

# Farmington Observer & Eccentric

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## Funds allow town fix up for Farmington

**By LOUISE OKRUTSKY**

Farmington city administrators have earmarked portions of an expected \$40,000 in 1977-1978 Federal Community Development Block Grant money for the continuation of the homeowners grants and loans program, additional downtown parking and street repair, the landscaping of the river and the replacement of Shawansee Park playground equipment.

A senior citizens telephone reassurance service might be formed through grant funds.

Other priorities have been given to housing and street repair. Robert Deadman, Farmington city manager, said. Because of the success of the Community Housing Program, Interest Study and Grants programs, the city proposes to continue providing low interest loans and grants to qualified homeowners.

Just as the present grants and loans are offered to homeowners by the city, the continued programs will help finance necessary home repairs.

**UNDER THE PROGRAM**, the city will pay up to nine per cent of the interest on a loan from a local bank, which is used for essential home repairs.

For those homeowners whose family income qualifies, the city may provide a 100 per cent grant to pay the cost of essential home repairs, Deadman explained.

The same people who qualified for this year's program may be qualified for next year, he said. This program is starting a year from this November. We're using Oakland County's guidelines to determine who is eligible for this program. The guidelines for the income levels eligible for this program could change.

An estimated \$5,000 will be used for this program. City administrators expect Oakland County will provide an additional \$10,000 for the grants and loans programs.

The city plans to use \$20,000 for street and road repairs. The money will be used in Warner Farms and Belair subdivisions, which were built in the late 1950s and early 1960s.

City administrators fear unrepaired roads will decrease the value of homes in the subdivisions and create urban blight.

Administrators say gasoline and weight taxes no longer provide enough revenue to pay for the repairs.

Some streets still have many years of serviceable life but they need repair, Deadman said. "If they aren't repaired a new street would have to be put in."

Community development funds should help us to do 80 per cent of the repair work in Warner Farms. There is a larger amount of repair necessary in Belair.

It is proposed that this program will be an on-going program, as the dollars allocated are not sufficient to do all of the repairs necessary in one fiscal year.

We thought that it was proper that the FARC operate the service. The people who would express a desire for this type of

service don't normally communicate with city hall," he said. "The city feels that the success of other programs of this type in other areas indicates an unmet need in this area."

**IF MEDICAL TREATMENT**, transportation or food is needed, the service would contact government agencies and volunteers who could solve the problem. The most difficult part would be to find the

(Continued on page 2A)

## Twin cities launching cop unification study

Farmington and Farmington Hills are investigating combining fire departments with those of three other cities and two townships.

Each city council voted unanimously to participate in a study of the proposal with Novi, Wixom, Walled Lake, Westland and Farmington Hills and Farmington Township.

The cities are under no obligation to enter into a study to be conducted by Public Administration Services of Chicago, according to Farmington City Manager Robert Deadman.

The communities may give up some independence, Deadman said. Some communities may not buy the services of fire, but others may.

If two or three communities get together on this, we could establish something which is unique in the metropolitan Detroit area," he said.

A cooperative fire department would improve the standardization of equipment and fire hydrant specifications, according to Deadman.

We'd have to standardize the threads in hydrants in the area. It would be expensive but think of the alternatives. A building could burn while the firemen were searching for a hydrant with matching threads," he said.

The proposal would improve personnel standards and training, he said.

In time, we might be able to get our own training center to service the cities involved. Together, we'd have the money to perhaps get a full time instructor and run night classes for the volunteers as well as day instruction for regulars. We could be sure that our fire department was receiving uniform training," Deadman said.

The service could take the form of a consolidated fire department, involving a complete merger, according to the research company.

Contract services, in which a smaller area would pay its larger neighbor for additional fire service, is another option.

(Continued on page 16A)



**Super jock**

Mike Bowden, Harrison Hawk tailback, clobbered the Farmington Falcon defense by tallying up 262 yards in 37 carries and scoring three touchdowns. Final score was 28-20, Harrison. To find out more about Bowden's super game turn to the sports section. (Staff photo by Harry Maathe)



**The staff**

MAATHE, BARNABY, ADATT, OKRUTSKY, McCLISH

## We're waiting to meet you

We want to get to know you better. With that thought in mind, the Farmington Observer & Eccentric staff will greet all those group representatives and individuals interested in attending the fourth annual public relations seminar. To be conducted at 8 p.m. Oct. 7 in the Farmington Holiday Inn, 38123 Ten Mile, the seminar will be a pleasant evening for those interested in learning how to get their news into Farmington's community newspaper.

In short, the primary goal of the seminar is to help clubs, organizations and individuals to get their story to the public.

On hand to greet you will be Farmington Community Editor Steve Barnaby, Farmington-Suburban Life Editor Louise

McClish, staff photographer Harry Maathe and reporters Co Adatt and Louise Okrutsky.

**AMONG ITEMS TO BE DISCUSSED** will be how to write an effective publicity release, how to submit releases and photographs and how to arrange for our staff to best cover your group's activities.

The seminar will be conducted in a manner that will allow you plenty of time to sit down with the staff, have a cup of coffee and talk about your group's needs.

All those attending will receive a handy pamphlet of general information on how to prepare your materials for publication in the Farmington Observer & Eccentric. As a helpful reminder throughout the year, a fact sheet with deadlines and names of the

staff also will be distributed.

Frankly, the best part of the evening will be our chance to meet you. The staff at the Farmington Observer & Eccentric is enthused over this annual gathering.

Since launching the seminars, we've found them to be the most effective way to help community groups who are embarking on their yearly activities.

Be sure to bring a list of club officers' names and contact phone numbers so we can get started immediately serving you.

**THOSE INTERESTED SHOULD fill out** the accompanying coupon and send it to the Farmington Observer & Eccentric, P.O. Box 89, Southfield, Michigan, 48077. The seminar is free.

We'll be waiting to greet you at the door. See you then.

## Brodhead reveals finances

Financial disclosure is quickly becoming an issue in the 17th U.S. Congressional race.

U.S. Rep. William Brodhead (D-Detroit) recently released his finances and has challenged Republican opponent James Burdick to do the same. This disclosure is required by law.

Burdick has been making a fight of it in the nation's capital by demanding financial disclosure bills be released from committees so they can be passed before the scheduled Oct. 2 adjournment.

"It is hard to understand how the Ethics Committee can be holding up these vital bills," says Brodhead. "The people of the United States are fed up with the inaction of Congress on the vital issue. They are fed up with indictments, stories of corruption and laundry scandals on Capitol Hill."

Although financial disclosure still is not required by law, Brodhead urged Burdick to release his financial worth.

"I BELIEVE it to be essential to fully inform the public about any interests or biases the office seeker may have," said Brodhead.

Brodhead's financial statement shows he has \$30,268 in assets listed and \$5,372 in liabilities for a net worth of \$24,896. His income for 1975 was \$28,119.

He reported paying income tax for 1975 of \$7,141—\$4,403 to the federal government, \$1,154 to the state of Michigan and \$2,564 to the City of Detroit.

"I am releasing this information because I believe that this type of disclosure will help restore people's faith in their government," he said.

Among his assets was equity in houses in Detroit and Virginia of \$14,305, furnishings of \$500, life insurance (cash value) of \$2,502, two automobiles at \$4,000, personal property at \$1,500, cash of \$2,338 and pension fund (cash value) of \$1,215.

Liabilities include \$1,458 to National Bank of Detroit, \$1,113 to State Employees Credit Union, \$446 to Home Life Insurance Co., \$2,123 to General Motors Acceptance Corp. and \$332 to the University of Michigan.

He earned \$332 on interest in his savings account and received a \$600 honorarium from the Iowa Policy Council, a state agency.

He received a state income refund of \$204 and declared loss of house rental garnering \$2,059.

## North Farmington principal named

Gerald G. Potter will replace Assistant Superintendent Lynn Nutter as principal of North Farmington High School.

Potter, 38, has been assistant principal of Farmington High School since 1967.

A teacher in the Farmington system for 15 years, Potter is a member of the district's declining enrollment task force and is a curriculum advisor to the school's business education department.

In 1966, he received a masters' degree in secondary school administration from Michigan State University. He earned a BA in business education from the school in 1960.

Eastern Michigan University granted

him a specialist arts degree in educational administration in 1972.

He was director of the Farmington Area Advisory Council in 1970.

He has been active in the Farmington Area Jaycees, the Farmington Credit Union and the Farmington Founders Festival Committee.

In 1974, Potter was the general chairman of the Founders Festival Committee for its sesquicentennial year.

He helped to initiate "college style" registration in Farmington Schools. Potter has been active in planning student activities and in studying student discipline and attendance.

He and his wife Nancy have a son and a daughter.

**Farmington Observer & Eccentric**

**PUBLICITY-PRESS RELATIONS SEMINAR**

Thursday, Oct. 7, 8 p.m.  
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## Discrimination policy splits school trustees

A proposed student non-discrimination policy, required by law to qualify for federal school funds, was criticized by two Farmington school board members as being "embarrassing" and "unnecessary."

Farmington's school board must pass the policy to comply with regulations governing Title Eight and Title Nine funds for the district.

In part, the policy states: "It is the policy of the Farmington Board of Education to provide an equal educational opportunity for all students."

"Administration is directed to take such steps as may be necessary to promote equal opportunity without discriminating on the basis of arbitrary or capricious standards, such as race, religion, color, creed, sex or national origin."

"THIS POLICY is contrived, redundant and embarrassing to this board member," said Dr. Merry Ross. "It's totally unnecessary."

"It refers that this district hasn't been everything that it should have been. There is no need for this kind of policy," Ross said.

Trustee Gary Lichtman admitted the policy was necessary in applying for federal funds but said he agreed with Ross.

"We do it because we have to. I'm just arbitrary and capricious enough to say 'no,'" Lichtman said. "Practice shows we haven't been discriminating."

"It's impossible to provide equal educational opportunity for all students. You should complete that sentence with 'in the light of the child's native abilities and mental, emotional and physical development,'" he said.

"I will staunchly defend what we have done, what we are doing and what I hope we will do forward," he added.

**IT'S A FORWARD LOOKING, affirmative policy,"** argued Trustee Michael Spivey. "There is no indication of past discrimination in the policy. It's not an admission of past guilt."

"It's a series of statements which reflect the direction of the policy of the board," he said.

"It's a good policy. It promotes equal opportunity without discriminating. It talks about arbitrary and capricious standards," he said.

The board will vote on the policy at its next meeting, Oct. 8, at Ten Mile Elementary School.

"I want it laid to rest," said Ross.

**inside**

Amusements	13 A
Bridge Column	11 B
Business	7 C
Classified	8 C
Columns	16 C
Editorials	16 A
News	Section A
Obituaries	4 D
Real Estate	Section D
Religion Calendar	3 B
Southfield Life	Section B
Sports	Section C
Village Vignettes	2 B
What a Week	10 B
Where There's a Life	11 A
News Line	222-6466
Classified Line	322-6960

There's a bonus on the back of your carrier receipt this month. It's worth its face value towards the next classified ad that you have. Be sure to save it!