



## Fall/Winter 2010

### City Council

**Mayor** - Jerry Ellis

**Mayor Pro Tem** - Ken Massey

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.



Register online for classes and programs at [www.recreg.fhgov.com](http://www.recreg.fhgov.com).

Or go to [www.fhgov.com](http://www.fhgov.com), click on Quick Links, then Recreation Online Registration.

If you have an account, follow the prompts to register. If you're new, create an account by registering online or in person at the Costick Center, Monday thru Friday, 8:30am-4:30pm.

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## City Hall Revitalization

Over the last year and a half, Farmington Hills City Hall has received some much needed attention. This energy and operationally inefficient space has been revitalized as an efficient and sustainable public facility. The comprehensive project addressed a failing heating and cooling system, leaky building envelope, lack of ADA accessibility, inefficient public spaces and work areas, and other energy, structural, and operational concerns. City leadership recognized this need years ago, setting aside funds so that City Hall inadequacies could be addressed comprehensively and responsibly, thus avoiding the interest on borrowing funds to complete the project.

After years of planning, hard work, and some inconvenience, City Hall will be re-dedicated on November 17 at 5pm. Please join us to celebrate this momentous occasion. The event will showcase various sustainable building practices used to make City Hall eligible for LEED Certification at the Gold Level. Details on the re-dedication will be announced when they are finalized.



A solar hot water heating system provides hot water using thermal energy from the sun rather than natural gas. Even on cloudy days, 120 degree water temperatures have been achieved without using additional electricity.

## Fire Department

### Carbon Monoxide Poisoning

In the past decade, people have become more aware of the risks of carbon monoxide (CO) poisoning in the home. It is often called "the silent killer" because it is an invisible, odorless, and colorless gas, which is created when fuels such as gasoline, wood, coal, natural gas, propane, oil and methane burn incompletely.

In homes, heating (furnaces, hot water heaters, fireplaces, dryers) and cooking equipment are the typical sources of carbon monoxide. Starting your car or operating generators in an attached garage can also produce dangerous levels of carbon monoxide. If you plan to warm up your vehicle on cold mornings, pull it out of the garage and away from the home.

Over 500 people are injured or die in incidents each year due to carbon monoxide poisoning. The dangers involved depend on a number of variables, including the victim's health and activity level. Infants, pregnant women, and some people with physical conditions that limit their ability to use oxygen (emphysema, asthma or heart disease) may be affected by lower levels of CO poisoning than a healthy adult.

#### SYMPTOMS

CO enters the body through breathing, and can often be confused with flu-like symptoms or food poisoning. You may experience *shortness of breath, nausea, dizziness, light headedness and headaches*. High levels of CO can be fatal, and can cause death within minutes!

#### SAFETY TIPS

- Install carbon monoxide alarms in your home to provide early detection and warning of accumulating CO. Install them outside each sleeping area of the home.
- Know the difference between the sound of your CO alarm and your smoke alarm.
- A CO alarm is not a substitute for a smoke alarm. Both should be provided for your home. Both alarms should be tested monthly according to manufacturer's instructions.
- Never use an oven to heat your home.
- Have fuel-burning appliances inspected by a professional contractor every year before cold weather sets in.
- After a snowstorm, make sure your vents for the dryer, furnace, stove, and fireplace are clear of any snow buildup, which may affect proper venting.
- Barbeque grills should only be used outdoors, away from your home. Never use them inside your home or in a garage.
- If your carbon monoxide alarm sounds, turn off fuel-burning appliances and immediately move to an area with fresh air and call 9-1-1.

#### NEVER IGNORE A CARBON MONOXIDE ALARM!

### Winter Road Maintenance

During winter, road conditions are monitored regularly to keep streets clear and safe for travel. Before storms hit, a mixture of liquid salt brine and sugar beet byproduct is applied, which looks like dark lines in the roadway. This reduces salt usage, which is good for the environment, and makes snow and ice removal more effective.

Please move your vehicles off the street during storms to allow for more efficient snow removal, mail delivery and trash removal. This is particularly important for homes on cul-de-sacs and dead-ends where parked cars make streets impassable.

In order to clear the streets, snow must be pushed to the curb line and across the end of driveways. If you shovel before the City plows, a "windrow" of more snow will be pushed across the end of your driveway. We apologize for this inconvenience, but it is one of those little annoyances of living in Michigan during the winter months. We ask for your patience and hope that you enjoy the winter season.



## Police Department

### Help Us Take Another Bite Out of Crime

Serious crime in Farmington Hills decreased 10% in 2009; statistics show that 12 of the 19 most serious types of crime declined. Fortunately, crime has also continued to decrease in 2010.

There is one area, however, where crime has increased. Approximately 375 Farmington Hills families annually report a Larceny from Auto (LFA). These numbers are the highest recorded in 10 years. But there's a way that you can help. Nearly every larceny occurs from an unlocked car. If forced entry is made, almost 100% of the time it is because a valuable is in open view. Do your part to take a bite out of crime – lock your cars and keep laptops, GPS units, briefcases, purses, iPods and other valuables out of sight!

Did you know that almost every burglar knocks or rings the doorbell of a home before breaking in? Burglars love an empty home. If a resident answers the door, the burglar will usually appear lost, ask for directions or ask for a fictitious person. Never, ever feel apprehensive about reporting suspicious persons or vehicles to the Police Department. Police officers responding to such calls make several arrests for crimes that may have gone unsolved without your help.

In the fall and winter, both larceny from autos and home burglaries increase. The additional hours of darkness provide added opportunities for criminals. The appearance of a dark home, no car in the drive, and unshoveled walks also encourage crime. So, lock your cars, make your home look occupied and help the Farmington Hills Police take another big bite out of crime in 2011. With your help, we can keep Farmington Hills one of the safest cities in the country.



Officer Hadar Saad dusts a vehicle for fingerprints.

### Road Projects

#### Fall 2010

**Inkster Road from 9 Mile to 10 Mile** – The City of Southfield is finalizing the reconstruction of the existing roadway. Inkster Road will be closed from 9 Mile to 10 Mile Road and traffic will be detoured east to Beech Road.

**Grand River Avenue from Ten Mile Road to Haggerty Road** – Reconstruction of the existing road is ongoing. Work includes new curb, drive approaches, utility work, and grade preparation for the new pavement. Travel is reduced to one lane in each direction. The suggested detour route uses Haggerty and 10 Mile Roads.

#### Summer 2011

**14 Mile from Middlebelt to Northwestern Highway** – The road will be resurfaced. The project will be constructed under traffic without detours.

## Clerk's Office

**ELECTION DATE:** Tuesday, November 2, 2010 – Gubernatorial Election

Sample Ballots are available at [www.fhgov.com](http://www.fhgov.com). You may vote in one of the following ways:

- Straight Party Ticket** – Vote for the party of your choice. Nothing else needs to be done in the partisan section.
- Non-Partisan and Proposal Sections** – Must be voted separately. They are not a part of the Straight Party ticket.
- Split Ticket** – Vote Straight Party and for individual candidates of your choice in any office.
- Mixed Ticket** – Do not make any mark in the Straight Party section. Just vote for individual candidates of your choice in each office.

### ARE YOU REGISTERED TO VOTE?

Don't wait until Election Day to find out – call the Clerk's Office today! Voters must be registered 30 days prior to Election Day in order to be eligible to cast a vote. If you move to a new community, you must re-register under your new address. You must also be: a citizen of the United States, a resident of the State of Michigan and will be at least a 30-day resident of your city or township by Election Day and at least 18 years of age by Election Day.

### DO YOU KNOW WHERE TO VOTE?

You must vote in the precinct in which you are registered. If you appear at the wrong precinct, you will be directed to the correct voting location to cast your vote. Keep in mind that all voting locations close at 8pm and no one is permitted to vote after that time. Your voting precinct number is shown on the left side of your Voter I.D. Card in red lettering. On the right side is the voting location for that precinct for all elections. Maps for each precinct and a general map are on the City website at [www.fhgov.com](http://www.fhgov.com).

### PRECINCT LOCATION CHANGES – PERMANENT

**Precinct 20:** From William Grace Elementary School on Shiawassee / To Salvation Army Community Center, 27500 Shiawassee

**Precincts 22 and 23:** From The Finnish Center on Eight Mile Road / To Bethlehem Evangelical Lutheran Church, 35300 Eight Mile Road

Voters in Precincts 22 and 23 already received new Voter ID cards in July; Precinct 20 voters received new cards in September. If you have not received a new ID card, please contact the Clerk's office at 248-871-2414.

### ABSENT VOTER BALLOT APPLICATIONS

In June, applications for absent voter ballots covering both the August 3, 2010 Primary and the November 2, 2010 Elections were mailed to ALL persons who had requested to be placed on our permanent absent voter list. YOU WILL NOT BE MAILED A NEW APPLICATION FOR NOVEMBER.

If you are eligible and wish to be placed on the permanent absent voter list, please call 248-871-2416 or e-mail [permlist@fhgov.com](mailto:permlist@fhgov.com). If you have already returned your application and checked the appropriate boxes indicating your desire for a ballot to be mailed for both elections, there is no need to apply again for the November 2 Election. Anyone needing an application for the November Gubernatorial Election may contact the City Clerk's Office at 248-871-2410 or go to [www.fhgov.com](http://www.fhgov.com).

### ABSENT VOTER BALLOTS

You are eligible for an absent voter ballot if you meet any of the following criteria: are 60 years of age or older, are physically unable to attend the polls without assistance of another, are appointed as a precinct worker in a precinct other than your own, expect to be absent from the community in which you are registered on Election Day, cannot attend the polls because of the tenets of your religion or cannot attend the polls because you are confined to jail awaiting arraignment or trial.

### STUDENTS AWAY AT COLLEGE

If you registered to vote by mail, you are not eligible to vote by absent voter ballot in your first election and must vote in person. If you have any questions, please call 248-871-2418.

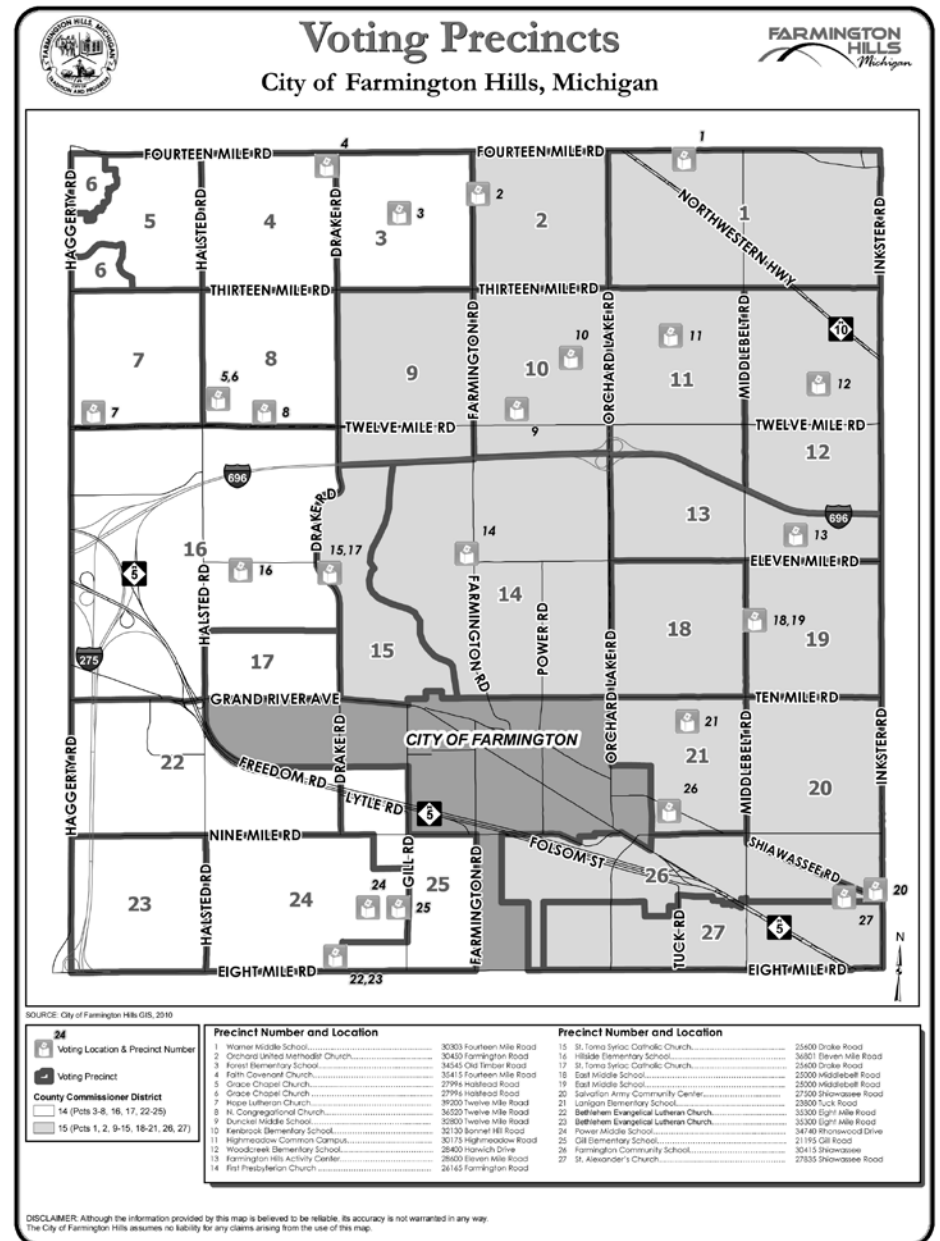
*REMINDER: Michigan Election Law does not permit a ballot to be issued to anyone other than the person named on the application. Therefore, a ballot cannot be given to anyone for delivery to another, including husband/wife, member of same family, etc.*

### VOTING ACCESSIBILITY – INSTRUCTIONS IN ALTERNATIVE FORMAT

To comply with voting accessibility requirements, voting instructions will now be provided on cassette tapes. Any voter, who would like to use this alternative format to obtain voting instruction, should contact the City Clerk's Office prior to Election Day at 248-871-2410 to make arrangements to listen to the cassette tape at the Clerk's Office or request that it be made available at your polling location.

### ELECTION INSPECTORS NEEDED

This Gubernatorial Election is expected to generate a very large voter turnout and we need your help. If you are interested or know someone who may be interested in working on Election Day as an election inspector, contact Diane Behrend at 248-871-2413 for an application. You must be a registered voter in Oakland County. Gubernatorial Election Day will be a 15-hour day for workers, so we are seeking energetic people who are enthusiastic about participating in the election process. Election Inspectors will earn \$140 for the day, plus an additional \$15 for attending the required training sessions.



## Pest Control

Like most cities, Farmington Hills has occasional reports of rodent sightings. Code inspectors work diligently with local businesses and residents to eliminate these fast-breeding pests. It's much easier, however, to prevent infestations in the first place. If you have questions, please call the Zoning Division at 248-871-2520.

Follow these tips to help keep rodents and other pests away from your property:

- Keep all garbage in metal or plastic trash containers with tight lids
- Store wood and lumber above the ground (recommended height is 18in)
- Eliminate water leaks and standing water
- Turn over your compost pile on a regular basis
- Use birdfeeders placed at least 4ft off the ground, pick up all spilled seed or switch to suet cakes
- Store bulk food or grain in rodent-proof containers
- Remove unnecessary items, junk and debris from your property
- Pick up and properly dispose of pet waste immediately
- Keep grass mowed, including tall grass and weeds along fence lines
- Seal holes, cracks or openings at least 3ft up from the foundation

*Please note: When using any rodenticide, it is very important to place the poison in areas completely inaccessible to pets. If a pet ingests poison intended for rodents, potentially serious or even life-threatening illness can result. If your pet is poisoned, time is critical for successfully treating the accidental poisoning. Call your veterinarian or the Animal Poison Control Center at 1-888-426-4435. (A consultation fee may apply.) Be prepared to state your pet's breed, age, weight and any symptoms. Keep the product container with you to assist in identification so the appropriate treatment recommendations can be made.*

## New Woodland Threat

The Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) has put out a notice regarding a new threat to local woodlands. Thousand Cankers Disease, an insect-introduced fungus, affects Black Walnut trees and causes dead branches and small spots on the trunk called cankers. Once infested, the tree typically dies within three years.

This disease has been prevalent in the western United States and was recently detected in Tennessee. It is not in Michigan yet and regulators want to keep it that way. The MDNR has posted a Walnut Quarantine on walnut plants and bark-covered wood. Hardwood firewood is prohibited for use or transport. Several insects damaging to woodlands (Emerald Ash Borer, Gypsy Moth, and Long-Horn Beetle) are transported in firewood resulting in premature tree death.

The Planning and Community Development Department stays aware of woodland threats through contacts with State and Federal agencies. For more information on Black Walnut Thousand Cankers Disease go to the Michigan Department of Natural Resources website [www.michigan.gov/dnr](http://www.michigan.gov/dnr) (search for Black Walnut) or the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service Pest Alert at <http://na.fs.fed.us/pubs>. (Click on Public Alerts and choose Thousand Cankers.)



A branch from a Black Walnut tree with Thousand Cankers Disease

## Oakland County 24-Hour Pollution Hotline

Play a part in keeping our lakes, streams and rivers clean. Report activities that are causing water pollution to Oakland County's 24-Hour Pollution Hotline at **248-858-0931**.

### What kinds of activities should you report?

- Contamination to lakes, rivers and streams
- Pollution entering a storm drain or surface water
- Suspicious dumping to drains and/or surface waters
- Suspicious discharges from pipes
- Sewage discharges on the ground or into surface water
- Large numbers of dead fish
- Failing septic systems
- Construction site soil erosion entering surface waters
- Polluted storm water runoff from storage piles and dumpsters
- Illegal connections of sanitary sewers to storm drains or surface waters

### Please provide the following information when you call:

Your name and phone number (you can remain anonymous if you choose), the source of pollution and what was spilled, quantity of spill, body of water impacted, when spill occurred, and major cross roads of spill or known address.

For more information, go to [www.oakgov.com/water](http://www.oakgov.com/water).

## Fast Facts about Your Property Taxes

After tax bills are mailed, amounts will be available at [www.fhgov.com](http://www.fhgov.com). Go to quick links, property inquiry, current taxes. Enter property address or parcel ID number.

If you use online bank payments (not recommended), mail the payment to: Treasurer's Office, 31555 W. Eleven Mile, Farmington Hills MI 48336. The remittance portion of the tax bill is not included with online payments. If we can't identify the property involved, the check will be returned and the unpaid tax will be subject to all penalties and interest for late payment.

The original copy of the tax bill is mailed to the owner of record. If property taxes are paid through an escrow account, the paying agent receives a separate notification. Original copies of the tax bill should be retained for income tax purposes.

Property tax bills are mailed to the address of record. Changes of address must be filed with the City in writing, tax bills are not forwarded to new addresses on file with the Post Office. Temporary seasonal changes may be filed with the Treasurer's Office, but permanent changes must be filed with the City Assessor. Failure to receive a tax bill does not waive the tax or any penalties for late payment.

### 2011 Property Tax Calendar

- February 14** – Last day to pay winter property taxes without penalty
- February 20** – Personal property statements due to assessor (business only)
- Late February** – Change of assessment notices mailed
- Last day of February** – Last day to pay summer or winter property taxes at City Hall
- Mid March** – Board of Review meets
- May 1** – Last day to file Primary Residence Exemption affidavit
- Early June** – Budget public hearing where City Council sets City tax rate
- June 28 - 30** – Summer tax bills mailed
- August 31** – Last day to pay summer property taxes without penalty
- September 15** – Last day for eligible persons to file for summer tax deferral
- November 28 - 30** – Winter tax bills mailed
- December 31** – Taxable status set for coming year's bill

## Holiday Garbage/Recycling & Yard Waste Pickups

**Thanksgiving** – No collection Thursday, November 25. Monday through Wednesday – regular collection. Thursday and Friday – collection delayed one day.

*Please note: The last yard waste pickup is Friday, December 3. Starting the week of December 6, yard waste will not be picked up until the program resumes in April 2011.*

**Christmas Day and New Year's Day** – Since Christmas Day and New Year's Day both fall on a Saturday this year, there will be no delay in the collection schedule. Collection takes place on the regularly scheduled day.

**Martin Luther King Day and President's Day** – Collection takes place on the regularly scheduled day. City offices closed Monday, January 17 and Monday, February 21.

### Holiday Recycling

Recycle holiday cards and wrapping paper with newspapers and junk mail in a brown paper bag in your recycling bin. Please note: Cards and wrapping paper with glitter or metallics should go in with your regular trash.

Recycle your Christmas tree at Glen Oaks Golf Course from December 26 through January 16, seven days a week from 9am to 4pm at the east end of the clubhouse parking lot at 30500 West Thirteen Mile Road, just east of Orchard Lake. Trees must be free of all decorations, lights and tinsel. There is no charge to drop off trees. Large quantities from commercial lots will not be accepted. The parks system processes the trees to make compost and wood chips, which will be available to the public in 2011, free of charge. Christmas trees placed at the curbside will go in with the regular trash, so please use this earth-friendly alternative instead. For more info, call 248-858-0906 or go to [www.DestinationOakland.com](http://www.DestinationOakland.com).

### Recycling Reminders

Farmington Hills residents can now recycle all narrow neck plastic bottles with any number on the bottom. Caps and labels can be left on. Also, plastic grocery bags and retail bags are accepted (bundled together), drink boxes are accepted, pizza boxes can be tossed loose in the bin, and scrap metal such as pots and pans, bakeware, and more can be placed in your recycling bin. For a copy of the Curbside Guidelines, go to [www.fhgov.com](http://www.fhgov.com) or call 248-871-2850.

## Housing Discrimination Notice

Housing Discrimination is prohibited by law. If you have a housing discrimination complaint, contact the Michigan Department of Civil Rights at 313-456-3700.



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

## Replacing Your Furnace

If you are planning to replace your old furnace with a newer, more energy efficient model this winter, be aware that if your home has a masonry chimney, a metal chimney liner must be installed along with the new furnace. High-efficiency furnaces generate flue gases that are much cooler than older models and contain high levels of water vapor that can condense on the inside of a masonry chimney and eventually saturate the brick. With sub-freezing temperatures, the water vapor trapped in the brick of the chimney can freeze and cause the brick to "pop" or disintegrate. The metal chimney liner is designed to prevent this from happening. White, salt-like stains on the brick are a sign that damage is occurring. If you have questions about furnace replacement, contact the Building Division at 248-871-2450.

## Zero Interest Winterization Loans

The City is offering help to qualified homeowners who plan to winterize their houses. Zero Interest Winterization Loans may be used for home improvement projects such as adding insulation or replacing windows, roofs or furnaces. Funding for this program is provided by the U.S. Housing and Urban Development Office through the Community Development Block Grant. To qualify for the loans, applicants must have owned and occupied a home in Farmington Hills for at least one year. The family must also meet Federal income guidelines, for example, a family of four must have a gross income of less than \$56,800. Income guidelines, applications, and program details are available at [www.fhgov.com](http://www.fhgov.com). Click on Quick Links and choose Housing Rehabilitation Program or call the Community Development Office at 248-871-2543.



The historic barn at Heritage Park

## Historic District Commission

The Historic District Commission's web presence has been expanded! A new map that combines Google maps technology and local historic information allows historic preservation enthusiasts to take a "virtual tour" of the historic sites throughout Farmington Hills.

This new feature can be found at [www.fhgov.com/Community/HistoricDistrict.asp](http://www.fhgov.com/Community/HistoricDistrict.asp).



Find us on Facebook  
Search for: Farmington Hills Special Services Department

Save time...  
**REGISTER ONLINE!**  
<https://recreg.fhgov.com>

**FARMINGTON HILLS**  
Michigan  
visit us 24/7  
[www.fhgov.com](http://www.fhgov.com)

31555 Eleven Mile Road | Farmington Hills, MI 48336

**FARMINGTON HILLS**  
Michigan

*focus*

Fall/Winter 2010

Farmington Hills Postal Patron

## Cultural Arts Concert Series & Youth Theatre

Enjoy quality entertainment for a fraction of the ticket prices elsewhere. Purchase tickets online at [www.recreg.fhgov.com](http://www.recreg.fhgov.com) or call 248-473-1848. Tickets are also available at the Costick Center. Limited availability at the door on performance nights. For more info, call 248-473-1870.

**Three Men and a Tenor** – Back for Two Nights! The renowned, hilarious, talented Three Men are back!  
Friday, October 22 & Saturday, October 23, 7:30pm | Farmington Players Barn Theater | Tickets – \$19 adults, \$17 seniors and students

**Disney's "High School Musical, Jr."** – Farmington Hills Youth Theatre. The popular musical has been adapted for all ages with two huge casts.  
Thursday, November 18 & Friday, November 19, 7pm | Saturday, November 20 & Sunday, November 21, 1pm and 5pm  
Costick Center | Tickets – \$10 at the door, 3 and under free | Reserve tickets in advance by calling 734-634-4678

**Holiday Fun with Michigan Opera Theatre** – An entertaining variety show with soloists and guests.  
Wednesday, December 8, 7:30pm | Farmington Players Barn Theater | Tickets – \$19 adults, \$17 seniors and students

**Farmington Community Chorus Holiday Concert** – Enjoy the 14th Annual Holiday Show  
Friday, December 17 & Saturday, December 18, 8pm | Mercy High School Auditorium  
Advance tickets – \$12 (available at [www.farmingtonchorus.com](http://www.farmingtonchorus.com)); \$15 at the door

**Blackthorn in Concert** – Three Nights! Favorite Irish performers – humorous and touching.  
Thursday, March 10, Friday, March 11 & Saturday, March 12, 7:30pm | Farmington Players Barn Theater  
Tickets – \$19 adults, \$17 seniors and students

## Special Events

**Traditional English Afternoon Teas** - Enjoy a special theme with each tea.  
November 16, December 3 and December 7, 1-3pm | Longacre House | Tickets – \$20 resident discount fee, \$25 non-residents  
Call 248-473-1870 for details

**Handmade Gifts – Holiday Trunk Sale** – Michigan Weavers Guild featuring beautiful, unique and artistic hand-woven gifts  
Saturday, November 20, 10am -5pm | Costick Center Lobby

**Rock, Soul & Suds – Beer Tasting Party** – Taste a wide variety of beers while enjoying music by Rock & Soul!  
Friday, February 4, 7-11pm | Longacre House  
Tickets – \$20 in advance (available online or call 248-473-1848); \$25 at the door

**Classes, Workshops and Lessons** are available for children, youth, and adults in theater, pottery, drawing, ceramics, pastels, oil painting, outdoor photography, watercolor and dance. Music lessons available in acoustic vocal, guitar, violin and piano. Call 248-473-1859 or 248-473-1870 for details or visit Community/Cultural Arts at [www.fhgov.com](http://www.fhgov.com).

**The City Gallery** in the Costick Center Lobby hosts a variety of exhibits throughout the year featuring talented artists, designers and group exhibits. To see the full schedule of exhibits, go to the art exhibit page at Community/Cultural Arts at [www.fhgov.com](http://www.fhgov.com).



Art Adventure Camp

Presorted Standard  
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Michigan 48334

## 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 & 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.

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Website: [www.fhgov.com](http://www.fhgov.com) | E-mail: [gpines@fhgov.com](mailto:gpines@fhgov.com)  
Address: 31555 W. Eleven Mile Road | Farmington Hills, MI 48336

## ADULTS 50 & BETTER

The Center for Active Adults offers a variety of fitness programs, classes and special events at the Costick Center. Call 248-473-1830 for information, dates and times.

### HOLIDAY EVENTS & PARTIES

Enjoy meals, games, entertainment, dancing, prizes and more. Purchase tickets at least one week prior to event, \$8 per person. After deadline, \$10.

- Halloween Party – October 29
- Stars & Stripes Forever Veterans Celebration – November 5
- Thanksgiving Party – November 18
- Holiday Party – December 10
- Valentine's Party – February 11
- St. Paddy's Day Party – March 11

### FLU SHOTS

Recommended every fall for those 65 or older, younger persons with medical problems, and for those who live or work with high-risk individuals. Medicare/Medicaid covers cost of vaccine. Bring picture ID with current address and Medicare/Medicaid card. Must pre-register at [www.oakgov.com/health](http://www.oakgov.com/health) to receive shot. Tuesday, October 26, 10am-1pm.

### CAREGIVERS 101

A panel of experts will talk about legal issues, home care options, organizational skills, and managing decisions for those in the caregiving role. Complimentary lunch follows for those attending seminar. Tuesday, October 26, 10-11:30am.

### HEALTHY WORLD COOKING

Hands-on cooking class featuring regional cooking with nutritious ingredients simply prepared. Techniques, recipes, and tastings. Select Fridays, 1:30pm, \$6.

### WOMEN'S & MEN'S 50+ SOFTBALL

Registration for softball teams in the Oakland County 50+ league begins in January 2011. Play begins in late May.

### GOLF LEAGUES

Registration for the men's, women's and couples golf leagues begins in February at the Costick Center. League play begins the first week in May at the Farmington Hills Golf Club.

### SIMPLY BALLROOM

All adult ages and skill levels invited. DJ, 50/50 raffle, door prizes, refreshments. Complimentary dance lesson 7pm, dance 8-10:30pm. Most third Friday evenings. \$10.

### BALLROOM FOR ADULTS

- Fernando's Monday Ballroom: Fox Trot, 6-7pm | West Coast Swing, 7-8pm | 11/8-12/20
- Back to Ballroom on Tuesdays: Tango I, 7-8 pm | Tango II, 8:15-9:15pm | 11/2-12/14
- Fernando's Thursday Ballroom (beginners): Waltz, 7-8pm | Rumba, 8-9pm | 11/4-12/16

## Recreation Division

Come to the Nature Center in Heritage Park for Hayride Central (every Friday through October 29), plus photo exhibits, nature exhibits, night hikes, the Junior Naturalist Program, scout badge programs and daily hands-on activities. The Nature Center is open Monday - Friday, 10am-5pm and Saturday - Sunday, 12-5pm.

### The Special Services Department also offers:

Tennis lessons, gymnastics, martial arts, youth basketball, flag football leagues, soccer leagues, softball leagues, cardio boxing classes, Zumba and more.

"Nature themed" birthday parties in the Nature Center or a Pool Party, Sports Party or Classic Birthday Party at the Costick Center.

Early education programs, parent and tot classes, scout badge programs, babysitter training, knitting classes and more.

### Popular Fall events:

- Boo Bash – October 23
- Holiday Shopping Expo – November 4 and December 4
- Holiday Lights Ceremony at City Hall – November 30
- Live & Local at the Costick Center – December 4

For more information, call 248-473-1800 or click on the latest Special Services brochure at [www.fhgov.com](http://www.fhgov.com).

### LONGACRE HOUSE EVENTS

- Holiday Brunch – Sunday, December 5 at 1pm | \$30 adults, \$20 kids under 12, ages 3 and under free
- Breakfast with Santa – Saturday, December 11 at 9am | \$10  
Pre-registration is required for both events. The Longacre House is located on Farmington Road just north of 10 Mile Road. Call 248-477-8404 or visit [www.longacrehouse.org](http://www.longacrehouse.org) for further information.

### Stay in shape this winter at the Costick Center pool!

The Costick Center's 25-yard pool, at 87 degrees, is the perfect spot to take a dip during open swim hours, join a water fitness class, train to become a lifeguard or a scuba diver or learn to swim. Annually, 5,000 adults and children learn to swim at the Costick Center's American Red Cross swim lessons. Pool rentals and birthday party programs are also available. Call 248-473-1800 or visit [www.fhgov.com](http://www.fhgov.com) for further information.

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