

## Planners Set Special Meeting On Sears Shopping Complex

today's hot line  
Vol. 82, No. 91 20 pages, 2 sections  
what's inside

### Book Inflation

Farmington School District has issued a special plea for used textbooks. Reusable books have a somewhat premium value, it seems, in the aftermath of the State Supreme Court's decision that schools must furnish free textbooks.

### Editor's Box

The editor's mailbox this week contained a letter defending Little League and another with pointed comments about a candidate in this fall's general election. Daniel's Den talks about a man who had open heart surgery and a few months after put in a 23-hour work day without serious effect.

### Home Again

An area family, home after a three-year mission education stay in India, has a lot to report about that developing land. It's part of our church news.

### Sockin Rock

A lady lawmaker from Observerland is unhappy with what happened at the Goose Lake pot-rock festival. What's more, she has the political clout to start doing something about it.

### Debtors, Arise

Corporations can go bankrupt and start anew under another name. But family bankruptcy is a different story, and often ends up with the breakup of the family. There is an alternative and Helen Rice has the full story of what families can do.

### About Average


Are intelligent, sophisticated suburbanites better about going to the polls in Michigan than their city and rural brethren. Nope; they're about average.

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LOOK FOR "SESQUICENTENNIAL" OCTOBER 3-4

The gigantic Sears shopping center proposed for northwest Farmington Township will be the subject of a special meeting of the township Planning Commission Thursday, Aug. 27.

At their regular meeting Thursday night, planning commissioners set the special meeting on the shopping center, one of two major developments discussed during the meeting.

THE SHOPPING CENTER project proposed for a 300-acre site between Halstead and Haggerty on the north side of 13 Mile Rd. highlighted the meeting, although the commission also discussed the proposed Pulte development on

another 300-acre site north of 12 Mile and west of Drake Rd.

The four-department-store complex was proposed last year by the HTK Corp., a group backed by a division of Sears and two Southfield men, Richard Kughn and Alfred Taubman.

The project, scheduled for completion about 1975, would be approximately the size of the Northland Shopping Center in Southfield.

Kughn appeared before the commission with a request that the commissioners tour a center similar to the one proposed for Farmington Township now almost completed in a suburb of Milwaukee. The developers also

suggested the planners tour another center near Chicago and finally ended up offering to fly the group to San Francisco, Calif.

KUGHN OFFERED the planners several statistical studies on the center, then suggested the trips so the planners could "understand the magnitude of what is being proposed."

"Words are one thing, but visual understanding is another," said Kughn, an attorney.

The trips met with a generally chilly response from planning commissioners.

"In general, how is this different from Northland? Why

isn't a view of Northland just as good?" asked Doug Mann, chairman of the commission.

The commission's chairman commented he didn't expect to hear negative reactions to either the center near Chicago or the one near Milwaukee.

"I'm not anxious to spend the time unless I'm going to learn something," he added.

The secretary of the planning commission, L. David Stader, noted that none of the commissioners doubt the developers' ability to produce a beautiful shopping center.

"The question is: What effect is tent center going to have on road construction, police

protection, and other services?" Stader said.

Taubman, wearing a well-tailored vest and sporting a gold watch chain, then pointed out a shopping center developed by the group near San Francisco has been operating for four years.

Before he could continue, Mann quipped, "I really wasn't making a pitch for California."

"But I'm about to," Taubman replied.

He said the California center in Concord has been contributing about \$2 million a year to the San Francisco suburb. The city has used the money to buy new parks and other improvements, he said.

However, Stader might have killed the trip for the rest of the group, although a decision was postponed until the Aug. 27 meeting.

"I'm going to be there on Wednesday, and it won't cost you a dime," Stader told Taubman. Stader suggested the developer give him a letter of introduction so he can tour the shopping center.

ACTION also was delayed on the Pulte Homes of Michigan plan for a large parcel of land in Section 8.

Jack Gaul, of the nation-wide home construction firm, told the planners that only part of the 322-acre site is ready for development, he said.

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OPERATES TRANSCEIVER — Richard Mallon operates his transceiver which is a combination of a transmitter and receiver in one unit. Shown at the right is a Morse code key which Richard uses when talking to a ham in a foreign country who cannot speak English. (Evert photo)

## Talking Pen Pals Global 'Rag-Chewing' Keeps 16-Year-Old Busy

BY VICTOR OMELCZENKO

It's like having "talking pen pals" when Richard Mallon of Farmington opens up his ham operating equipment and reaches locations all over the world.

Richard, 16, of 28560 Springfield, has talked (or in ham operator's lingo "rag-chewed") with persons in such distant places as Easter Island in the Pacific and Angola in Africa.

He reaches with his equipment speak English, but when that's not the case, he uses international Morse code.

After the recent earthquakes in Peru, Richard contacted a missionary stationed in a town of 20,000 which had only 2,000 survivors.

"The first ham operator to let the world know about those earthquakes was another missionary," said Richard, who operates his transceiver (a transmitter and receiver combined), out of his bedroom.

"The missionary relayed the message from the stricken part of Peru to another section and so on," he explained.

HAM OPERATORS, or "hams," are especially active in civil defense situations when some catastrophe occurs. Using the equipment is a "fast process," according to Richard.

"Hams during the Alaska earthquake had things set up before the military got their operations started," he continued, "and they were able to direct emergency supplies to the area."

In his work, the ham uses

phone and not the transceiver, which is the usual path.

Maybe this sounds illegal but it isn't.

"Michigan Bell doesn't mind as long as the voice level is under a certain volume," explained Richard who regulates the level with a VU meter on his transceiver. "If the voice level is too loud, then you get cross between the lines."

Richard, who has a ham operator's license from the Federal Communications Commission (FCC), uses his apparatus mostly for what his mother labels as "pleasure talking."

"Sometimes I rag-chew with a guy for an hour and a half or two hours," Richard said. "Once I talked with a man in Nicaragua who just described what the roads were like there and in Mexico and Guatemala."



FIELD DAY — Raymond Mallon and son Richard recently participated in an emergency field day for ham operators, pitching a tent and living outside. Mallon is wiring the 20-foot aerial while son Richard stands on a ladder. Helping at left is Robert Engerer. (Evert photo)

DISCUSSING POLITICS with hams is "sort of taboo," according to Richard.

"You can talk about basic politics but I wouldn't get into heated debates," he advised, explaining that a foreign government may tune in on the ham operators.

During camp disruptions after the Kent State killings this spring, some persons at colleges formed ham operators throughout the country and "organized trouble in a way," explained Richard.

"Lots of older hams got upset, created noise and said nasty things over the air. But it's illegal to cause interference with people talking together," he explained.

However, the FCC, which regulates the airwaves in the public interest, can listen in on

the ham operators, both older persons and the camp disrupters, to decide who is missing his license privilege.

RICHARD DEMONSTRATED how he uses his ham set by reaching, within moments, someone in Columbia, Mo. Part of the conversation, in ham operator's lingo, went like this:

Richard: "The rig here is a SB 100 B kit going up to a gotham quad that I modified a bit. A man in my shack here who is from the town newspaper to write a story on hams. Like I said, age of 16 years, go to high school and am studying for my first class license."

Missouri: "OK Rich, taught anatomy in the medical school at Missouri, retired, once was chairman of the anatomy department. What other type equipment you have?"

RECENTLY, L.V. Richard and his father participated in an emergency field day in which hams from all over the country set up ham equipment outside their homes.

The Mallons used a portable generator, lived in a tent and did their own cooking. The object of the two-day operation was to get as many contacts as possible in the shortest amount of time, practicing for emergency conditions if they ever arise.

During that period, Richard and his father reached over 40 different states.

Richard will be returning in the fall as a senior to Farmington High School where he hopes to organize a chapter of the military amateur radio system (MARS).

## Groundbreaking For Library Is August 30

Arrangements have been made for groundbreaking ceremonies for the new library to be built in Farmington Township at 32737 12 Mile Rd.

Groundbreaking will be held Sunday, Aug. 30, at 2 p.m. on the site which was purchased in 1965.

"This is a landmark occasion for the citizens and taxpayers of our library district," says Mrs. Mary F. Allison, secretary of the Farmington Library Board of Trustees.

Other members of the board are: Thomas Czubiak, president; Albert Herzog, vice president; and Ernest Sauter, treasurer.

Construction contracts for the library have been awarded to Freeman-Darling, Inc., of Livonia. The board awarded the contract at a special meeting Aug. 11 to the Livonia firm which was meeting of 13 bidders.

The 12 Mile site was selected, says Mrs. Allison, because it was located nearest the center of future population as projected by an area survey made in 1962.

Instrumental in selecting the site, she says, was Russell Ellis, a local realtor who served on the library board from 1959-64.

A model of the new library is now on display in city hall. Architects for the project is Tarapata-MacMahon-Paulsoy Associates, Inc.