

Farmington Observer & Eccentric

Volume 27, Number 44 Monday, June 14, 1976 Farmington, Michigan 32 Pages Twenty Five Cents

Road commission eyes '77 as 8 Mile paving deadline

By STEVE BARNABY
Farmington editor

Traffic jams on Eight Mile, between Orchard Lake and Farmington roads, could be a thing of the past by this time next year, according to Oakland County Road Commission officials.

In a meeting with the Observer & Eccentric, commissioners expressed hope of putting out bids for a road widening and paving project on that stretch of Eight Mile which has haunted area commuters for years.

Presently, it is a two-lane roadway lined by small industrial buildings. The stretch has long been notorious for its traffic jams and generally bad driving conditions.

Newly released federal funds are making it possible to upgrade the road, according to Paul Van Roebel, commission highway engineer.

"Hopefully, we can take bids on construction in the fall after agreements have been formulated with the local governmental units," said Van Roebel.

OFFICIALS HAVE estimated the project will cost \$1.25 million.

Under the guidelines, the federal government would pick up 70 per cent of the tab, with the remaining 30 per cent being divided between the cities of Farmington Hills and Livonia and Oakland and Wayne counties.

The two cities would contribute about \$600,000 each for construction.

Presently, the Farmington Area Chamber of Commerce is conducting a lobbying effort to have the road paved.

In the past, the paving program has been delayed due to lack of federal funds and differing road maintenance priorities by Oakland and Wayne counties. Eight Mile is the border line road between the two counties.

Although bids are being taken this year, paving would have to wait until 1977 because there isn't enough of the construction season left by the time bids would be taken, said Van Roebel.

"One of the problems we face is that when we take bids, everybody has come up with the money, including the local governments. We've got to get this whole thing coordinated," said road commissioner Fred Harris of Farmington Hills.

Commissioners are hoping that Oakland County commissioners will approve a request for a millage question on a ballot later in the year.

"We've asked for two mills which would go into the general fund," said William Richards, vice chairman of the road commission.

"In that way, we would have to go to the county commission every year and prove our programs. The problem is that we go to the commission on March 15 with our request and haven't heard a thing since," he said.

If the millage was approved in November, other road construction, such as widening Orchard Lake, could be sped up, according to road commissioners.

Commissioners also are eyeing other financial alternatives, according to Commissioner John Gnan.

"We would like to get a bigger percentage of gasoline taxes. We never have left us our fair share," he said.

County funds for road construction are meted out by the state through gas and weight taxes. Presently, Oakland County gets about 47 per cent return. Officials would like to see that increase to 54 per cent.

Another plan under consideration is the Spinelle bill now under consideration in the state senate. Oakland County would receive an additional \$75,000 the first year if the bill was passed.

"Each year the funds would increase," said Gnan. "If this bill was passed it would drastically change all of our road construction plans. The state's share of the money would shrink and our's would increase."



To the rescue

Volunteer firemen and Farmington Hills Ambulance Co. emergency medical technicians attend to Ruth Dorando, 14, of Farmington Hills, after she was knocked to the pavement when the horse she was riding collided with a car Thursday afternoon on Power Road. Ms. Dorando suffered a broken leg and multiple bruises after hitting the car's windshield. The horse escaped major injury, suffering only a slight cut above its eye. (Staff photo by Harry Mauthe)

Cops fight crime trend in classroom sessions

By RON GARINSKI

regulars and receives attending the four seminars

"WHAT WAS so different from our previous seminars was that the chief also attended each session," explained Trooper Joe DeKraaker, the bureau's coordinator.

"During our other seminars, the chief didn't attend every session. But Byrnes did and that shows Farmington has a great public safety department," DeKraaker continued.

"He now can work with his men and apply this crime prevention knowledge in the community, helping to take the burden of crime off the policeman and put it back on the residents."

Usually, state police conduct a 40-hour seminar on crime prevention. The program includes training in lock and alarm concepts, retail security, patrol problems and neighborhood watch programs.

The troopers conducted the abbreviated version of the program for Farmington because the department is small and patrol scheduling problems hindered implementing the entire 40-hour session.

"Police departments have trained specialists in crime prevention, but they are left in the office. They don't get out on patrol where they are needed the most," DeKraaker added. "This is the purpose of our program, to train regular policemen how to use crime prevention concepts while out in the community."

These concepts involve helping the community become aware of what it can do to lessen the opportunity for crimes to occur.

OFFICERS CAN do this, for example, by explaining to breaking and entering victims what is wrong with their homes' security.

"After a crime has been committed, an officer now should be able to tell the victim that maybe his lock was inadequate, or that if he had a solid core door, the same thing might not occur again," the state trooper said.

"It doesn't help to put an expensive lock on a cheap door," he continued. "This is what we stress. Knowing what to look for when checking a building after a crime can have a comforting effect on the victim. If a officer tells them how they can prevent future incidents the entire community will be better off."

Crime prevention has become more than just safety locks and solid-core doors for the Farmington Public Safety Department. Officers now are prepared to offer measures for coping with problems, rather than just sympathy to victims of crimes.

In Farmington, crime prevention means the community and public safety officers work together in reducing the opportunity for crime.

"In most communities around the country, police departments train specialists in crime prevention," says Director of Public Safety Daniel Byrnes.

"I don't want any crime specialists in this department because I believe that after a while they divorce themselves from the total law enforcement operation and lose contact with the community."

"Rather than have specialists in our department, we want all our officers and reserves trained in crime prevention. This way our patrolmen have more contact with the community in one day than a specialist would have all week. That way we reach more people."

AFTER A four-day seminar, Farmington Public Safety Officers have learned that what crime prevention is all about. It's getting the community involved in reporting and deterring crime.

Last week, the Michigan State Police Crime Prevention Bureau presented four sessions on ways police can involve the community and themselves in reducing crime.

The results of this intense training program, Byrnes said, will benefit the community if the officers carry their enthusiasm for the idea with them on patrol.

"I don't think there is any doubt that if we are to do anything with crime, we need more community involvement," he explained.

"A lot of the information passed on to the officers in this seminar are concepts they never have been confronted with before. It was all new."

"Since it was all new, they really became excited. Now if they carry this enthusiasm back into the community, everyone will benefit," Byrnes continued.

For the State Police bureau, it was a unique seminar because it was only 18 hours of training with all the department's

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Dream come true Shriner aims for super ball game

By STEVE BARNABY

much to put on the game, he says.

"But we've really been lucky. Everybody has really been helpful in getting the money," he says.

Among those helping out are the two game directors, Ray Eliot for the North team and Clay Stapleton for the South. Eliot is the assistant director of athletics at the University of Illinois, while Stapleton holds that same post at Vanderbilt University.

"We've got a lot of help from local Shriners, too," says Morrison, who is a member of the Imperial Shrine Athletic Committee.

Among those giving a helping hand are Pat Dutcher of Redford Township, his son Pat, a swimming coach at North Farmington High School, and Bob and Bill Rankin, both coaches in the Birmingham school system, and Bill Quigley of Garden City.

Morrison, vice president of the Morrison Shrine Community Center, has dedicated most of his free time to the Shrine and next year will become the Muslim Temple Potomac for Southeast Michigan.

"I've spent about 20 hours a day on this thing," he says, jokingly. "But it's been a real thrill to get around the country and meet all the people necessary to make this thing work."

The original idea came to Morrison's mind five years ago when he wanted to challenge a competitive football squad from Ohio universities with a college team from Michigan universities.

When the crowd roars during the kick off of the North-South Shrine's football game at Pontiac Metropolitan Stadium in December, Fred Morrison Jr. of Farmington is going to loom his tie, sit back and let a big sigh of relief.

Morrison, 36, has spearheaded a drive, begun in 1971, to bring the fundraising game to Southeast Michigan. He is the managing director for the game.

"This is like seeing a dream come true. I've personally seen what the Shrine hospitals can do. This game will bring in even more funds to help out," says Morrison.

The Shriners have 22 hospitals around the nation, 19 orthopedic and three burn centers. Funds to keep the hospitals running are raised through other money raising projects such as the East-West football game and the Shrine's circuses which are conducted throughout the United States.

The game, scheduled for December 17, will attract star college athletes from around the nation.

"A REAL FEATURE of this event is that the players will have an opportunity to play in a controlled environment. They will really have a chance to show what they've got to offer to the pro teams," Morrison says.

He hopes that at least \$200,000 can be raised to aid the hospitals. It takes that



FRED MORRISON JR. The idea mushroomed into the scheduled nationwide confrontation in Pontiac. Morrison admits there have been some hectic moments in his drive, such as when it was questionable whether or not Pontiac Stadium would be completed.

"WE KNEW WE WOULD be out of luck, then. So we gathered everybody up and started making arrangements about the game being played in Pontiac. Now we've got a stadium."

Morrison envisions the North-South game as an annual event to be in Pontiac.

"There's no way we're going to do it up now," he says.

The players who will be chosen by Eliot, Stapleton and the coaches will be housed in the Somerset Inn and Northfield Hilton in Troy. Thirty players will be chosen for each team.

Also slated for that day will be pre-game and half-time shows put on by Shrine units. Among those Shrine units sponsoring the effort are the Ahmed, El Khurshid, Saladin and Muslim temples.

"A lot of people see the Shrine's performance on television. But let me tell you, you've got to see it in person. It's really exciting," he says.

Meanwhile, Morrison is hoping the stadium will be filled.

"I worry a lot about that," he admits. But H. Bill Michigan Shrine's will be helping out by bringing family and friends from around the state. The public also is welcome.

"I've spent most of my life in Michigan. The only lone end to tie up getting television time."

"We're working on setting something up with one of the networks now. We've got a date set that doesn't compete with any other games."

Farmington students star in journalism wins

Donna Gundie and Fran Rogier, of Our Lady of Mercy High School, checked out the "Pots" at Pontiac Stadium and came up with a journalism award for their efforts.

Ms. Gundie and Ms. Rogier won first prize in the feature writing, personality division of Schoorcraft College's second annual journalism contest, recently.

They were among 13 Farmington area high school journalists who won awards for editorials, news, sports and feature stories which were written for their high school newspapers.

Writers and editors of Detroit area newspapers

papers acted as judges for the nine divisions.

Steve Barnaby, editor of the Farmington Observer & Eccentric, judged entries in the opinion division of the contest. Tim Rich and Orlie Wayne County editor, judged newswriting and Fred DeLano, O&E news editor, scrutinized the personality profiles.

They were joined by Ed Wendorfer, publisher of the Plymouth Community Crier, who judged the best newspaper. Dave Good, special writer for the Detroit News and Editor of the Detroit News, judged the best feature story. Jack Hoffman, editor in chief of the Northville Record, judged the analysis entries. Carl Arrington, music reviewer for the Detroit Free Press, reviewed the reviews, and Edward McHale, vice president of Schoorcraft College, searched for the best sports columns.

In judging Ms. Gundie's and Ms. Rogier's profile of Henry "Plucker" The "Pots" of the Happy Days television series, DeLano said, "Of all the entries submitted on the Winkler interview, this was by far the most professionally written. It is an entertaining story by itself, seeming to capture much of the Winkler personality."

Anne Hillier, of Mercy High School's student newspaper OJIM Newsprint, placed second in the personality profile division with her description of a golf caddy's expe-

riences. "A Caddy's Life is a Mixed Bag," she wrote. "The caddy is the unsung hero of the entry. 'So good, in fact, that it should be picked up as a feature story by city newspapers.'"

Clare Kistler also shows excellent knowledge of golf in general and caddyship specifically. The writing reflects this.

Patrick Ogan of Farmington High School's Blue and White, and Susan Collins of the OJIM-Newsprint received honorable mention in the category.

"Shaping Policy Changes Needed," by Shelly Ziska of North Farmington High School's paper, the Northern Star, won first place in the opinion division.

"Ms. Ziska has the ability to capture the essence of editorial writing," Barnaby said. "Her subject matter is relevant to the student scene. She presents a well thought out argument which ties together the newspaper's role in critical in editing, writing. Ms. Ziska does this very well."

Bill Cline, of Farmington High School's Blue and White, won three awards in the contest. One of them was awarded his satirical editorial, "On Gerald Ford," which placed second in the opinion division.

"Humor is an important aspect in today's journalism. To often high school journalists lean toward an over-abundance of 'militant' seriousness. Cline is a welcome relief from that habit. I laughed all the way through this column. It is edited as best, I know I will be watching for Cline in the future."

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OUR OWN QUEEN

Ms. Gundie and Ms. Rogier will be going off to Michigan soon to compete in the Miss Michigan contest. To see what's in store for her, turn to the suburban life section.

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FARMINGTON

The Spartan symbol will be just another remembrance as Farmington Junior High School closed its doors last week for the final time. To get a final look at the Farmington districts' oldest school, turn to page 3A.

SPARTANS