



# FARMINGTON HILLS Michigan FOCUS

New south entrance at City Hall

## ANNUAL REPORT 2009

### CITY COUNCIL

- Jerry Ellis  
Mayor
- Ken Massey  
Mayor Pro Tem
- Nancy Bates
- Barry Brickner
- Michael Bridges
- Randy Bruce
- Cheryl Oliverio

### CITY MANAGER

- Steve Brock

Each issue of the Focus newsletter can also be found on the City website at [www.fhgov.com](http://www.fhgov.com).

Go to Quick Links on the home page and click on Newsletter.



Sign up for the City's new Text Notification System. Go to [www.fhgov.com](http://www.fhgov.com), click on Quick Links, then Text Notification System, then click on the list that you'd like to join and follow instructions to subscribe. Notices will go to your mobile device and standard text messaging rates apply.

## MESSAGE FROM YOUR MAYOR

The past year has been a challenge for our community, our state, and our country. But I always say that within every challenge lies an opportunity. The current economic climate presents an opportunity for our City to redefine itself, to reevaluate how we do things, and to reassess the concept of "business as usual."

Our City Council and City employees remain dedicated and continue to seek out and adopt innovative ways to provide services in a more cost-effective manner. Compared to many other local governments, we are doing well; we have leaders who are fiscally responsible as well as concerned. We are reviewing options to deal with budget deficits and remain open-minded and committed to doing what is best for our residents.

Despite these difficult times, the quality of life in Farmington Hills still is second to none. The City continues to win awards, achieve high marks, and look toward the future. We've been ranked as the 40th safest City in the U.S. and the fourth safest City in Michigan; our Youth Theater was chosen #1 in Metro Detroit; our City was recognized as the safest municipal workplace in Michigan for the 16th year; our Emergency Preparedness Commission received national acclaim from the Federal Emergency Management Agency; our Golf Course and Parks System is the first in Michigan to be recognized for its Turfgrass Environmental Stewardship Program; and our Video Division was the only one in Michigan to receive Government Programming Awards this year from the National Association of Telecommunications Officers and Advisors.

We are proud to celebrate a diverse population with a highly successful "Root Beer Summit" from the Multicultural Multiracial Community Council; we are proud that teens rate the new Riley Skate Park as one of the "best skate parks in the country;" and we are proud that Akebono, a world-class manufacturer of braking systems has chosen to expand their operations in Farmington Hills and create new jobs for the local economy.



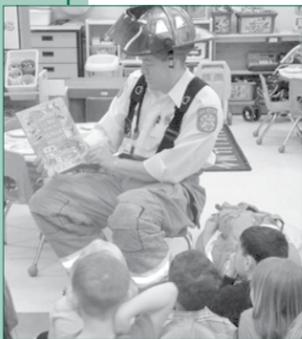
City Council Member Nancy Bates and Mayor Jerry Ellis with the members of the Mayor's Youth Council.

Our City remains strong and viable. We are well positioned for the future as we finalize the City Hall Revitalization Project at a time when labor and materials are extremely competitive. We are committed to exploring energy alternatives and setting an example as a leader in green technology. We have faced the challenges of the past and we will welcome the opportunities of the future. I thank you for your faith in me and in the team that makes Farmington Hills a great place to live and do business.

## Fire Department

The Fire Department provided excellent service to the community in 2009:

- Fire Chief Corey Bartsch completed his first year as Chief of the Department.
- The Department continued to respond to EMS (paramedic response and transport) incidents, fires, vehicle accidents, hazardous materials incidents, and other calls for service.
- Firefighters participated in numerous fire and safety-related speeches, station tours, parades, subdivision picnics, and other community events. Lt. Denny Hughes wrote monthly fire and safety-related articles.
- Firefighters reviewed and assisted City businesses with emergency evacuation plans, testing alarm systems, and fire extinguisher training.
- Firefighter/Inspectors conducted Fire Prevention Code enforcement inspections at businesses and multi-residential complexes throughout the City. Fire Investigators continued to investigate the origin and cause of all fires.



Fire Lieutenant Dave Feichtner reading to students at Hillside Elementary School as part of Literacy Month.

- The Department worked with SWOCC Studios to produce "Project: Hot Stove" to be aired on cable television. A new fire safety show was initiated called "Farmington Hills Heat."
- Members of the Department acted as liaisons to the Farmington Hills/Farmington Emergency Preparedness Commission.
- The Department reported on Emergency Management issues such as the H1N1 virus, and other health and safety-related concerns.

**Did You Know?** The Farmington Hills Fire Department responded to over 7,000 calls for emergency and non-emergency assistance in Farmington Hills, as well as in surrounding communities requesting mutual aid.

## Police Department

### Protect Yourself against Larceny from Auto

The good news is that major crime categories are projected to show decreases in 2008 (the latest year for which statistics are finalized) as compared to 2007. This has a significant impact on the quality of life in Farmington Hills and is part of what makes this City attractive to businesses and residents alike.

The not-so-good news is that one major crime category - Larceny from Auto - is on the rise. In 2008, Farmington Hills experienced about 500 such larcenies. Over 600 incidents are projected for 2009, a 20% increase. Not restricted to Farmington Hills, the increase in these larcenies, which involve stealing items from inside vehicles and stealing equipment attached to vehicles, is being experienced by most local communities.

The most popular items reported stolen are GPS devices, cell phones, music players, and computers. Equipment being stolen includes tires/wheels and high-end stereos including satellite radios. Thefts are occurring by physically breaking into a vehicle by smashing a window or prying door locks. In too many instances, however, vehicle owners are making this crime very easy and attractive by simply leaving the doors unlocked or the windows rolled down.

### Vehicle Security Reminders:

- When possible, park your car in a closed and secured garage.
- Always lock doors and close windows, even in your garage.
- Lock valuables in the trunk or store them out of sight; better yet, don't leave them in your car.
- After dark, park in well-lighted areas.
- If you have a car alarm, be sure to set it.
- Remove any signs of the presence of electronic devices, such as mountings, cords, cables, and antennas.

If you witness a Larceny from an auto - call 9-1-1.

**Did You Know?** According to the Annual Safest Cities Rankings, released in November 2009 by CQ Press and Sage Press, Farmington Hills is the 40th safest City in the U.S., of 393 cities ranked of all population categories; and the fourth safest City in Michigan, of all population categories.

## CITY HALL REVITALIZATION PROJECT

Earlier this year, construction began on the City Hall Revitalization Project. This essential investment will result in a more energy efficient and sustainable building. The reconfigured workspaces will create operational efficiencies and will better utilize limited staff resources by locating interdependent departments adjacent to each other. The reconfigured and more efficient City Hall will prove to be a vital asset as the City meets the challenges and opportunities presented by this economic downturn.

### Current energy models point to:

- 68% greater heating efficiency
- 37% decrease in energy costs
- 9,500 gallons of water saved per year
- 300 tons of CO2 saved per year

The revitalization project is working toward USGBC's (United States Green Building Council) LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) Gold Certification and will be used as an educational tool to promote green building practices throughout the community and region.

The City will be working with a group of former Farmington Public School students (now at University of Michigan) to help showcase the educational components of City Hall. The result will include interpretive signage, interactive displays, and a kiosk that will illustrate the advantages of sustainable building techniques including energy efficient and renewable technologies.

You can track City Hall progress at [www.fhgov.com](http://www.fhgov.com) or by signing up for the City Hall Listserv. Go to [www.fhgov.com](http://www.fhgov.com), click on Mailing Lists/ Listserv on the Quick Links dropdown menu and sign up for news about the City Hall Revitalization Project.

**Did You Know?** The Farmington Hills Green Efforts Committee's new website, [www.sustainableFH.com](http://www.sustainableFH.com), provides information on the City's energy and environmental sustainability efforts and provides links to related tools and resources.

## Inside

Facilities | Ice Arena  
Recreation | Seniors  
Parks & Golf  
Youth & Family Services

Planning | Clerk's Office  
Finance

Cultural Arts  
Human Resources  
Public Services

## SPECIAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT

### Youth & Family Services

The City of Farmington Hills was chosen by the Afterschool Alliance to be featured in a documentary on after school programs. Two middle school girls and a Youth & Family staff member went to Washington, D.C. to represent the program. Brighthouse Network filmed portions of the trip and also came to Farmington Hills to interview the girls' families and spend time at the Summer Drop-In program. Several teachers and City Council members were interviewed on the importance of the After School Program. This nationally-broadcast documentary can be viewed on the Brighthouse Network. (Go to On Demand and click on Afterschool Alliance.)

The City's After School Program is open to over 3,000 middle school students and almost 600 are registered. The Summer Drop-In Program had over 97 youths attending and over 40 families taking advantage of the Early Drop-Off Program.

In collaboration with Oakland Community College's Federal Work Study Program, OCC students are working with Site Supervisors at each After School Center combining academic learning with career-related employment.

Youth & Family Services continues to thrive thanks to generous donations from the Farmington/Farmington Hills Exchange Club, Farmington Area GoodFellows, Farmington Area Optimist Club, and grants from the Alcoa Foundation and the Farmington/Farmington Hills Foundation for Youth & Families.

**Did You Know?** In 2009, the sixth After School Youth Center opened at the Prince of Peace Lutheran Church. On Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays approximately 40 middle school students go to the "POP" Center.

### ICE ARENA

During 2009, the Ice Arena welcomed skaters of all ages who participated in Learn-to-Skate, Open Skate, Drop-in Hockey, Mid-Day Skate, Parent/Tot Skate, Adult Skate, Figure Skating, and Youth and Adult Hockey. Figure Skaters and Learn-to-Skate students showcased their skills and talent at the Annual Ice Show held in May.

The Ice Arena is home to the Farmington Hills Hockey Association (FHHA), which serves 500 players at all skating levels and offers house and travel teams, plus the international TimBits development program. The Arena is also home to the Farmington Falcons, Farmington Flyers, the Farmington Hills Figure Skating Club, and the United Farmington Figure Skating Team, which won State Championships at both Level A & B in 2009.

The Ice Arena offers many non-ice activities throughout the year, including Youth & Family Services After School Programs, Bands at Club 2nd Floor for high school students, and Summer Day Camps for children ages six to ten.

Dates to Remember: **January 16** – It's Great to Skate Clinic  
**March 22** – FHHA Championship Day  
**May 7 - 8** – 14th Annual Ice Show

For more information or for a list of upcoming events, visit [www.fhice.com](http://www.fhice.com) or call **248-478-8800**.

### PARKS & GOLF DIVISION

- ✓ Oversaw the construction of the highly anticipated Riley Skate Park, which opened in June at Founders Sports Park.
- ✓ Maintained excellent attendance numbers at the Farmington Hills Golf Course and Driving Range despite the wet season and a bridge construction project that made access from the north inconvenient.
- ✓ Continued the commitment to the eradication of invasive plant species in order to maintain and restore healthy vegetation and preserve native plant populations in the City. Ongoing removal work is being done by staff, court programs, and volunteers.

**Did You Know?** The City's Golf Course and Parks System is the first in the State to earn accreditation in the Michigan Turfgrass Environmental Stewardship Program.

**New!** Register online for Special Services classes and programs using your Household Number (found on a past receipt.) Visit [www.fhgov.com](http://www.fhgov.com), go to Quick Links, click on Recreation Online Registration and follow the prompts.

If you're a new user, don't know your Household Number, or need to make changes to your account, e-mail [costickcenter@fhgov.com](mailto:costickcenter@fhgov.com), register at the Costick Center or call **248-473-1800**, M - F, 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. You will be required to verify residency.



**The Focus** is printed on recycled paper with a 30% post-consumer waste content. Please recycle this newsletter when you are done with it.

### Facilities

We hope to see you in 2010 for a class, program or special event at one of our fine facilities:

**Costick Center** – The 70,000 square foot facility includes a 25-yard swimming pool, gymnasium with stage, large commercial kitchen, and meeting rooms ranging in size from 500 square feet to over 7,000 square feet.

**Longacre House** – This historic home, built in 1869, offers a charming and elegant setting for weddings, parties, receptions, business meetings, programs, banquets, and social gatherings. The beautifully landscaped entryway and gazebo provide an attractive outdoor event site.

**Jon Grant Community Center** – The nearly 5,000 square foot Jon Grant Community Center offers a comfortable meeting space, the latest in high-tech equipment, and a 2,000 square foot Rec Room known as the Fire Pit.

**Did You Know?** In 2009, over 250,000 guests passed through the Costick Center's doors, over 21,000 guests attended a special event at the Longacre House, and over 12,000 guests visited the Grant Center.

### SENIOR DIVISION

The Senior Division meets the diverse needs of a broad age group with daily and evening programs as well as community-based services for those requiring home-delivered meals, liquid nutrition, chore services, outreach, or transportation services.

Significant accomplishments for 2009 included:

- The Meals on Wheels Program provided 71,520 meals and the Congregate Meal Program provided 18,055 on-site meals.
- Specialized Transportation and Dial-a-Ride cab provided 30,330 rides, including a large number of handicap rides. The demand for rides to dialysis increased significantly.
- A second successful Total Wellness Fair provided a wide array of healthy lifestyle choices with information on fitness, law, finances, and nutrition along with health screenings, speakers, demos and prizes.
- Two new softball teams were added to the existing women's team – a second women's team and a men's team.
- Farmington Hills Spelling Bee participant placed 2nd overall in the Oakland County Spelling Duel.
- New classes in areas such as real estate, spending, the stock market, and early retirement choices addressed issues relevant to our current economy.
- Green classes on subjects such as energy reduction, ecology, and shredding increased awareness of our responsibility for the earth.

**Did You Know?** High school volunteers from the Mayor's Youth Council tutor older adults in current technology in a Farmington Hills Reverse Mentoring program.



Riley Skate Park

### Recreation Division

It was a year of great accomplishments for the Recreation Division. The Recreation Division received three awards: the Innovative Programming Award from the Michigan Recreation & Parks Association for the creation of the Great Farmington Hills Campout; the Website of the Year Award from the Michigan Recreation & Parks Association for the [www.rileyskatepark.com](http://www.rileyskatepark.com) website, created in partnership with The Riley Foundation; and the Michigan Youth Council of the Year Award, presented to the Farmington Hills/Farmington Mayor's Youth Council at the 2009 Michigan Youth Symposium.

In June, Riley Skate Park held its grand opening. By October, an estimated 20,000 people had come to see "the best Skate Park in the Midwest." With the addition of Riley Skate Park, it's estimated that over 1,000,000 people visited Founders Sports Park in 2009, making a positive economic impact on the community as visitors shopped, dined, and frequented local businesses.

For over 30 years, the Daddy/Daughter Dance has brought 800 dads and daughters to the Costick Center for a special evening out. For the last two years, Princesses and Super Heroes Fantasy Fun Night has had a sold-out crowd of 400 kids/parents/grand parents. For the past 10 years, an average of 2,000 people have attended the annual Hay Day event.

Over 2,500 youth participated in Day Camps, over 1,000 youth participated in soccer leagues, 400 fourth to eighth graders participated in youth basketball, and thousands of others participated in lacrosse, tennis, field hockey, cheerleading, karate, flag football, and other sports.

To find out more about Recreation Division programs, become a friend on Facebook (search Farmington Hills Recreation Division), email [bfarmer@fhgov.com](mailto:bfarmer@fhgov.com) to join the Recreation Division Listserv, review the Special Services seasonal brochure, call **248-473-1800**, visit [www.fhgov.com](http://www.fhgov.com) or stop by one of the City's parks.

**Did You Know?** In 2009, over 2,500 programs were offered by the Recreation Division.

## Department of Planning & Community Development

### PLANNING OFFICE

- ✓ The Historic District Commission updated their ordinance to match the new state law adopted by City Council in early 2009. The Commission seeks out community buildings worthy of historic designation and preservation.
- ✓ The 24th Annual Beautification Awards Ceremony recognized landscape design and originality. Top awards went to Olde Franklin Towne Subdivision, Hitachi Automotive Products, Sellers Buick Pontiac GMC, and Botsford Hospital for the Botsford Inn. Two new awards were presented this year for beautification efforts through volunteerism to Pete Irwin of Beechview Elementary and to the Finnish Cultural Center. The Historic District Commission Preservation Award went to Beringea for restoration and maintenance efforts at the Samuel Davis House on Twelve Mile.
- ✓ Two tree planting grants (Community Tree Planting Grant and the DTE Tree Planting Grant) were received from the State of Michigan Department of Natural Resources; 90 trees purchased with these funds were planted during summer 2009 at selected park and roadside locations.
- ✓ The Planning Commission adopted the current version of the City's Master Plan for Future Land Use on January 15, 2009. The adoption of the Master Plan culminated a two and half year effort that will help direct development within the community. The approved Master Plan focuses on maintaining residential areas and encouraging redevelopment opportunities. Ordinance amendments will follow to further enhance development processing and options to ensure continued investment in Farmington Hills.



Botsford Inn Courtyard Landscaping

### BUILDING DIVISION

- ✓ 9 single family homes and nearly 31,489 square feet of new commercial development were constructed for a total of \$2,344,056.
- ✓ Permits were issued for \$3,603,954 in home improvements and \$15,508,622 in commercial renovations.
- ✓ 22 substandard buildings were demolished as part of ongoing revitalization efforts; 12 were residential buildings and 10 were commercial buildings.
- ✓ 240 properties, including both commercial and residential structures, were identified as needing major repairs with follow up to eliminate code deficiencies. Currently, of the 240 properties, 33 permits remain open, with 207 closed out.

### COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

- ✓ Two new sidewalks were constructed with Community Development Block Grant funding – the north side of Thirteen Mile Road between Middlebelt Road and the Baptist Manor; and the east side of Middlebelt Road between Sans Souci and Eldon.
- ✓ The Housing Rehabilitation Program assisted 28 lower-income homeowners with improvements such as roofs, siding, and furnaces.
- ✓ Over 450 volunteers participated in Rebuilding Together to help 12 homeowners with yard work, painting, and other general repairs.
- ✓ The City designed and began implementing the Neighborhood Stabilization Program, a \$1.3 million program designed to allow qualified applicants to purchase vacant and foreclosed houses.
- ✓ The City completed a \$100,169 grant from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, which was used for home improvement on 12 single-family homes.



This bridge was placed as part of the sidewalk project on Thirteen Mile Road.

### ZONING DIVISION

- ✓ Over 20,000 code violations were investigated to help enforce City Ordinances and keep Farmington Hills a beautiful and desirable community. The primary focus was on blight abatement.
- ✓ Education and public outreach were provided on ordinance requirements through flyers, handouts, and expert presentations to neighborhood associations, residents, and local newspapers.
- ✓ The Zoning Board of Appeals heard 49 cases at 10 meetings appealing code and zoning requirements.

## Clerk's Corner

The City Clerk's Office focused on imaging City documents and records. Imaging records allows them to be e-mailed, which makes information more accessible to the public and to other City departments. Using the new imaging system and conducting business electronically saves taxpayers money on paper, postage, and staff time.

The City General Election was held on Tuesday, November 3, 2009, where residents voted for the Mayor and three Council Members. For the first time, residents voted for members of the school board on the same election ballot. Combining these two local elections saved taxpayers approximately \$65,000.

Mayor Jerry Ellis ran unopposed and the three incumbent City Council Members, Nancy Bates, Michael Bridges and Cheryl Oliverio, were all re-elected for an additional four-year term. Councilmember Ken Massey was then elected by Council to serve as the Mayor Pro Tem until next November. School Board Candidates elected were Sheila P. Clay and Gary Sharp for six-year terms, and Priscilla Brouillette and Frank L. Reid for four-year terms.

In 2010, the Primary Election will be held on August 3 and the General Election will be held on November 2. Because of term limits, the office of Governor, Secretary of State, and Attorney General, along with two-thirds of the State Senate positions, will be open.

The City Clerk's Office and the Information Technology Department received the Visionary Award for the Outstanding Use of the Laserfiche Document Imaging System. It was presented to the City by the DSS Corporation, which is the local office of the Laserfiche Corp. of California. The award was presented at a conference where the City received recognition for being in the forefront of using this system to effectively accomplish organizational goals.

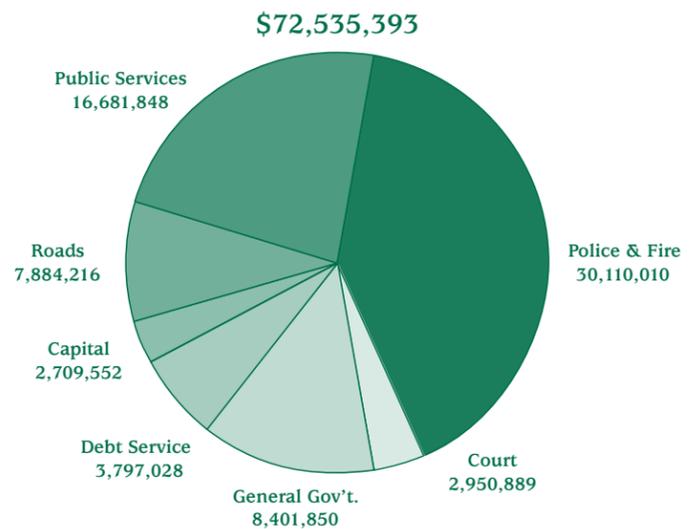
## Finance Department

- The Treasury Office instituted a new payment method for taxes. Taxes can now be paid through Automatic Clearing Housing where tax payments are automatically deducted from checking or savings accounts on a designated date before they are due.
- The Assessing Division continued converting to electronic sketching of all properties in the City, resulting in drawings that are more accurate and easier to update.

### Recent awards highlight the excellent job done by the City's Finance Department:

- Distinguished Budget Presentation Award from the Government Finance Officers' Association – 24 years in a row.
- Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting from the Government Finance Officers' Association of the United States and Canada (for the City's Comprehensive Annual Financial Report for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2008) – 11 years in a row.

### HOW YOUR TAX DOLLARS WERE SPENT IN 2008-09



### YOUR 2009 TAX DOLLAR

Based on Farmington Schools Homestead Rate

School District	County	Education *	City
Farmington	14.20%	59.14%	26.66%
Walled Lake	15.52%	55.33%	29.15%
Clarenceville	16.07%	53.77%	30.17%



\*Farmington Schools - Oakland Intermediate Schools - Oakland Community College

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Farmington Hills, MI 48336

ANNUAL REPORT 2009

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## Farmington Hills Postal Patron

### Human Resources

#### City of Farmington Hills Receives Prestigious Worker Safety Award

City workers were recognized for their outstanding efforts to keep Farmington Hills the safest municipal workplace in Michigan. For the 16th year since 1992, the City of Farmington Hills was awarded the Michigan Municipal League's Workers Compensation Loss Control Achievement Award for 2009. The annual award is given to the city with the lowest workers compensation claims experience.

No other municipality of comparable size in the state of Michigan has such an excellent safety record. Fewer work injuries not only leads to safer and healthier employees, it also translates into savings for the City of Farmington Hills through low workers compensation claims.

#### City Wellness Program Pays Off

For the second year, City employees participated in the Farmington Hills Fit Olympics wellness program, in cooperation with Botsford Center for Health Improvement. In 2009, over 100 employees lost a combined total of 298 pounds and logged in 30,545 activity miles.

### CITY DIRECTORY

<b>Emergency Calls Only</b>	
Fire Department .....	9-1-1
Police Department .....	9-1-1
<b>Central Services/Purchasing</b> .....	248-871-2430
<b>City Clerk</b> .....	248-871-2410
<b>City Hall</b> .....	248-871-2400
<b>City Manager's Office</b> .....	248-871-2500
<b>Council Newsline</b> .....	248-871-2511
<b>District Court</b> .....	248-871-2900
<b>Farmington Community Library</b> .....	248-553-0300
<b>Finance Department</b> .....	248-871-2440
Assessing .....	248-871-2470
Treasury .....	248-871-2480
<b>Fire Department</b>	
Non-emergency .....	248-871-2800
<b>General Information</b> .....	248-871-2400
<b>Human Resources</b> .....	248-871-2490
<b>Planning Department</b>	
Building .....	248-871-2450
Community Development and	
Housing Rehabilitation .....	248-871-2549
Planning .....	248-871-2540
Zoning .....	248-871-2520
<b>Police Department</b>	
Non-emergency .....	248-871-2600
<b>Public Services Department</b> .....	248-871-2530
Public Works .....	248-871-2850
<b>Special Services Department</b>	
Costick Center .....	248-473-1800
Cultural Arts Division .....	248-473-1856
Golf Club .....	248-476-5910
Ice Arena .....	248-478-8800
Jon Grant Center .....	248-871-2849
Longacre House .....	248-477-8404
Nature Center .....	248-477-1135
Parks & Golf Maintenance .....	248-473-1890
Recreation .....	248-473-1800
Senior Adult Program .....	248-473-1830
Youth and Families Services .....	248-473-1841
<b>Volunteer Center</b> .....	248-473-1813

**Focus** is produced by the City of Farmington Hills and mailed to residents three times a year. Articles are submitted by City department directors. We welcome your comments.

Editor: Gillian Pines  
Address: 31555 W. Eleven Mile Road  
Farmington Hills, MI 48336  
Phone: 248-871-2500 Fax: 248-871-2501  
Website: www.fhgov.com  
E-mail: gpines@fhgov.com

For the latest info on Farmington Hills, visit www.fhgov.com or tune into Cable Channel 8.



### CULTURAL ARTS DIVISION

In 2009, more than 35,000 people attended Cultural Arts programs, evidence of the growing trend of attending events close to home. Attendees enjoyed free weekly summer concerts in Heritage Park, fall and spring concerts at the Farmington Players Barn, Art on the Grand, Festival of the Arts, Victorian Teas at Longacre House, workshops, classes, camps, lessons, and so much more.

An Arts Commission fashion show provided funds for a brand new piano, used for music lessons at the Longacre House. Vocal instruction was added this year, along with guitar and violin lessons. The Farmington Hills Youth Choir represented the community at the annual tree lighting at the Capitol in Lansing, as well as at the City's own holiday lighting ceremony, and collaborated with the Detroit Chamber Winds and Strings to form an intergenerational choir that performed for the Senior Division and at the Holiday Brass concert.

The Youth Theatre presented – "Annie, Jr." and "Music Man, Jr." in 2009, plus workshops, classes, and summer camps. Productions were also seen

by over 2,200 elementary school students via outreach programs.

The Stables Studio in Heritage Park featured classes including sculpture, two-dimensional art and photography, and fashion illustration. Exhibits in the City Gallery featured both local and regional artists, and a special American Heart Association Red Dress Exhibit was enjoyed by Costick Center visitors.

**Did You Know?** The Farmington Hills Youth Theatre was named #1 Youth Theatre in Metro Detroit by Nickelodeon's Parents Picks Awards.



The Michigan Weavers Guild exhibit at the City Gallery.

### Engineering Division

The City used several funding sources to complete this infrastructure work and maximize road improvements for the money spent. Sources included Federal and State grants using Surface Transportation Funds, Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Funds, and American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (Stimulus) Funds. The City also used Community Development Block Grants and Act 51 Road Funds.

#### Road Construction Projects completed in 2009:

**Roads**  
**Halsted** - Fourteen Mile to 1/4 mile south - Resurfaced  
**Halsted** - Eleven Mile to I-696 - Resurfaced  
**Halsted** - Twelve Mile to 1/4 mile south of Fourteen Mile - Reconstructed  
**Drake** - Nine Mile to Lytle - Reconstructed  
**Nine Mile** - Farmington to Gill - Reconstructed  
**Orchard Lake Road** - Eight Mile to Grand River - Reconstructed

#### New Sidewalks

**Drake** - Thirteen Mile to Muer Cove  
**Thirteen Mile** - Middlebelt to Baptist Manor  
**Middlebelt** - Eldon to San Souci  
**Halsted** - Hills Tech Drive to south of Valhalla

#### Water Mains

**Nine Mile** - Whittington to Averhill - New  
**St. Francis** - Shiawassee to Eight Mile - Replacement  
**Eight Mile** - St. Francis to Inkster - Replacement

#### Scheduled for 2010:

**Roads**  
**Middlebelt** - Eight Mile to Eleven Mile - Reconstruct  
**Inkster** - Nine Mile to Eleven Mile - Reconstruct

#### New Sidewalks

**Halsted** - Windwood to Grand River  
**12 Mile** - Herndonwood to Inkster  
**Middlebelt** - Chateau to Spring  
**Folsom** - Power to Nine Mile

#### Water Mains

**Middlebelt at Northwestern Highway** - Replacement  
**Grand River** - Middlebelt to Botsford Hospital - Replacement

**Traffic signals** were upgraded with completely new equipment or enhanced with the addition of pedestrian signals or left turn signals. These include:

Thirteen Mile at Detroit Baptist Manor  
Ten Mile at Orchard Lake  
Orchard Lake at Folsom  
Ten Mile at Haggerty  
Hills Tech Drive at Halsted

### Census 2010 – 10 questions, 10 Minutes

**What:** The census is a count of everyone residing in the United States.

**Who:** All U.S. residents must be counted—both citizens and non citizens.

**When:** The 2010 Census is a form with 10 simple questions that will be mailed to you between February and March of 2010. You will be asked to answer questions about yourself and each person who lives with you. You then must mail back the completed form by April 1, 2010.

**Why:** The U.S. Constitution requires a national census once every 10 years to count the population and determine the number of seats each state will have in the U.S. House of Representatives. The census will determine how much funding is received from the federal government for education, healthcare, job training, transportation, and other critical services.

**How:** Households should complete and mail back their questionnaires upon receipt. Households that do not respond may receive a replacement questionnaire in early April. Census takers will visit households that do not return questionnaires to take a count in person. All personal information you provide is completely private and will not be shared with anyone else. The information is only used for statistical purposes.

For more information, go to [www.2010census.gov](http://www.2010census.gov).

**Did You Know?** Each person missed by the census results in roughly \$1,000 less federal funding for state and local governments each year, or \$10,000 over a decade.

#### Scheduled for 2010:

Eleven Mile at Middlebelt  
Middlebelt at East Middle School  
Ten Mile and Inkster  
All the signals east of Orchard Lake from Eight Mile to Fourteen Mile will be retimed.