

The City of Farmington Hills maintains 240 miles of neighborhood streets and 59 miles of major mile roads with a replacement value of over \$285 million.



Public Services Department

2014 MILLAGE FOR PUBLIC STREETS AND ROADS - Election Day is November 4

Road Funding Facts

- Due to the economic downturn, the amount of road funding received by the City of Farmington Hills has not increased since 2004.
- The City receives nearly all of its road funding from fuel taxes and vehicle registration fees collected by the State of Michigan.
- No local property taxes are used to fund road construction or maintenance.

Impacts

- Overall City-wide pavement conditions that are among the worst in the entire area
- Longer response times for snow plowing and road salting
- Potholes

Personnel reductions included:

- Two Senior Civil Engineers
- Three Construction Inspectors
- One Traffic Engineering Aide
- One Engineering Administrative Support Position
- Three Public Works Equipment Operators
- 20% employee reduction since 2005

Pavement Surface Evaluation and Rating (PASER)

1=Very Bad, 10 = New Road

Network	Miles	Current Average PASER
Livonia	370	6.7
Novi	171	6.4
Troy	335	5.7
Romulus	117	5.6
Farmington	21	5.5
Royal Oak	161	4.8
Southfield	248	4.5
Farmington Hills	299	4.3

The goal of the 10-year program is to improve the overall PASER rating to approximately 6 for all City roads.

How Will The Money Be Used?

- The millage proposal will generate up to \$6.1 million annually for 10 years.
- \$1 million will be used to ensure the City can continue to contribute its match, up to 20% per City Charter, toward residential road paving Special Assessment Districts (SADs).



Ten Mile Road before paving.



Ten Mile Road after paving.

- \$1.1 million will go toward improved preventative maintenance on residential streets.
- \$4 million will go toward improved preventative maintenance and reconstruction of the City's major mile roads.
- The additional funding will enable the City to improve its pavement preventative maintenance program, resulting in cost effective pavement preservation of our roads.
- The millage does NOT eliminate the Special Assessment District (SAD) process for residential street reconstruction. It does ensure up to 20% matching funds from the City of Farmington Hills.

OTHER CONSIDERATIONS —

Bad Roads:

- Make it difficult to control your vehicle and can contribute to car accidents
- Create hazards for pedestrians and cyclists
- Cause wear and tear on vehicles, potentially costing motorists thousands of dollars for repairs

Good Roads:

- Improve safety
- Stabilize and increase property values
- Enable the City to attract and retain businesses
- Increase the overall attractiveness of the City

Funds from the proposed millage will be used to reconstruct the following roads:

Program Year	Road Name	Project Limits
2016	13 Mile Road	Orchard Lake Road to Farmington Road
2017	13 Mile Road	Haggerty Road to Halsted Road
2018	11 Mile Road	Orchard Lake Road to Middlebelt Road
Future	Orchard Lake Road	13 Mile Road to 14 Mile Road

BALLOT QUESTION Charter Amendment - Millage for Public Streets and Roads

Shall the Farmington Hills City Charter be amended to allow an additional special tax rate for public roads and streets by authorizing the City to levy a new additional millage in an amount of up to 2.0 mills, for ten (10) years, starting with the July 2015 levy (resulting in the authorization to collect an estimated additional \$6,169,000 in the first year if approved and levied), the taxes to be used by the City only for purposes of the improvement, rehabilitation, repair and maintenance of public roads, streets and road drainage within the City? Each budget year, the City Council will consider the amount of any increased monies allocated through ACT 51 to the City and reduce the millage (if approved by the voters on the November 4, 2014 ballot) by the equivalent of the amount of the increase in ACT 51 money.



City Clerk's Office

Your vote is very important! The Gubernatorial Election is on TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 2014. Sample ballots can be found on the City website at www.fhgov.com.

Candidates on the ballot will include: Governor/Lt. Governor, Secretary of State, Attorney General, United States Senator, Representative in Congress (14th District), State Senator (11th District), Representative in State Legislature (37th District), member of the State Board of Education, Regent of the University of Michigan, Trustee of Michigan State University, Governor of Wayne State University, County Commissioner (13th, 14th and 21st Districts), Justice of the Supreme Court, Judge of the Court of Appeals, Judge of the Circuit Court, Judge of the Probate Court, Judge of the District Court (47th District), Oakland Community College Board of Trustees (Pcts 1-26), Schoolcraft Community College Board of Trustees (Pct 27 only), Clarenceville School Board (Pct 27 only), Farmington Public School Board (Pcts 1-4 and 7-26) and Walled Lake Consolidated School Board (Pcts 5 & 6 only).

PROPOSALS ON THE BALLOT WILL INCLUDE:

State Proposals:

Proposal 14-1: A referendum of Public Act 520 of 2012, Establishing an Open Season for Wolves and Authorizing Annual Wolf Hunting Season.

Proposal 14-2: A referendum of Public Act 21 of 2013, Granting the Natural Resources Commission the Power to Designate Wolves and other Animals as Game without Legislative Action.

City Proposal: Charter Amendment – Public Streets and Roads Millage.

School Proposal: Walled Lake Consolidated School District (Pcts 5 & 6 only) – Operating Millage Renewal Proposal.

BALLOT MARKING INSTRUCTIONS: Please be sure to carefully read the ballot marking instructions provided to you on the secrecy sleeve included with your absent voter ballot or on the secrecy sleeve provided to you at the polls. Ballot marking instructions can also be found on the City's website www.fhgov.com with the sample ballots.

Please be sure to make note of the following deadlines:

- **Saturday, November 1:** Last day to request a ballot to be mailed. City Clerk's Office must have a signed application for the absent voter ballot by the voter in order to mail out a ballot.
- **Monday, November 3:** Until 4pm only. Last day to request an absent voter ballot in person at the City Clerk's Office. Voter ID is required. If you do not have Voter ID, you will be required to sign an Affidavit of Voter not in Possession of Voter ID. Voter is not allowed to leave with the ballot on this day and must complete the ballot on site and turn it back in to the City Clerk's Office.

Working and can't make it to City Hall during normal business hours? The City Clerk's Office will be offering extended hours for Election related business only.

- **Monday, October 20 and 27:** 8:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m.
- **Saturday, October 25:** 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.
- **Saturday, November 1:** (the Saturday prior to the Election, per Michigan Election Law) – 8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.

REMINDER to Voters in Precincts 22 and 23 – Precinct Location Change – Effective Immediately. Farmington Hills voters in Precincts 22 and 23 who previously voted at Bethlehem Evangelical Lutheran Church are now voting at St. John Lutheran Church, located at 23225 Gill Road, Farmington Hills, 48335 for all Elections. The location change was required due to the closing of Bethlehem Evangelical Church. New Voter ID cards were mailed to all affected voters in mid April. If you did not receive your new Voter ID card or have further questions regarding this location change, contact the City Clerk's Office at **248-871-2410**.

Visit www.fhgov.com for detailed information on obtaining an absent voter ballot, precinct locations, maps, and more.

HOMEOWNER ASSOCIATION CONTACTS: The City Clerk's Office maintains a list of all Homeowner Associations and contact information. This enables the City to notify Associations of upcoming developments, road projects, etc. that may affect your subdivision. Please submit updated contact information to dwestbrook@fhgov.com or fax it to the City Clerk at 248-871-2411. Please be sure to do this annually or as your contacts change.

Department of Planning and Community Development

Housing Rehabilitation Program

New Opportunities for Home Repair Loans

As of July 1, the City has partnered with the Oakland County Community and Home Improvement Division to help qualified homeowners repair or improve their houses. Funding for this program is provided by the U.S. Housing and Urban Development Office (HUD). Homeowners may be eligible for loans to replace roofs, windows, furnaces, septic fields or hot water tanks. To qualify, applicants must own and occupy a home in Farmington Hills and the family must meet Federal income guidelines. A family of four, for example, must have a gross income of less than \$51,700. For information, call the Oakland County Community and Home Improvement Division at

248-858-5401 or call the City's Community Development Office at **248-871-2543**.

Zoning Division *Questions? Call the Zoning Division at 248-871-2520.*

Cold Weather Checklist to Winterize Your Home

- Exterior – Seal any holes, cracks or openings at least three feet up from the foundation. Examine windows for leaks or drafts. Caulk all areas as needed.
- Swimming Pool – Take appropriate measures to close your pool until next spring.
- Yard Clean-up – Remove any piles of leaves, tree debris, grass clippings, and garden debris. Store ladders, lawn mowers, tools, patio furniture or other yard objects indoors for the winter to avoid weather damage and make your yard less likely to harbor rodents.
- Trash – Keep in containers with tight-fitting lids. Dispose of pet waste daily.
- Firewood Storage – Stack wood above ground (recommended minimum height is 18 in).
- Snow Removal – Don't place snow directly on your neighbor's property and don't block their view along the driveway by piling snow too high. Please ask your contractor to do the same.

Overlay Zoning District

Keeping Farmington Hills Competitive through Flexible Land Usage

Many communities are finding that traditional zoning through residential, commercial, and industrial districts may not address a City's development issues and desired growth patterns. The "overlay zone" creates more options (such as added height on structures, flexibility on building setbacks, alternative parking requirements, allowing for a wider range of permitted uses) all intended to provide incentives to encourage development in certain areas.

The City's Planning Commission has finalized an overlay zone for the area of Grand River near Botsford Hospital, which the City Council has recently adopted. This overlay zone was developed in accordance with both the City's Master Plan and the Grand River Corridor Vision Plan created by the Farmington Hills/Farmington Corridor Improvement Authorities. This fall, the Planning Commission turns its attention to the Grand River North Focus Area (located north of the M-5 Interchange). For information on the vision for Grand River, go to <http://fhgov.com/grandriver>.

The Planning Commission will then review the City's Master Plan for Future Land Use (a long-range guide for land use development and redevelopment). This document is reviewed every five years to ensure that it continues to reflect the goals of the community and its residents.

To view the current Master Plan, go to www.fhgov.com, click on Document Library in the upper right corner, type "master plan" into the Title search field, and click on search.

Housing Discrimination Notice

Housing discrimination is prohibited by law. For information, visit www.hud.gov/fairhousing. If you have a housing discrimination complaint, contact the Michigan Department of Civil Rights at **313-456-3700** or the HUD hotline at **1-800-669-9777** or **1-800-927-9275 (TTY)**.

ADULTS 50 & BETTER - Special Services Department

The City of Farmington Hills Adults 50 & Better provides a variety of speakers, fitness programs, classes, services and special events at the Costick Center. For a schedule, see the monthly newsletter "The Messenger" on the City website at www.fhgov.com or call **248-473-1830**.

THE STARS & STRIPES FOREVER VETERANS RECOGNITION CELEBRATION: Friday, Nov. 7, 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Honor guard ceremony, keynote address, special luncheon, and dancing to the Mike Wolverton Band. Sponsored by American House. Tickets \$8 by Nov. 3/\$10 after. Complimentary admission for veterans residing in Farmington/Farmington Hills (must register by Nov. 3).

HOLIDAY EVENTS & PARTIES: Meals, entertainment, dancing, prizes, and more. Purchase tickets at least one week prior to event - \$8 per person/\$10 after. **Halloween Happening** (Oct. 31),

Turkey, Pumpkins, and Bingo, Oh My! (Nov. 18), **Holiday Extravaganza** (Dec. 12), **Valentine Dance** (Feb. 13), **St. Pat's Dance Party** (Mar.13).

SHREDDING FOR SAFETY: Protect your identity, de-clutter your files, and recycle! Bring up to four paper grocery bags of documents to be shredded in the Costick Center parking lot. Drive up only. No magazines, junk mail or trash! Residents 50 or older only. Dec. 9, 10 a.m.-12 p.m.

PICKLE BALL: The fastest growing court sport of active adults. Drop in \$3 residents/ \$4 non-residents. Group meets on M, W & F Sept. 3-Dec. 5 at the Costick Center Gym 8:30-11:30 a.m. No Pickle Ball Oct. 31, Nov. 7, 21 and 28. Nets and other equipment provided. All levels welcome.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: For the Senior Nutrition program to drive for Meals on Wheels. Please call 248-473-1825 for more information.



ICE ARENA - Special Services Department

Celebrating 20 Years: 1995-2015. The Farmington Hills Ice Arena (FHIA) offers activities for the entire family including Learn-to-Skate, Open Skate, Drop-In Hockey, Mid-Day Skate, Adult Skate, Figure Skating, and Youth and Adult Hockey. Welcome to new staff members - Ice Arena Supervisor Dan Phelps and Co-Skating Director Sheri Combs. The Ice Arena is the home of the 2014 Michigan High School Boy's Hockey Division 3 State Champion Farmington Falcons! Also skating at the FHIA is the Farmington Hills Hockey Association, serving 500 players at all levels and offering house and travel teams, plus the international TimBits development program. The FHIA is also the home of the Farmington Hills Figure Skating Club, the Farmington United Flyers high school boy's hockey team, and high school figure skating teams from both United Farmington and Mercy. *For more information, visit www.fhice.com or call 248-478-8800.*

HOLIDAY GARBAGE/RECYCLING/YARD WASTE PICKUPS

Thanksgiving – No collection Thursday, November 27.

Monday-Wednesday: regular collection. Thursday & Friday: collection delayed one day, with Friday's collection occurring on Saturday.

• *Please note: The last yard waste pickup is Saturday, November 29. Starting the week of December 1, yard waste will not be picked up until the program resumes in April 2015.*

Christmas Day and New Year's Day: No collection on Thursday, December 25 or Thursday, January 1.

Collection will be delayed one day for Thursday & Friday pickups, with Friday's collection occurring on Saturday.

Martin Luther King Day and Presidents' Day: Collection takes place on the regularly scheduled day. City offices closed Monday, January 19 and Monday, February 16.

Winter Reminders *Division of Public Works: 248-871-2850.*

Snow Plowing Operations

Major roads and school bus routes receive the highest priority; they are plowed and salted following any accumulation of snow or ice. Local (subdivision) streets are plowed following accumulation of four inches or more of snow. The City makes a practice of rotating which neighborhoods are plowed first after each snow event.

Snow Buildup at the End of Driveways

Snow plows are angled to the right for plowing from the center line of the street to the curb, making the deposit of snow at the end of driveways a natural by-product of plowing operations. You may help alleviate some of this accumulation if you clear the area to the right of your driveway before a snow plow comes down your street. The City is unable to return to clear this deposit at the end of your driveway and is unable to prevent this from occurring at over 23,000 driveways city-wide.

Mailboxes

Curbside mailboxes may become blocked by plowed snow. The U.S. Post Office has a policy regarding access to mailboxes, which requires snow to be removed enough to allow the mail trucks to drive up to the mailbox for delivery. This is the responsibility of the postal customer.

During snow plowing operations, weak or damaged mailboxes are sometimes knocked down by the weight of snow thrown by snow plows. To ensure that your mailbox is sturdy enough, "shake your mailbox" before each winter to check to see if it is in need of repair.

Fire Hydrants

Removing snow around fire hydrants greatly assists the Fire Department. It is important that fire hydrants be visible and accessible at all times.

Safety Reminders

In addition to driving defensively and carefully in inclement weather, there are several important safety reminders to remember:

- Discourage children from playing on snow banks near the road.
- When following a snow plow, please stay a safe distance behind the truck.
- Snow should not be plowed or shoveled into the roadway.

Salt/Sand Barrels

The City places 55-gallon drums filled with a mixture of sand and salt at intersections and hills upon written request from homeowner groups. If your association is interested please send a letter, along with a clear description or sketch of the location, to the Division of Public Works at 27245 Halsted, Farmington Hills, Michigan, 48334. It is important to obtain the approval of the property owner adjacent to the selected location, given that spilled salt may burn the grass.

Be a Good Neighbor

The elderly and disabled often need help removing snow from their driveways. If you know of a neighbor in need of help, please lend a hand.



Georgetown University Energy Prize

Help the City Win Five Million Dollars!



The Greater Farmington Community has been selected as one of 52 quarter finalists to compete for \$5 million in the Georgetown University Energy Prize (GUEP) Competition. The GUEP will help Farmington Hills promote and implement continued energy efficiency measures to benefit the entire community.

Your feedback is needed! Please respond to the survey at www.sustainablefh.com and help the Project Team build the winning plan. Printed surveys are also available at Farmington Hills City Hall, Farmington City Hall, the Costick Center, and both branches of the Farmington Community Library. With the help of residents, businesses, and nonprofits, we can win the Georgetown University Energy Prize and position our Community among the most sustainable and energy efficient areas in the U.S.

Police Department

Enhanced Emergency Medical Dispatch:

Residents will soon benefit from 911 technology upgrades in the Police and Fire Dispatch Center. In June, the Police Department successfully obtained a grant from the Michigan Municipal Risk Management Authority (MMRMA) to supplement the funding of a new software program designed to deliver the best in service and speed during pre-arrival medical instructions to 911 callers.

The software, called ProQA EMD, integrates with the existing Computer Aided Dispatch platform. During the course of an emergency medical call, it guides the emergency dispatcher through the process of collecting vital information from the caller. The program then assists with obtaining the patient's status, choosing an appropriate priority level, and instructing the caller with medically approved protocols until the emergency responders arrive at the scene.



ProQA EMD integrates the benefits of the National Academy of Emergency Medical Dispatch (NAEMD) protocols, which have been used by Farmington Hills emergency dispatchers since 1999, with today's modern technologies. It helps emergency dispatchers move smoothly through case entry and key questioning, and then guides them in providing all relevant post-dispatch and pre-arrival instructions.

This new system also helps improve quality control measures. Quality Improvement Software automates the entire emergency dispatch case review process and assists with data entry, compliance scoring, record-keeping and reporting. It better ensures that emergency dispatchers are providing quality service in compliance with standards established by the International Academies of Emergency Dispatch (IAED). It pinpoints specific training needs and liability risks, and helps document continuous improvement efforts.

With this service upgrade, the Police Department will be in a better position to pursue accreditation through the IAED. By achieving the status of an *Accredited Center for Excellence*, the Farmington Hills Police Department will join a prestigious group of only 100 accredited emergency dispatch centers across the nation.

The ProQA project, which will be fully implemented in December 2014, is yet another example of the City's commitment to providing the very best in public safety and emergency services to the community it proudly serves.

Emergency NIXLE Alerts:

The Police Department sends out NIXLE emergency notifications regarding certain crime occurrences, missing or endangered persons, and hazardous conditions. Sign up for free NIXLE text and email alerts at www.nixle.com.

Sidewalk Obstructions:

In response to several complaints, citizens are reminded that it is illegal to park vehicles in a driveway blocking public passage on sidewalks. This is to allow passage by walkers, joggers, handicapped persons, and others.

Finance Department

2015 Property Tax Calendar

February 10: Due date for the filing of affidavits to exempt personal property with a true cash value of \$80,000 or less.

February 17: Last day to pay winter property taxes without penalty. The due date is extended beyond February 14 due to the weekend and the Presidents' Day holiday.

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.

June 1: Last day to file Primary Residence Exemption affidavit, for the entire tax year.

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 1: Last day to file Primary Residence Exemption affidavit, winter taxes only.

November 28-30: Winter tax bills mailed.

December 31: Taxable status set for coming year's bill.

Fire Department Holiday Safety Tips

"Change your clock; change your smoke alarm battery."

This year remember to change your clock and battery on Sunday, November 2.

The Farmington Hills Fire Department and the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) encourage you to follow these tips to keep this holiday season safe.

Heating Safety

- Keep anything that can burn at least three feet away from heating equipment, like the furnace, fireplace, wood stove or portable space heaters.
- Have a three-foot "kid-free zone" around open fires and space heaters.
- Never use your oven to heat your home.
- Have a qualified professional install stationary space heating equipment, water heaters or central heating equipment according to the local codes and manufacturer's instructions.
- Have heating equipment and chimneys cleaned and inspected yearly by a qualified professional.
- Remember to turn portable heaters off when leaving the room or going to bed.
- Install and maintain carbon monoxide (CO) alarms.
- Always use the right kind of fuel, as specified by the manufacturer, for fuel burning space heaters.
- Make sure the fireplace has a sturdy screen to stop sparks from flying into the room. Ashes should be cool before putting them into a metal container. Keep the container a safe distance away from your home.

Christmas Tree Safety

- Choose a tree with fresh, green needles that do not fall off when touched.
- Only purchase an artificial tree that is labeled "flame-resistant" by a nationally recognized testing laboratory.
- Before placing the tree in the stand, make a fresh cut one to two inches from the base of the trunk. Fill the tree stand with water and add more daily.
- Make sure the tree is not blocking an exit and is placed at least 3 feet away from any heat source such as fireplaces, radiators, candles, heat vents or lights.
- Use lights that have the label of an independent testing laboratory. Some lights are specified only for indoor or outdoor use.
- Replace worn or broken strings of lights.
- Connect no more than three strands of mini lights. Read manufacturer's instructions for the number of LED strands to connect.
- Always turn off Christmas tree lights before leaving home or going to bed.
- Check natural trees daily for dryness (needles that fall off when touched). Remove any tree showing signs of unusual dryness.

Open Burning

- Open burning (campfires, etc.) is only allowed when following specific guidelines, on the site of a single family dwelling using an approved semi-enclosed device that can be purchased from a local retailer.
- When choosing a location for your burn area, make sure it is at least eight feet away from any surfaces that could easily catch fire, such as wooden decks and patio furniture. Likewise, do not place it underneath any electrical or utility service wires.
- Only seasoned fire wood may be burned, at no time is the burning of yard waste allowed. Please consult Section 12-14 of the City municipal code for guidelines or call Fire Prevention at 248-871-2820 for clarification.

Fast Facts About Your Property Taxes

After tax bills are mailed, amounts will be available at www.fhgov.com. Go to quick links, then property/tax inquiry, then visit the online property inquiry and then go to current taxes and enter a 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 by the Post Office to new addresses on file with the Post Office, unless it is a temporary forwarding only. 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.*

Register online for classes and programs at <https://recreg.fhgov.com>. Or go to 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, M-F, 8:30am-4:30pm.



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Michigan

focus

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 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

Special Services Department *The Costick Center is now open until 7pm on Wednesdays for registration services.*

Youth & Family Services

The After School Program is **FREE** to Farmington Hills/Farmington residents after the purchase of a photo ID card for \$50 at the Costick Center, 28600 W. 11 Mile Road. It serves over 350 middle school youth per day at five Youth Center locations.

The **Summer Drop-In Program** had the largest enrollment ever – 196 Youth Members enjoyed indoor and outdoor activities, ice skating, and field trips. Several youth became successful entrepreneurs at the first ever Lemonade Stand. The summer highlight was Bernstein Field Day, with relay races, a water balloon challenge, and tug of war.

The **After School Program**, run by Youth & Family Services staff, returns to the Farmington Hills YMCA on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays offered to Dunckel Middle and Warner Upper Elementary School students.



Zipline field trip

Back by popular demand: Outdoor Nature Program, Girl Power and Guy Time, Linguaflo Foreign Language, and Tutoring.

New program: Crescendo Detroit – Building Character Through Music at the Jon Grant Center. No experience required, just passion, commitment, and a love for music and dance!

Cultural Arts Division *For more information, call 248-473-1859 or 248-473-1870.*

The Cultural Arts Concert Series continues its season with a lineup of performances at the Farmington Players Barn Theatre.

Tickets: \$17/seniors & students, \$19/adults. Purchase at <https://recreg.fhgov.com> or charge by phone at **248-473-1848**.

Upcoming concerts include:

October 25 - Three Men & A Tenor, an internationally renowned high-energy group of vocalists, returns with a repertoire including "rat pack" era favorites!

January 10: Terry Lee Goffee, known as the "Ultimate Johnny Cash Tribute Artist," performs Johnny Cash favorites, with historical insight into each piece.

Youth Theatre: The Farmington Hills Youth Theatre will present "Rapunzel! Rapunzel! A Very Hairy Fairy Tale" Nov. 21-23 and Dec. 6-7 at the Costick Center. Two casts of 100+ young actors in grades 1-12 bring this hilarious musical alive. Purchase tickets (\$10 each, ages three and under free) by calling 248-473-1848, at <https://recreg.fhgov.com> or at the door.

Art Exhibits/Gift Sales: The Costick Center's City Gallery features the Great Lakes Beadworkers Guild Oct. 15-Nov. 18. The Michigan Weavers Guild exhibit is Nov. 21-Jan. 9 and their annual Winter Market is Nov. 22 in the Costick Center Lobby.

Art Classes: The Heritage Park Stables Studio offers Pottery for Kids, and Step by Step Drawing for children and teens; and Basic Drawing, Exploring Ceramics, Pastels, Oil Painting, Watercolor Studio, Camera Intensive Workshop, and Digital Photography, Basics & Beyond Basics, plus a one-day on Colored Pencils, all for adults.

Music Classes and Lessons: Group and individual lessons are available in acoustic, electric or bass guitar; piano (ages 8+ through adult), Kelly Kirby piano (ages 5-7), and violin. New! Modified Music-ation – music plus education for special needs students.

City Directory

Emergency Calls Only	
Fire Department	9-1-1
Police Department	9-1-1
Central Services/Purchasing	248-871-2430
City Clerk	248-871-2410
City Hall	248-871-2400
City Manager's Office	248-871-2500
Council Newsline	248-871-2511
District Court	248-871-2900
Farmington Community Library	248-553-0300
Finance Department	248-871-2440
Assessing	248-871-2470
Treasury	248-871-2480
Fire Department	
Non-emergency	248-871-2800
General Information	248-871-2400
Human Resources	248-871-2490
Planning Department	
Building	248-871-2450
Community Development and Housing Rehabilitation	248-871-2549
Planning	248-871-2540
Zoning	248-871-2520
Police Department	
Non-emergency	248-871-2600
Public Services Department	
Engineering Division.....	248-871-2560
Public Works	248-871-2850
Special Services Department	
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 Division	248-473-1830
Youth & Family Services	248-473-1841
Volunteer Center	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 | Phone: 248-871-2500 | Fax: 248-871-2501
 Website: www.fhgov.com | E-mail: gpines@fhgov.com
 Address: 31555 W. Eleven Mile Road | Farmington Hills, MI 48336

Splash into Aquatics at the Costick Center Pool!

Congratulations to all who took part in the World's Largest Swimming Lesson at the Costick Center pool on June 20. You helped break the World Record!

The 2014 Guinness World Record for the World's Largest Swimming Lesson is now at 36,564 participants from 22 countries around the globe. The Costick Center was proud to host this exciting event for the first time. Swimmers of all ages learned about water safety and lifesaving skills while building on the fundamentals of swimming. Look forward to this becoming an annual event!

Swim instructors are looking into forming a youth practice swim team to help kids transition from swim lessons to swim team by building stroke development, endurance, and teamwork. Interested? Please call 248-473-1834.

10/27 - Session 2 Swim Lessons Start
 11/27, 12/24 & 12/25 - Pool Closed

Come to an Open Swim and check out the new locker room renovations!

Call **248-473-1834** for more information.

Longacre House

In Fall/Winter 2014, the Longacre House will host many weddings, showers, and parties, plus weekday evening piano and guitar lessons, and yoga, crochet, and knitting classes.

Story and Cookies with Santa:

Friday, Dec. 5, 6:30-8 p.m., ages 8 and under. Each child will visit with Santa - bring your camera! \$8 residents/\$13 non-residents. Pre-registration required.

Breakfast with Santa:

Saturday, Dec. 13 & Sunday, Dec. 14, 9 a.m. Enjoy a breakfast buffet, then share your Christmas list with Santa. Each child gets a special gift and picture with Santa. \$13 residents/\$18 non-residents. Pre-registration required.

Have you or a family member had a great experience with a program or event from the Special Services Department?

WIN a \$50 Special Services Gift Certificate
by telling us your story!

Pick up a form at the Costick Center or email us at: specialservices@fhgov.com

Recreation Division

Play, Explore, Learn, Live!

Sign up for classes including dance, tennis, gymnastics, adult fitness (Zumba, yoga, Z-box, Zumba-toning, cardio boxing, outdoor yoga), martial arts, babysitter training, dog training, youth basketball leagues, flag football leagues, and soccer leagues.

Visit the Nature Center for exhibits, photo displays, hands-on activities, and programs including nature pre-school classes, Junior Naturalist Club, night hikes, hay rides, scout programs, and more.

Mark your calendar for these special events:

- Oct 18:** Boo Bash in Heritage Park
- Nov 22:** Thanksgiving for Nature in Heritage Park
- Nov 24:** Annual Turkey Shoot at the Costick Center
- Dec 2:** Annual Holiday Lights Ceremony at Fire Station #5/City Hall
- Dec 5:** Stories & Cookies with Santa at the Longacre House
- Dec 7:** Natural Wreath Making Workshop at the Nature Center
- Dec 13 & 14:** Breakfast with Santa at the Longacre House
- Dec 13 & 14:** Holiday Shopping Expo at the Costick Center (with Santa)
- Jan 23:** Inside Out (Live Animal Show) at the Costick Center
- Jan 31:** Chili Golf Open at Farmington Hills Golf Club
- Feb 6 & 7:** Daddy/Daughter Dance at the Costick Center

Some programs and events require advance registration, call **248-473-1800** for more information or click on the Special Services brochure at www.fhgov.com.

FARMINGTON HILLS Michigan *focus*

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Fall/Winter 2014

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