakery on Orchard Lake March 26. The purse also contained a watch and bracelet. Someone stole two sets of golf clubs from a 1998 GMC Sierra parked at the Knights Inn on Grand River the night of March 27-28.

### BREAK INS

#### In Farmington Hills:

Thieves punched out the passenger side window and stole a cellular phone from a 1999 Lexus parked at Grant Millman and Johnson on Orchard Lake Road March 26, causing \$200

damage.

### WEAPONS TAKEN

#### In Farmington Hills:

A Brighton woman asked officers to take a .357 magnum revolver and a knife for safe keeping after her husband had been drinking and was taken to Botsford Hospital March 26. The gun was in the glove compartment of the man's Ford Expedition, while the knife was found in the door compartment.

### MARIJUANA ARREST

#### In Farmington Hills:

Police arrested an Oak Park man, 39, after finding five grams of marijuana inside a velvet Crown Royal bag inside the 1988 Ford Thunderbird he was driving on Orchard Lake and 12 Mile March 26.

### VANDALISM

#### In Farmington Hills:

Police ticketed a Farmington Hills man, 24, after he broke out a Chevy Suburban's driver's side window during a dispute in the 7-Eleven parking lot on Orchard Lake and 13 Mile at 1:10 a.m. March 27. The man, who had cuts on his face and arm, admitted breaking the window after a group of males "jumped" his brother. Police found an aluminum bat in the parking lot.

### EMBEZZLEMENT

#### In Farmington Hills:

Police arrested a Ferndale man, 27, after a district manager at the Lone Star restaurant on Orchard Lake Road found that an assistant manager voided more than \$1,000 worth of bills and was keeping the money from March 12-26.

### DISORDERLY WOMAN

#### In Farmington Hills:

Police heard one profanity too many yelled at them and arrested a Farmington Hills woman, 37, who was arguing with her boyfriend at R&C Trailer Park on Rensselaer March 28. Both the man and woman appeared to have been drinking.

### ATTEMPTED BURGLARY

#### In Farmington Hills:

Burglars smashed a door and two windows in an attempted burglary at ROA Service on Grand River March 28, causing \$1,500 damage.

### APARTMENT BURGLARY

#### In Farmington Hills:

Thieves stole \$2,000 in jewelry, a CD player and CDs from a Muirwood Apartment residence between March 19-28. The resident was out of town when the burglary occurred.

### AUTO THEFT

#### In Farmington Hills:

Someone stole a \$21,000 white 1994 Pontiac Grand Am GT from the parking lot at Foxpointe Apartments on Haledale March 28.

### DOMESTIC ASSAULT

#### In Farmington Hills:

Police arrested a 47-year-old man after a woman said her husband bit her and then hit her during an argument March 28. She had a bite mark on her left forearm and scratches on her left eye. The man said his wife assaulted him. He had a bite mark on his hand and scratch mark over his eye. Police also took the man's 20 guns and a duffel bag of ammunition for safe keeping.



## Reform Party IF NOT NOW? WHEN?

The Reform Party of Michigan is inviting all friends of reform to its meetings on the first Tuesday of each month. The meetings are held at 7 p.m. at the Longacre House Community Center 24705 Farmington Rd. between 10 & 11 mile. Featured: speakers and presenters in the areas of education, taxes and campaign finance reform. Come share with your fellow reform minded neighbors your concerns and ideas. Excitement is building for this year's National Convention to be held at the Hyatt Regency in Dearborn, MI July 23-25. Reform Party candidate training and support will also be available. A ten dollar donation is appreciated but never required. PAID FOR BY THE REFORM PARTY OF THE 11TH DISTRICT COMMITTEE 33001 ARGONNE RD. FARMINGTON HILLS, MICHIGAN 48335

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**Farmington Observer**  
(5735 187-6442)

Published every Sunday and Thursday by Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 805 E. Maple, Farmington, MI 48335. Periodicals postage paid at Farmington, MI 48309-0510. Postmaster: Send address changes to Observer & Eccentric, Newspapers 805 E. Maple, Farmington MI 48309-0510, Telephone 844-1100.

Subscription Rates:

Carrier Delivery	One Year (\$47.00)	One Year (St. Clair) (\$55.00)	One Year (Out of State) (\$60.00)
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Newsstand	per copy \$75	per copy \$75	per copy \$75

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