

Friday Night Runaway Auto Prompts Quick Monday Action



By EMORY DANIELS

A near tragic accident Friday night resulted in a number of steps being taken Monday night by Farmington city councilmen to slow down speeding motorists on Challenge Hill.

The action was taken to deal with what has long been a dangerous traffic situation on Farmington Rd. between Shawassee and 10 Mile Rds.

THE CRUCIAL POINT of that stretch is a deadman's curve at the southern end of the steep hill which begins at 10 Mile.

Friday night, a young female driving south on Farmington Rd. failed to follow the curve of the road and drove into the driveway of William J. Robertson of 2405 Farmington Rd.

The runaway auto smashed into Robertson's station wagon, parked in his driveway, and forced the station wagon through a brick wall and into Robertson's living room.

No one was injured but members of the Robertson household are still quite alarmed over what could have happened.

The motorist was driving without an operator's license, which had been taken away, and was under the influence of "something," according to Robert Deadman, director, public safety department.

LAST FALL, the city placed

a sign at the top of the hill warning of the curve below, placed a directional arrow at the foot of the hill, removed on-street parking, and located signs warning trucks to stay off that stretch.

Ironically, a DPW employee was killed when his own truck ran over him while he was installing the signs.

Deadman said a survey taken last fall by Oakland County Road Commission indicated 50% of the cars traveling north of 10 Mile were exceeding the posted speed limit.

According to Deadman, county officials say it will not help to further lower the posted speed limits but current limits must not be enforced.

Deadman added the city has no jurisdiction over motorists north of 10 Mile which is Farmington Township territory.

He added that Friday night's accident was not caused by speed but by a driver driving under the influence of drug or alcohol and driving without a license.

THE CITY MANAGER recommended a guard rail at the foot of the hill last fall but residents objected because a rail would not look good aesthetically.

But after Friday's accident, about 10 residents living along Challenge Hill were back in council chambers demanding action.

One of the more drastic actions requested was to barricade Farmington Rd. at 10 Mile and allowing only local residential traffic.

Mayor Wilbur Bratherton replied to that suggestion by saying a barricade at 10 Mile would only reroute traffic east on 10 Mile past Ten Mile Elementary School and south past the schools on Power Rd., possibly endangering a much greater number of children.

ALMOST ALL city officials and residents agreed what was needed most was a traffic light at 10 Mile and Farmington Rds.

But because the intersection is in township territory, the city has no jurisdiction and has been unsuccessful in the past attempting to get traffic lights and stop signs.

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today's hot line

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what's inside

Tax Base Grows

Construction will begin soon on a \$1.5 million service center for the Farmington Freeway Industrial Park. A report on which services will be offered is given inside plus coverage of the groundbreaking ceremony. Page 3A

Phony Budgets

Once a year school districts across Michigan purposely pad budgets to convince county officials to allocate a greater share of millage for local schools. Farmington Schools have made its move and now wait for the county allocation board to counter. Page 5A

Our Band Picked

The Farmington Community Concert Band has been picked to perform at graduation exercises for Oakland Community College. Farmington's band was selected after the college screened all other bands in Oakland County. Page 6A

King Kreskin

ESP stands for Extra Sensational Performer, in the minds of Farmington Town Hall women who heard Kreskin last week. Page 1C

Busy Actress

A Farmington mother of five is one of the busiest ladies in community theater you'll find. She's Margaret Miller's Woman on the Go. Page 2C

Another Prize

Education is one of Farmington's most important continuing news stories, especially with student upheavals. You'll be proud to know that Editor Emory Daniels and his staff have captured another important award for the Farmington Enterprise & Observer. Page 9C

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VIETNAM VICTIM—Army PFC Charles Selman, killed in Vietnam April 9, was brought home over the weekend and buried after a full military funeral Monday. He had

been in Vietnam less than two months when killed in action. (Photo by Ralph Evert)

Buried Monday

Selman Arrives Home

Funeral services were held Monday afternoon for Army PFC Charles G. Selman of 29214 Dresden Ave., Farmington.

Selman, 20, was killed in action April 9 in Vietnam while serving with the 501st Infantry, 101st Airborne. He entered the Army in August 1969, completed basic at Ft. Knox, Ky., underwent advanced infantry training at Ft. Polk, La., and arrived in Vietnam Feb. 14, 1970.

Selman attend Clarenceville High School and was employed at General Motors Diesel Division in Redford before entering the Army.

A full military funeral was held Monday in the Thayer Funeral Home with the Rev. Bruce A. Gunn of the Brightmoor Tabernacle officiating. Burial was in Glen Eden Memorial Park, Livonia.

PFC Selman is survived by: wife, Debra; infant son, Richard Todd; parents, Mr. and Mrs. Philip S. Selman, Sr.; sisters, Mrs. Patricia Thomas; Mrs. Phyllis Brown; Mrs. Pauline Matthews; Mrs. Rosemary Janis of Farmington; Mrs. Charlotte Merkle and Mrs. Dolores Barth; brother, Philip S. Selman, Jr.; and grandmother, Mrs. George Selman.



CHARLES SELMAN

Honor Russ Milligan On Arbor Day



HONOR CITIZEN—A memorial tree ceremony was held Saturday at the Monument Memorial Park, Oakland and Grand River, to pay tribute to D. Russell Milligan who died of a heart attack a few months ago. Milligan, a long-time Farmington resident, served on the city planning commission. The City of Farmington Beautification Committee planted a tree (left) and dedicated it to Milligan.

Tree planting was done by Mrs. Milligan, son Dale and John Allen. Presenting the tree was Shirley Richardson, beautification committee chairman. Rev. Carl Schultz of Salem United Church of Christ gave the closing prayer; and Kent Rose of Boy Scout Troop 35 played taps. From left: Mrs. Milligan, Dale and Mrs. Richardson. (Evert photo)

