

### today's hot line

Vol. 83, No. 51 20 Pages, 2 Sections

### what's inside

#### Indigestion

The Farmington Board of Education will not be making a decision on the proposed minority understanding program at Monday night's meeting, choosing to wait a couple more weeks to digest comments from residents at last Monday's hearing. But trustees will be digesting the proposed operating budget for 1971-72 which will be revealed Monday.

Page 3A

#### Indecent Love

Daniels Den, wondering what the relationship is between indecency and minority understanding, finds himself atop a chariot in the mid-east to make the point that learning to love is not indecent.

Page 2A

#### Churches To The Fore

Observerland churches head into Holy Week, their most active and most significant season. We're keeping pace with two extra pages of church news and service schedules.

Pages 4-7A

#### Popular Youngsters

Young people are in the news this weekend. We have stories about five who will receive music scholarships, 550 who are so popular they have to stage a fifth show and one who has won a prize for art.

Page 8A

#### Superstar Review

Lester Kinsolving, our religion columnist, has taken a listen to the much discussed musical, "Jesus Christ Superstar." Read what he thinks of it in the church section.

Page 5A

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April 4 - 11



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# Patrolmen Asking \$7,000 Pay Hike

Farmington Township patrolmen are asking a \$7,000 a year raise for 1971-72 which, if granted, would raise an officer's maximum salary to \$18,500.

The \$18,500 maximum pay was the first request made in the initial stage of negotiations between the township board and Farmington Township Police Officers Association (FPOA). Other highlights in the POA package are requests for: \$365 hazardous duty pay; \$25,000 life insurance with double indemnity; two vacations a year of 12-working days each, one in summer and one in winter; and the addition of dental and optical care and a prescription rider to the hospitalization insurance.

NOEL GAGE, POA attorney, says he is serious in asking for a \$18,500 salary for a patrolman after two to three years with the township. "This should be a good figure because they could be earning this much for 20 years once reaching the base pay salary. Patrolmen's base pay now is \$12,500 and that's awfully inadequate."

Police have a dangerous job, adds Gage, and should be compensated for it. Officers have a much reduced life expectancy, he said.

GAGE HAS started negotiations by asking for the intervention of a state mediator, a step usually saved for the tail-end of negotiations when an impasse is reached.

With a mediator present, Gage reasons, the township

board will feel required to move negotiations along quickly.

Township Attorney Joseph T. Brennan objects that Gage is attempting to circumvent the local negotiations step by calling for a mediator at such an early stage.

"We think that a third party is a good idea," he concludes. "We have nothing up our sleeves and have nothing to hide from a mediator. The association would like to finish negotiating before the new fiscal year which has already started."

THE TOWNSHIP'S new fiscal year started April 1. Last year, however, the board did not approve the township budget until November after negotiations with police ended.

The POA is also asking: \$250 a year cleaning allowance; overtime pay for roll call; triple-time pay for July 4, New Year's Day and Labor Day; no maximum on accumulating compensatory time; two-way portable radios for each patrol car; three additional paid holidays; and 56 pay spent on standby while off duty.

The POA is asking that the contract be amended to

provide that any time an officer is asked by the department to make a formal statement, he be given 24 hours after notification and that the statements not be used against the officer in a court of law or released to the press.

"We think that a third party is a good idea," he concludes. "We have nothing up our sleeves and have nothing to hide from a mediator. The association would like to finish negotiating before the new fiscal year which has already started."

The POA is also asking for a written policy which involves a current controversy about whether an officer should return to work from a leave of absence because of an injury.

SOME TOWNSHIP board members are considering a policy under which the township would not be forced to return a patrolman to work unless he were physically capable of performing the duties of a patrolman.

The sections the POA would like added to the contract say:

"Should an officer who is

stricken with illness or injury, while on or off duty, he shall be allowed to return to work on light duty retaining his position and full pay.

"Should an officer be off duty with a non-duty connected illness or injury for a period of working days exceeding his accumulated personal leave days, fellow officers shall be allowed to work in his place, on their off-time, with no loss to the officer's pay or benefits.

"An officer who has a duty-connected injury or illness shall receive full pay with the township making up the difference between workman's compensation and the policeman's regular salary until the officer is able to return to work or is given a duty disability retirement."

Township residents pay a voted two mills to run the police and fire departments. Because of rising costs, police and fire expenses in the budget now equal the equivalent of about four mills.

Some township trustees are willing to give a \$1,000 per year raise for a new base pay of \$12,500, but it is not expected the board will approve the \$18,500 request.



MASTER STROKE — Marvin Beerbohm, who teaches adult painting classes at Farmington Community Center illustrates a bold brush technique for Mary Kiiunnen, one of the Tuesday morning painters. New spring sessions will be previewed at a "See and Tea" on April 6 from 1-4:30 p.m. and will begin the week of April 19. (Evert photo)

# Residents Demanding Recall Or Reversal From Board

## City Will Upgrade Drake Park

The Farmington City Council has approved \$3,000 worth of improvements to the new Drake Road Park to prepare the grounds for the opening of little league and softball play.

At a special meeting Monday night, the council gave City Manager John Dinan approval to proceed with three improvements costing \$1,000 each.

One project is to provide additional fencing for the dugout area to protect the youngsters using the dugout. Another is installation of bleachers for the main lighted diamond and the third is installation of an offstreet parking area.

The council did not approve a request from Dinan to construct restrooms and a storage area for \$7,500. This request will be reconsidered when the council begins forming the budget for the 1971-72 year.

## Art Exhibition, Auction Will Begin On April 29

The Farmington Artists Club spring exhibit will begin April 29 with an art auction ending the four-day event on May 2.

The art exhibit and auction will be held in the Farmington Masonic Temple at Grand River and Farmington Rds.

WORKS OF local artists will be shown April 29 through May 1 from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m., and May 2 from noon to 5 p.m.

The auction will be held May 2 from 2-4 p.m. Club members have donated their paintings for the auction and the works will be available at reasonable prices.

"This will be an excellent opportunity for area residents to purchase paintings by well known local artists at

A group of Farmington residents will meet Sunday (April 4) night to discuss whether to initiate a recall campaign against members of the Farmington Board of Education.

An ad hoc group of parents and residents has organized to oppose introduction of a human sexuality curriculum, also known as family life and human relations, in the Farmington schools this fall.

THE GROUP has named itself Farmington Parents for a Responsible School Board and is chaired by Dr. Dan Kenney, a Farmington Township resident and member of the University of Detroit faculty.

The decision of whether and whom to recall will depend upon the response of school board members to a letter sent each one from the ad hoc group, says David Gaynor of Farmington, who was instrumental in organizing the committee.

The letter mailed last week asks board members to reconsider their "yes" vote to implement the human sexuality curriculum and to

vote for reversal of the board's earlier unanimous adoption.

THE LETTER gives each trustee two days to mail back a response going on record as being willing to vote for reversal.

If the majority of the board does not agree to reversal, Gaynor says, the committee

will meet Sunday night to discuss whether to start a recall effort.

Gaynor explains that the recall would be aimed only at those trustees who refuse to commit themselves to a reversal. If two trustees agree to reverse, for instance, the committee would then seek recall of the other five.

The letter to the school

board was written by the committee's attorney, James E. Wells. Wells gained local prominence by taking on the defense of Dr. Ronald Clark, Farmington physician accused of killing a former employe.

Gaynor says the committee has obtained the names of 300 residents who have signed a

petition to either work for the recall or contribute funds.

He added that the curriculum changes adopted, and human sexuality training specifically, are "designed to reshape the attitude and values of children and I don't feel a public school or government has the right to do this."



SPRING ART EXHIBIT --- The Farmington Artist Club's spring exhibit will be its first exhibition to feature an art auction. Club members have donated paintings which will be auctioned on Sunday, May 2, from 3-5 p.m. in the Farmington Masonic Temple and Grand River and Farmington Rds. The art exhibit will be held from

10 a.m. to 9 p.m. on April 29-30; from noon to 9 p.m. on May 1; and from noon to 5 p.m. May 2. These are members and award winners from the 1970 Fall Exhibit (from left): Al Mroczek, 1971 president-elect; Royal Marshall, judge, Mrs. Beverly Fons, 1970 president; and John Leonetti. (Evert photo)