

State Assures City Park Funds Coming

The City of Farmington will have a new park south of intersection of Grand River and Drake Roads next summer if the Michigan Legislature approves recreation grants for more than 40 Michigan cities. City Manager John Dinan

said Farmington will receive \$26,354 to be used for the new park. More than 200 cities applied for the grants, but only one-fifth of the applicants won approval of the Michigan Department of Natural Resources.

THE CITY WAS notified this week of the state's approval of the funding of the new park. The money will be matched by approximately \$5,000 in city funds for a total cost of \$32,000 for the park.

State funds for city recreation improvements were made available when voters across Michigan approved a recreation bond issue. The income from the bond sale, about \$100 million was divided between state and local projects. The Legislature allocated 30% of the

\$100 million recreation funds for qualifying local projects. Dinan said the list of approved local proposals now goes to the Legislature which must act on the entire list within 45 days. If the Legislature doesn't act, he chairman, the list of expenditures will be considered approved.

"This deficiency is one of the basic reasons we have given high priority to the development of the proposed Drake Rd. Park site to afford an additional lighted baseball diamond and two additional softball diamonds," the application says.

The east half of the 16-acre park site will be the three ball diamonds. The large lighted field is expected to cost \$10,500 and the two smaller fields a total of \$5,000.

The city manager said engineering work on the new park will begin soon.

THE \$32,000 PARK is part of a five-year plan to improve recreation within the city.

Improvements costing \$93,000 are planned for the period 1971-74. After the park on Drake Rd. is completed, \$30,000 in improvements are scheduled for 1971-72. Improvements in the city's only present park south of Shawasssee near Powers will add \$63,000 to the program. Two phases of improvements are scheduled on that park.

The Drake Rd. park, which will be adjacent to the south of Longacre Elementary School at 34850 Arundel, primarily is designed to serve the area bounded by Gill Rd. to the east, Grand River to the north, 1-85 to the south and Halstead Rd. to the west. Population of the area, the city estimates, is 5,000.

In addition, the park will handle organized baseball leagues and group activities for the entire south end of the Farmington area.

THE FARMINGTON area has only one lighted ball diamond. The city's application for the recreation grant says the South Farmington Little League had to curtail the number of boys playing in its program because of a lack of baseball diamonds.

On the west half of the site, 12 picnic tables and playground equipment will be placed. Cost of the playground equipment and picnic tables is estimated at \$4,000.

THE LEGISLATIVE FUNDING will be the climax of over a year of work by the city government to secure the funds. Dinan said the city began making plans to apply for the money soon after the bond question was approved by the voters in November, 1968. They submitted their detailed proposal early last fall.

Farmington's share of the funds for the park are already budgeted, Dinan said. At first, the grants were thought to be available to fund the entire \$125,000 park improvement program.

The Legislature decided to limit the amount available to local governments to \$3.83 per person according to the 1960 census.

The city manager commented more of improvement program may be financed by the state if all the money is not allocated to other cities by 1971.

He said there is a possibility Farmington's entire park improvement program could be financed through the grants.



APPETIZING -- A smorgasbord of Swedish specialties was part of the menu when foreign exchange students visited Beta Eta chapter of Delta Kappa Gamma in the home of Mrs. H.L. Sharp. "Teen Age Values as Seen in U.S. and Sweden," were discussed by a student panel.

Soroptimists Select Three As Outstanding

Soroptimists of Farmington and Novi will present youth citizenship awards for 1970 to three outstanding student leaders at a dinner early in March.

Friends of the winners and interested members of the community are invited to attend.

Winners are Ken Grabowski of North Farmington who will receive the first award of \$150, Carol Bruce of Novi High School, second with a gift of \$100, and Nancy Smith of Farmington High who will receive a \$50 prize.

Grabowski will now compete for a regional award of \$1,000. Should he win that, he will be a contestant for the national \$1,500 prize money.

Ken, Carol and Nancy all plan to attend the University of Michigan. All said that their prize funds would be applied toward college expenses.

Since their selection depended on qualities of character and leadership rather than just scholarship, they were

scored heavily for service to school, church and community.

KEN LISTS baseball and basketball high on his activity schedule. He's vice president of the Exchange Club and spent last summer in Germany with the American Field Service group.

He was also an exchange student with peers from a German last spring and has been an active member of "Y" and church programs.

A member of a three-man team in his government class, Ken helped to research Farmington's pollution problems and sought for solutions.

He was an alternate to Boys' State for the American Legion, a finalist in the Michigan Math Prize competition and received a letter of commendation from the National Merit Scholarship organization.

CAROL is the musician of

the trio and has been a member of band, marching band and pep band attending summer band camp at Central Michigan University on an honor scholarship.

She has been vice president, secretary and president of the student council, and has taken an active part in school dramatics, managed basketball and track teams, belonged to the French club and was student chairman for the Jaycees' Vietnam Drive.

Her honors include a home-making award, a band letter, an award for social studies, being Michigan delegate for the Oddfellows and Rebekahs' UN Pilgrimage for Youth as well as their winning speaker of the week.

Carol was Willowbrook Community Association's representative to the American Legion's Girls' State, majority leader of her senate, and she has been guest speaker at one of her meetings as well as one for Novi Rotary.

NANCY has been a class officer each year in high school, a cheerleader for four years, this year as captain.

She was an alternate to Girls' State, a member of her class council for three years and the Pep Club for two.

A church and vacation school teacher, she has also sang in the choir and held office in Methodist Youth Fellowship.

In her junior year, she was elected a member of the National Honor Society, and was a recent winner of an Elks' award for outstanding leadership.

Nancy marched with Teenagers for Leukemia, worked in Project Head Start, and was co-chairman of the senior class candy sale at the Founders Festival.

Judges who chose this year's winners for the Soroptimists were Charles Shuler, English instructor at Oakton Community College; Dr. Debra Collins, director of OCC's board of trustees; and Rev. V.F. Helbohn, pastor of Grace Lutheran Church in Redford.



WINNING SMILES -- Winners of Soroptimist youth citizenship awards this year are seniors Ken Grabowski, of North Farmington High; Carol Bruce of Novi High School, and Nancy Smith, of Farmington High School. Awards are granted on the basis of leadership on character rather than just scholarship. (Evert photo)

Will Stadium Locate Next Door?

By EMORY DANIELS

"Although promoters for a downtown stadium have ruled out other sites, the proposal to locate the stadium in Southfield is still officially alive.

A blue ribbon committee created last November to study the feasibility of building a river-front stadium reported last week that the stadium can be built in Detroit and indicated other sites were all but eliminated.

THE DETROIT promoters plan to approach Mayor Roman Gribbs and Gov. William Milliken soon for their endorsements. But it will be a few

months yet before John Fetzer, Tiger owner, gives his blessings.

And Milliken's or Gribbs' approvals will mean little unless Fetzer approves plans for the downtown site. The Tigers will be the main tenants of the new stadium, and Fetzer's approval is paramount before any final decision will be made.

William Clay Ford, owner of the Lions, will also be approached for consent, but it is the Tiger owner who has the most influence. As long as Fetzer remains undecided, proposals to locate elsewhere (including Southfield) remain alive.

A TIGER SPOKESMAN told The Observer Fetzer will not sign a lease or make any commitments to the downtown stadium, or any other site, until complete plans are presented.

Location is only one of many factors which the Tiger boss will consider when making a decision on stadium rental. An important factor will be compensation to the Tiger Club for Tiger Stadium.

Other factors Fetzer will weigh include concession receipts, television and radio revenue, seating capacity, parking, office and clubhouse facilities.

unchanged from last August when he said the Tigers would price tag where the stadium should be built but must consider several other factors before signing a lease.

THE DETROIT OFFER involves construction of a stadium on an 80-acre site west of Cobo Hall. Plans envision a stadium seating 60,000 for football, parking for baseball, and on-site parking for between 4,600 and 5,400 autos.

But downtown promoters have yet to come up with a price tag for the river-front stadium. Neither have they told how the project will be financed except that the City

of Detroit, State of Michigan, and Wayne County Board of Supervisors will be involved.

The 21-member blue ribbon committee was appointed by then-Mayor Cavanagh and Milliken. The chairman claims there is little possibility the stadium will be built in Southfield, Pontiac or Taylor and that it was almost certain Detroit will be the choice.

BUT SOUTHFIELD stadium promoters do not share that optimism about Detroit's chances.

The investors bidding for the stadium have not given up hope and report their offer re-

mains to build on the 203-acre site between Telegraph, 11 Mile, Inster and I-96.

The investors backing the Southfield site include: Robert Forte, Farmington Township resident associated with the building firm of Arthur Antonelli & Co., Latrup Village; Bonelli himself; Thomas W. Payne, attorney and vice-president of National Bank of Detroit; Arthur S. Antonelli, general contractor and land developer; B. Gerald Barush, Bloomfield Hills attorney; and Benedict J. Barush, vice-president Shedd-Barush Foods Inc. of Detroit.

Gerald Barush told The Observer that the project will be financed through the grants. Continued on Page 6A

today's hot line what's inside

Maugham's The Man

Somerset Maugham brought Bob Casmore back to the Farmington Players' Barn in a production opening this week. For the director's views about the author, see Sue Shaughnessy's story in Amusements Page 4C

Educational Views

The AAUW in Farmington has two state senators coming to discuss educational reform next week. The story is in the women's section. Page 1C

Time For Discovery

Great things are happening in perceptual development training classes in Farmington which have gone by unnoticed, until today. Children with varying degrees of difficulty in hearing, seeing, talking, or moving advanced to such a stage during the training they were able to perform a Christmas play. The amazing feats accomplished have escaped public attention for too long. Escape with us to the extraordinary in a special report. Page 3A

Trustee Walks Out

Farmington School Trustee Fred Lichtman scolded fellow board members Monday night for remarks made at the last board meeting. His remarks Monday night solicited response from other trustees which Lichtman did not hear because he walked out. Page 6A

Legal Fees Paid

Months ago Township Patrolman John Hedrick had to appear in court to answer a charge of assault and battery. Monday night, the Township Board agreed that the \$1,500 legal fees should be paid by the township. Page 4A

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