



City of Farmington, Michigan

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City of Farmington Newsletter

Summer 2018



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

My life has become more full since I was appointed Farmington City Manager. I have the privilege of working with a great city administration – one that makes it enjoyable to come to work every morning. If you’ve ever come into City Hall, you know what I’m talking about; the staff is friendly, knowledgeable and helpful. They care.

This summer, two long-time employees of the city will be retiring and we will feel a great loss.

Building Inspector John Koncsol has been with the city for 31 years. He has one of the toughest jobs in the city – code enforcement. It’s John’s job to tell people they are in violation of a city ordinance; he might even ticket them. John has the amazing ability to do this with such diplomacy that these residents, albeit violators, end up liking John and holding him in a high regard. John has helped to oversee the City’s Construction Board of Appeals, as well as the Zoning Board of Appeals and has been involved in many great projects the City has developed. He also serves as the City’s mechanical inspector, I find John to be very helpful and personable. Conversations with him are always intriguing; he has many different interests that make him very unique.

Economic and Community Development Director Kevin Christiansen, who has worked directly with John for years agrees, saying, "We are all very sorry and disappointed to see John leave as the City of Farmington Building Official,

Building Inspector, and Code Enforcement Officer after 31 years with the City. But, we are all very happy for John on his retirement. We wish him the best and good luck, and we'll miss him very much. Take care John, and hit 'em long and hit 'em straight!"

City Clerk Sue Halberstadt will also be retiring this summer. There is no other way to put it -- Sue is a class act: funny, welcoming, smart and caring. She has been with the City of Farmington for 18 years; 12 of that as the city clerk. Sue has spearheaded the successful deployment of all new election equipment in both 2007 and 2017, adding the computerized Electronic Poll Book in 2010; she has been working to digitize the clerk’s office; and has updated resident interface by bringing technology to the counter of the Clerk’s department allowing faster, more efficient assistance to the public. While Sue is very good at making sure our residents’ needs are met, she also focuses on advancing her staff. She insists that Clerk’s Department personnel stay up-to-date through the most current training and any other available opportunities.

Deputy Clerk Mary Mullsion says that working with Sue has been a joy, “She’s such a professional with the highest standards and I have been proud to be her Deputy. She makes coming to work enjoyable and fulfilling and has taught me by example how to lift people up and help them succeed. She will be greatly missed!”

Both of these individuals help to make Farmington the welcoming community that it is and both of them make working here a joy. They will be missed by everyone in City Hall and at DPW. We wish them the best.

2018 Greater Farmington Area Founders Festival—presented by Meijer

The Greater Farmington Area Founders Festival is a summer tradition and will take place in downtown Farmington and Shiawassee Park July 19-22. It is hosted by the Greater Farmington Area Chamber of Commerce.

Founders Festival will feature a group of creative and talented crafters. Farmington Road will be transformed into a Vintage Marketplace featuring DIY projects, shabby-chic designs, vintage decor, and up-cycled and rustic creations.

Farmington Fido Fest is a new and exciting event taking place in Shiawassee Park! Entertainment will include

performances from the Ultimate Air Dogs, Rock n’ Roll K9’s, Disc Dogs of Michigan, Lure Coursing and Barn Yard Hunt. Dogs can clock their speed on the radar run, check out the newest doggy wear or participate in one of the many contests throughout the weekend. There will be rescues on site looking to place pets in forever homes.

Kids activities have been moved to Shiawassee Park. This includes the Community Choice Credit Union kids performance stage and inflatables. Bosch will present The Koalabotz who will have a variety of free Bosch STEAM activities for the kids including coding Lego robots,

watching acid and base reactions while exploding LEGO volcanoes and learning how to create toys with recycled materials. At night, families will gather for Movies Under the Stars and Light the Night, a spectacular hot air balloon glow.

The LOC Color Run and Founders Festival Parade will take place on Saturday at 10 a.m. There will be live entertainment in the beer tent featuring Atomic Radio, Fifty Amp Fuse and Killer Flamingos. The Bingo tent will be open on Friday and Saturday nights.

For more information visit www.FoundersFestival.com

The Farmington 2017 Annual Consumer Confidence Report is available on line at: farmgov.com/waterreport

Summer Garbage Collection

Independence Day – Wednesday, July 4, 2018
Wednesday – No Collection Scheduled
Collection One Day Behind Thursday – Saturday
Friday collection will be scheduled on Saturday

Labor Day – Monday, September 3, 2018
Monday No Collection Scheduled
Collection One Day Behind Tuesday – Saturday

Summer City Reminders

No parking across sidewalks

Please avoid blocking sidewalks while parking vehicles in your driveways. Section 31-60 of the City's Code of Ordinances prohibits parking on a sidewalk or in front of a driveway. A violation of this ordinance is a civil infraction. Please do your part to help keep Farmington a walkable community.

Keep the streets clean

When sweeping/raking yard waste - such as Maple tree helicopter seeds - please take the time to clear the street in front of your house as well. This will prevent debris from covering the storm drains in the roadways.

Pedestrians should be aware of all motor vehicles

Whether you are using a crosswalk or riding a bike on a sidewalk, always be cognizant of approaching vehicles. They may be pulling out of a driveway across a sidewalk or going through a crosswalk. Bicyclists be aware too. Constant vigilance.

Call City Hall to schedule your block party

248-474-5500, ext. 2221

Have a great and safe summer!



Metro Detroit's number one farmers market is in full swing celebrating 25 years of community service with direct access to Michigan Farm Produce that comes to market from no more than 90 minutes away.

Save the date for these fun market events:

- Aug. 4 - Polish Festival
- Aug. 18 - Annual Elks Corn Roast
- Sept. 22 - Market of Harvest Moon
- Sept. 29 - Italian American Day
- Oct. 27 - The Haunted Market

As part of our 25 year celebration, we are offering FREE jute crafted Farmington market bags (while supplies last) to anyone who spends a minimum \$20 at any downtown store or restaurant on market day Saturdays.

For more information find the market at www.farmingtonfarmersmarket.com

Absentee ballots now available for primary

Applications for absent voter's ballots are available in the City Clerk's office. These are dual applications that can be used for either or both the August 7 and November 6 elections this year. If you are eligible for an absentee ballot (you can check eligibility at www.farmgov.com) you may call the Clerk's Department at 248-474-5500 ext. 2225 or ext. 2228 to have one mailed to your home or you can stop by to fill one out at City Hall. If you are on the Permanent Absent Voter list, you should have already received your application – please let us know if you have not. Absent Voter Ballots will begin to be sent out the beginning of July for the August 7 Primary Election and the beginning of October for the November 6 General Election.

If you are not yet registered to vote and you wish to vote on August 7, you must register on or before July 9, 2018. Close of registration for the November 6 election is October 9, 2018.

The City Clerk's office in City Hall is open 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, and the Saturday immediately preceding each election from 8:30 a.m. – 2 p.m.

City of Farmington election info can be found at www.farmgov.com under Election Information in the City Clerk area of the website.



Harvest Moon Celebration September 20, 21 & 22

Farmington's much-loved Harvest Moon Celebration kicks off on Thursday, Sept. 20 with music by Northville Folk, along with specially selected beer and wine. Friday Sept. 21 is the traditional Harvest Moon Dance. Bugs Beddow & The Good Stuff will return to rock the park. Tickets will be available mid-August. To conclude the weekend, there will be a special Harvest Day at the Farmers Market on Saturday from 9 a.m. until 2 p.m.

Market events showcase Saturday life in a small town

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.