



City of Farmington, Michigan

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City of Farmington Newsletter

Winter 2021



City Manager David M. Murphy
Photo: Observer & Eccentric Media

I am absolutely thrilled that the annual Tree Lighting at the Governor Warner Mansion was held this year. It is one of my favorite Farmington events. While some traditions can safely be held, we are not out of the woods yet in regards to the pandemic. Please remember to be mindful and safe this holiday season.

The tree lighting always leaves me with a great sense of community, this year was no different. Farmington not only has great residents and

businesses, but a tremendous number of passionate volunteers. It was volunteers (the Jaycees) that made the tree lighting possible. Volunteers help run the Farmers Market, various events within the city, Governor Warner Mansion and all of the city boards and commissions. Together, with city administration and employees, we make a very welcoming and caring community.

This year, the city started a new Pathways Committee that is tasked with improving or creating new pathways in the city and their connections to surrounding community, county, and regional systems. Seven volunteers make up the board of this committee and they are plotting out great connectivity projects.

Looking back over the past year, we've accomplished quite a lot. The city completed a sidewalk improvement project through many of its neighborhoods, updated Drake Park to include volleyball courts, and is finalizing the Oakland Street project which included a new watermain and street.

Looking ahead, GLP Financial Group is making great progress on the renovation of the former Farmington State Savings Bank which will be office space. New single-family homes are under construction at the former 47th District Courthouse Property — Liberty Hill is a 14-home development. The City and Downtown Development Authority will also be moving forward with the Farmington Road Streetscape which will upgrade the Farmington Road corridor through the downtown. Our progress and momentum will continue through the new year.

As the cold weather sets in, I'm looking forward to seeing people at the Riley Park Ice Rink and on the Shiawassee Sled Hill. Please remember keep your residence or business sidewalks clear of snow and ice. To help ease the amount of snow that can be plowed into the end of the driveways, try to clear the left corner of your drive at the road. When clearing your drives and sidewalks, please do not push/plow the snow into or across the streets and roads.

I wish you and your loved ones peace, health, happiness, and prosperity in the coming New Year.

Harry Potter
AND THE
HOLIDAY SKATE
RILEY PARK ICE RINK
New Year's Eve
8PM - 12AM
\$10/WIZARD or \$30/HOUSE
Tickets sold at
Farmington City Hall
23600 Liberty Street
Rain date Jan. 8, 7-11 p.m.
BALL DROPS: 9PM & 12AM • HORCRUX SCAVENGER HUNT • COSTUME CONTEST
33113 GRAND RIVER AVE, FARMINGTON • 248-474-5500

NYE event to feature city's first ball drop

The City of Farmington is preparing for its first New Year's Eve ball drop. The drop will be part of the Riley Park Ice Rink's Harry Potter and the Holiday Skate. The event will be December 31 from 8 p.m. until midnight in Downtown Farmington's Riley Park.

The Riley Park Ice Rink Committee has planned a children's ball drop at 9 p.m. for those who have an earlier bedtime; the official ball drop will be at midnight. Festivities also include a Horcrux scavenger hunt, costume contest and a few other surprises. Professor Pemberton's Wands & Accoutrements will be in attendance with items including spell books, magical wands and leather journals; and Clever Creations by Amy will offer fairy garden pieces representing each house along with Harry Potter-inspired gnomes. The Cheese Lady and Dearborn Music will be there as well.

The event venue, Riley Park and the Sundquist Pavilion, is now part of Downtown Farmington's social district, The Syndicate. This means that adult beverages can be purchased at participating restaurants and bars then brought to the rink for a toast (or two).

Those who choose a warmer option for the evening and attend the 9:45 p.m. showing of *Singin' in the Rain* at the Farmington Civic Theaters, will still have time to catch the ball drop. The movie is scheduled to conclude at 11:28 p.m., just in time to walk down to Riley Park and welcome the New Year.

Other Riley Park Ice Rink events for 2022 include:

- Glow Skate on Jan. 22 from 7-9 p.m.
- Star Wars Skate on Feb. 12 from 2-4 p.m.
- Superhero Skate on Feb. 21 from 2-4 p.m.

The Star Wars and Superhero skates are hosted by the Farmington Community Library.

The Farmington 2020 Annual Consumer Confidence Report is available online at: farmgov.com/waterreport

SMART Quick Connect helps users get around with Moovit app

A SMARTer Ride Share

Now serving:
Farmington &
Farmington Hills For \$2



It's been nearly a year since SMART introduced Quick Connect, a new innovative and convenient shared ride shuttle service. What makes Quick Connect innovative? Using Moovit, a free transit app, you can schedule your rides on your phone while the app matches the vehicle with riders who

may be traveling in the same general area. This helps reduce the wait and travel time of your trip and gives you the convenience to schedule your ride when needed.

The Moovit app is available for download in the Apple and Google Play stores. Once downloaded, just create your account and you are ready to book your ride. If you are not comfortable using the app, call (866) 962-5515 and talk with a Customer Service Representative to schedule your ride. The SMART Quick Connect service operates Monday through Friday from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. A one-way full fare is \$2 and a reduced fare is \$1. For reduced fare requirements, please visit smartbus.org for more information.

Whether you use the app or call, you are provided with a pick-up time and destination arrival time, as well as driver information. The app gives you the advantage of being able to track and watch the bus as it travels.

SMART Quick Connect vehicles are wheelchair accessible and travel to any destination within the cities of Farmington and Farmington Hills. Several major destinations are easy to get to including OCC Orchard Ridge, Beaumont Hospital - Farmington Hills, Target – Farmington Hills as well as The HAWK – Farmington Hills Community Center.

For those who ride SMART fixed route buses, such as the 305 Grand River, 400 Southfield-Orchard Ridge, 405 Northwestern Highway, 740 12 Mile and 805 Grand River Park & Ride as well as the 851 West Bloomfield-Farmington Hills Park and Ride, you can use Quick Connect to get to/from a bus stop and your destination within the service area.

Together, SMART and Moovit give you the freedom and flexibility to get where you want and when you want within Farmington and Farmington Hills communities.

For more information, call SMART at 866-962-5515, press 1 to talk with a Customer Service Representative about Quick Connect.

Farmington Public Safety recruiting

Paid-on-Call Firefighters

Paid-On-Call Firefighter Requirements:

- 18 years of age with high school diploma
- Valid Michigan driver's license
- Pass oral interview, psych and medical exams
- Pass drug screen
- Resides within six miles of the City of Farmington



Fire academy is about 350 hours of instruction taking place on two weekday evenings each week and two Saturdays per month. The academy is paid for by the department and new recruits are paid while they attend training. The time commitment after the completion of the academy is relatively low. If interested, please contact Fire Marshal Wood at 248-474-5500 x2246 or wwood@farmgov.com

City of Farmington snow emergency guidelines

The City of Farmington typically declares a snow emergency when the weather forecast indicates six or more inches of snow is expected. The decision to declare a snow emergency is made amongst the Director of Public Safety, Public Works Superintendent and the City Manager.

Once a snow emergency has been declared, Public Safety will notify the media and send out an electronic message via Nixle. All vehicles must be removed from roadways within 12

hours so the streets can be plowed from curb to curb.

Public Safety is responsible for making sure all vehicles are removed from the roadway and will make an effort to notify the owners of vehicles that are still parked in the roadway before impounding them. The owner of the vehicle will be responsible for the towing fee associated with the vehicle impound.

The snow emergency is used to ensure that all of the roadways in the

city are plowed to allow prompt emergency responses to residents living in the neighborhoods.

Register with Nixle.com

Register to receive community alerts and other important public safety messages with Nixle.com or by simply texting your zip code to 888777. By registering with Nixle.com, residents receive messages by email and text.

Each year the City receives revenue from the State of Michigan from the State's City, Village, and Township Revenue Sharing (CVTRS) program. In order to be eligible to receive this revenue, the City must complete a Certification of Accountability and Transparency, a Citizen's Guide to the City's Finances, a Performance Dashboard, a Debt Service Report, and a Projected Budget Report. These items can be found on the City's website at www.farmgov.com.