

## today's hot line

Vol. 83, No. 1 52 pages, 3 sections

## what's inside

### The Romans Do

Roman Gribbs ran for mayor of Detroit without resigning his post as Wayne County Sheriff. But can Earl Teeple run for Farmington Township Supervisor without resigning his detective's job? That question is still being asked by the Farmington Township Board.

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### Gridiron Makeup

Attention Gals! If husband owes you a night out in return for his watching Monday night's Lions-Bears football game, we have a few suggestions. Look inside at today's Farmington Community Calendar for a full selection of events the Mr. might like to attend.

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### Information Broker

What does SEMCOG actually do? Is it some kind of super-government out to grab powers from local governments? Bob Turner, SEMCOG's top hired hand for the past 2½ years, explains its aims and gains on

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### Like FISHing?

To early Christians, the sign of the fish meant more than a scaled creature to catch for food. And now church leaders are using it to designate an interesting new program. Read about it in our church section.

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### Take Your Choice

One Livonia church is instituting a new kind of adult education, with students offered a choice of four contemporary study themes. The story is in the church section.

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# Schools Veto Free Land For Proposed Civic Arena

The suggestion that Farmington Schools donate land to the City of Farmington for a civic arena has been officially laid to rest.

The Farmington Board of Education Monday night voted against the proposal made by the city that the civic arena be built on six acres of school-owned land.

THE SIX ACRES were at the east end of the Farmington Senior High site, at the intersection of Shilwassee and Orchard Lake.

The city had asked the school board to donate the six acres so the arena could be built. The arena would include an Olympic-size skating rink and could also be used for graduation ceremonies, rodeos, antique shows, etc.

A feasibility study for the civic arena was written by a committee consisting of City Manager John Dinan, City Councilman John Richardson and Russ Ellis, a local realtor and hockey buff.

THE SCHOOL BOARD denied use of the site for the proposed civic arena after hearing recommendations from the administrative staff and FHS athletic department.

Board members voted to can the proposal in favor of continued study and possible action on expansion of girls' physical education program and other boys' programs.

The city had state the cost of building the

arena would be prohibitive if the land had to be purchased.

During public hearings held on the proposal, the suggestion had been made that the arena be financed and constructed as a joint venture between city and township.

Discussion concerning the joint venture, however, has not gone further than the public hearings.

AFTER VETOING the land donation for the arena, the school board gave unanimous approval to the appointment of 10 administrative assistants for seven secondary schools.

Of these assistants, two would be allocated to schools with enrollments above 1,250 students and one each to schools with enrollments below 1,250.

School Board members are also considering selling certain areas of school property including the old Fairview School on Grand River and the old Nichols School on Farmington Road.

They authorized the building and site committee to study the suggestion and to seek new areas of development.

THE BOARD expressed concern over several break-ins and thefts at many elementary schools in the area, including ones at Wood Creek, William Grace, Longacre and Fairview in recent months.

Action authorizing the implementation of security equipment from Security Services, Inc., over a

90-day trial period at Wood Creek Elementary was approved.

William C. Frisk warned that schools may be operating without insurance at the end of the school year if certain security measures were not employed to help reduce burglaries.

He cited a break-in at Harrison High School in which office machines amounting to \$9,425 were stolen.

## E'prise-Observer Honored In MPA Contest

The Farmington Enterprise & Observer has been honored this week for excellence in news reporting by the Michigan Press Association (MPA).

Elmer White, MPA executive secretary, announces that this newspaper placed third in news reporting in statewide competition sponsored by the association.

Judges making the selection came from a team of newspaper publishers from the New Jersey Press Association.

THREE ISSUES of the Enterprise & Observer published during the year were examined by the professional panel which was interested in solid, well-written news and aggressive reporting, said White.

The MPA award is the third major honor given the Enterprise & Observer this year.

The other two awards include an honorable mention from the National Newspaper Association (NNA) for community service and a School Bell Award for education coverage given by the Michigan Education Association.

The NNA community service award was given for the coverage of the recent consolidation campaign and election.

THE ENTERPRISE & Observer news team doing the

work which earned the award is: Elizabeth Wissman, feature and general assignment; Wylie Gerdes, education, police and general news; and Emory Daniels, editor.

Mrs. Wissman, who has been covering Farmington for a number of years now, has a long newspaper career which includes stints with the Detroit News and Southfield News.

Gerdes started with a small daily newspaper in Nebraska and joined the Enterprise & Observer news team more than a year ago. His solid news reporting has earned him a promotion to editor of the Garden City Observer.

Daniels started his journalistic career as managing editor of a small chain of weeklies in Western Wayne County and joined the Observer Newspapers in 1965 as editor of the Westland and Garden City Observers.

After a two-year stint in the U.S. Army, Daniels returned to Observer Newspapers and became editor of the Farmington Enterprise & Observer in April 1969.

The Enterprise & Observer is one of the papers published by Observer Newspapers, Inc., Philip H. Power, publisher, which serves the communities of Southfield, Livonia, Plymouth, Redford, Garden City and Westland as well as Farmington.

## Commend Six At NFH

Letters of commendation for their high performance on the 1970 National Merit Scholarship qualifying test have been awarded to six students at North Farmington High School.

They are Robin Eichen, Keith Heimforth, Kathleen Lewis, Janice Runkle, Joel Sobel and Allison Trawick.

These students rank just below the semi-finalists recently announced. Edward C. Smith, president of NMSC said, "Although commended students advance no farther in

the merit scholarship competition, their standing in the nationwide program deserves public recognition. Their high performance give promise of continued success in college.

"The commended students should be encouraged to pursue their education since their intellectual talent represents an important and much needed natural resource. Both these students and our nation will benefit from their continuing educational development."



KIDS' CRAZE — Behind this mess of excited children is a secret attraction which will be divulged fully in Wednesday's Farmington Enterprise & Observer. The object hidden by those kids is included in a report

on a new project which will attract Farmington residents of all ages. Watch Wednesday for the revelation. (Event photo)

## Seven Weeks Late

# Teeple Gets Victory Greetings

By EMORY DANIELS

Earl Teeple has received a congratulatory message on being elected Farmington Township supervisor, seven weeks after the Aug. 4 primary election.

The reason for the accolades being seven weeks late is that "news" is slow in reaching Jackson State Prison.

BUT, THIS WEEK, the Farmington Enterprise & Observer received a letter from two Jackson inmates expressing their feelings about Teeple's election.

A letter is unexpected from Jackson State Prison, especially when the contents praise a police detective who was instrumental in sending one of the inmates to prison.

Authors of the congratulatory note are John T. Early (No. 121522) and Henry Nichols (No. 125112). Early is serving a sentence for felonious assault and Nichols is serving a 20-40 year stretch for statutory rape.

As township detective, Teeple helped gather evidence which resulted in Early being sent to Jackson for shooting his wife in the arm. Detective

George Maier handled the investigation on Nichols and Teeple assisted.

BOTH INMATES probably fit the stereotype of "hardened criminals" often bestowed freely by citizens upon persons convicted of major crimes.

Nichols was convicted of molesting a small child in a woods in Farmington Township. Early had escaped from Jackson a year ago and was shot in the back when fleeing arrest in Southfield.

"We former citizens of Farmington," who are now inmates of the Southern Michigan Prison, wish to extend our sincere, best wishes and congratulations to Earl Teeple in his recent, gallant victory as Farmington Township Supervisor," the letter began.

"We feel that Mr. Teeple is highly qualified for this position and a credit to the community of Farmington."

THE INMATES WROTE that for quite some time "for one reason or another, we have come in contact with Mr. Teeple and have had the opportunity to learn something about his sincere desires and feelings for justice plus his great concern to see that justice is done.

"For the past several years, Mr. Teeple has given every criminal offender a break. By this, we mean he has handed each one a fair shake in justice.

"He has tried to help them before it was too late. We know, because he tried to help us before we came here.

"These are just a few, of many reasons, why we as inmates are behind Mr. Teeple all the way."

"Yes, we feel that, in the future, Farmington Township will gain by nominating this great man (Mr. Earl Teeple) to the office of township supervisor."

THE LETTER ENDED with the salutation: "God bless you and yours, righteously."

Teeple expressed surprise and seemed very pleased when told about the letter and its contents. Teeple says he has been writing letters to inmates and has received a steady correspondence back from Jackson.

But Teeple was unaware of the letter Early and Nichols wrote to this newspaper. Caught in a moment of surprise, his only comment was: "That's very nice."



Observer Want Ads  
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