

today's
hot line
Vol. 83, No. 4 80 pages, 6 sections
what's inside

Are Students People?

Yes, says the new provost of the Orchard Ridge campus of Oakland Community College, and that view is his key to dealing with a new generation. Lynne Luther interviewed him at length.

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Profile On Losers

Although suffering from setbacks and disappointments, the Future Farmington Association is still active and now is in the thick of the anti-annexation campaign. A story traces the background of the FFA's history and an article written by the FFA is offered with arguments why annexation should be defeated.

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A Land Grab?

The City of Farmington has been accused of trying for the annexation to obtain the rich tax base provided by the Farmington Freeway Industrial Park. But an argument is given to establish that the annexation proposal does NOT involve a "tax grab."

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upcoming

A number of headlines for the past 30 days have been occurring in the press about problems concerning the Farmington Township Police Department. Is the department all that bad? What is the real problem? And what's going on behind the scenes? In the weekend Farmington Enterprise & Observer, a news analysis will tell readers what the headlines mean and what headlines might be forthcoming.

SENSITIVITY makes one newspaper different from another . . .
Read this "sensitive" difference on today's **WOMEN'S PAGES**



Township 'Pardons' Teeplees But Issues An Ultimatum

By EMORY DANIELS
Detective Sergeant Earl Teeplee, also supervisor-elect was told by the Farmington Township Board Monday night he would not be disciplined for engaging in past political activity.

Teeplee was also told, however, that should he remain a candidate for Farmington Township supervisor he would be subject to suspension without pay.

The board advised Teeplee that he could escape suspension by applying for a leave of absence or by resigning as detective sergeant.

In the same motion, the board also agreed that disciplinary action would not be taken against Officer William Hoelt for circulating nominating petitions for Thomas Nolan, trustee running for township treasurer.

Nolan abstained from the vote and did not participate in any of the discussion until after the motion was passed.

EARL OPPERTHAUSER introduced the motion which passed 4-0 with Nolan abstaining. Absent from the meeting were Supervisor Curtis Hall

and Treasurer Mrs. Elise Avery.

Also not present was Township Attorney Joseph T. Brennan who walked in after the vote was taken and discussion ended.

Opperthouser, in his motion, asked that Teeplee and Hoelt be treated with leniency and no discipline assessed for their activity in the August primary campaign.

Opperthouser added that the term "political activity" as used in the police manual "was not specifically defined," and "had not been sufficiently explained or defined by legal opinion or interpreted by court decision and there was a reasonable question as to its constitutionality."

Because Oakland County Circuit Court has determined the political activity prohibition is valid, and because Brennan has given a detailed opinion, similar leniency should not be shown in the future, said Opperthouser.

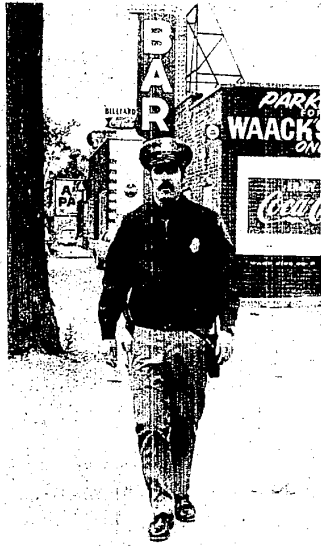
OPPERTHAUSER'S MOTION asked that Brennan's opinion be shown to all officers

in the township police force, pending a clarifying revision to the police manual.

All officers will also be given a copy of Opperthouser's motion. Officers will then be told that any officer who participates in political activity, including becoming a candidate for public office, must resign or obtain a leave of absence.

Any officer who does not apply for a leave of absence or does not resign, Opperthouser added, will be subject to appropriate discipline as permitted by the circuit court ruling, including dismissal from service.

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"HAIR TODAY"—But Township Patrolman Robert Novak swears his mustache won't be "gone tomorrow" even though he has been ordered to shave it off. (Event photo)

Mustache Controversy Grounds Young Officer

By LYNNE LUTHER

Another controversy that may affect the face of every police officer in Farmington Township arose over a mustache.

Informed sources at the police department said Patrolman Robert Novak was ordered to walk his beat when he refused to "trim off" his mustache Thursday.

Novak said he was assigned to patrol the area on Grand River between Eight Mile and Middle Belt Rds until he agrees to shave off the mustache.

He said Farmington Township has never had foot patrols to his knowledge and said he wonders what people are saying about "all that protection."

Noel Gage, attorney for the Township police Officers Assn. (FPOA), called the order "ridiculous."

He told the Farmington Enterprise & Observer

that probably the only repercussion would come when "all the officers grow mustaches in protest."

GAGE SAID he had heard of the incident and knew the officer in question.

He said Novak originally grew the mustache and long hair for surveillance work at a local college with full blessings of the department.

"I was doing some undercover work on militant groups, and one of the requirements for handling the job was to grow a mustache," Novak said.

Police Chief Irving Yakes denies ever issuing such an order for Novak to walk his beat but admits sending a directive to trim the mustache.

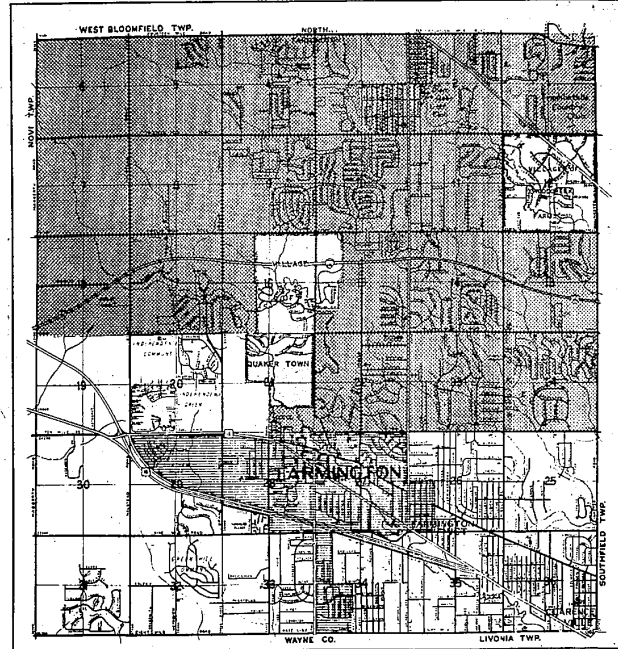
He said there is no ruling in the police manual that controls the length of whiskers on a man's face, but that one on "neat appearance" prompted him to order the officer to trim his mustache.

Novak said about four other police officers sport mustaches, including Sgt. Steve Santo, a veteran on the force.

Another mustached officer, Art Flescher, told the Enterprise & Observer Friday that so far "no one has approached" him. "Maybe it's because mine isn't as long as Bob's," he said.

Flescher speculated, "Apparently the controver-

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(Following is first in a series of articles written and submitted by Future Farmington Association urging voters to vote "NO" Nov. 3 on the annexation question.)

Future articles submitted by the FFA will appear regularly in the Wednesday editions of the Farmington Enterprise & Observer between now and election day.)

Annexation Debate Set For Oct. 21

A debate on the controversial issue of annexing part of Farmington Township to the City of Farmington will headline this year's Chamber of Commerce dinner meeting Oct. 21 in Boisford Inn.

Heralding the "pros" of annexation will be John Dinan, Farmington city manager, and John Richardson, city councilman. Detective Sgt. Earl Teeplee, candidate for township supervisor, will also be on hand at the dinner, although he has not yet confirmed whether he will speak.

BARBARA BENYA, secretary to the Chamber of Commerce, said arrangements are still in progress for obtaining speakers opposed to annexation. Voters will decide the issue Nov. 3 along with state and congressional elections.

Mrs. Benya said John Burke, attorney, may be one of those speaking against annexation, although that is also unconfirmed.

Little Leaguers of Farmington will also be honored that night when W. W. Edgar, roving editor for Observer Newspapers Inc., presents a trophy to this year's team. Fritz Wenson, manager, and a team representative will accept the award.

Beginning with a social hour and cocktails at 6:30 p.m., dinner will be served at 7:30 p.m. according to John Anhut, owner of the Boisford Inn, 2800 Grand River.

The public is invited to hear the annexation debate and enjoy a dinner of prime rib beef. Tickets are available at \$7 per person by telephoning Mrs. Benya at 474-3440 or by stopping at the Chamber of Commerce office, Grand River and Farmington Roads, Farmington.