

# the farmington enterprise & observer

Weekend of June 26-27, 1971

YOUR HOMETOWN NEWSPAPER

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## today's hot line

Vol. 83, No. 75 20 Pages, 2 Sections

## what's inside

### Inventors Marry

A Farmington couple, when single, designed a new trash disposal system for the home. Now they are married and trying the innovation in their own home. The couple, plus three other University of Detroit students, received a \$1,000 cash award for their creation.

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### Den Confesses

Critics of the press may want to check inside for the "public confession" of Daniels Den. Believers may also want to take time to discover what is being "revealed."

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### Help In 'Sight'

Women whose work in Braille transcribing is helping a seventh grader attend school in Farmington next fall think there may be others who would like to learn the interesting work. Read our story about their project in the Church Section.

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### New Look

A different view of the holy city of Jerusalem is presented in the column of our religion writer, Lester Kinsolving. You can read it in our Church Section.

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### Wedding Belles

This definitely is the season for brides, and this issue contains plenty of wedding descriptions and announcements of engagements. Find them in our Women's Section.

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## EXCITING



## IDEA!

Women and want ads go together. The ladies love the money they can make with Observer Want Ads. That's why it's time to remind them again this month to save the Observer carrier collection receipt their husbands receive when they pay for this month's hometown newspaper. The receipt is worth its face value toward an Observer Want Ad. And if you have your coupons from April and May, put them together with June's and you'll have a totally FREE want ad! What could be more exciting than that?

## Town's Band Reveals Itself

The Farmington Community Concert Band has southeast section of Farmington undertaken a special summer project aimed at introducing the band to residents living in each of the four sections of Farmington Township.

During the next three weeks, the band will be giving free outdoor concerts at three elementary buildings of 7:30 p.m. and will be moved inside to the gym in case of rain.

**PURPOSE OF THE CONCERTS** On Tuesday, July 6, is to introduce the community residents in the northwest section of Farmington who may not have heard the band perform yet, says William Kenbrook Elementary to hear the band.

**THE BAND** The band was founded by the Farmington Exchange Club which sponsors the band along with Farmington public schools.

**THE BAND DECIDED TO MAKE** these special appearances in neighborhoods as an experiment this summer, says Barber, who is the project director at Harrison High School, began the project on Tuesday, June 22, with a free outdoor concert at William Grace Elementary for the service project.

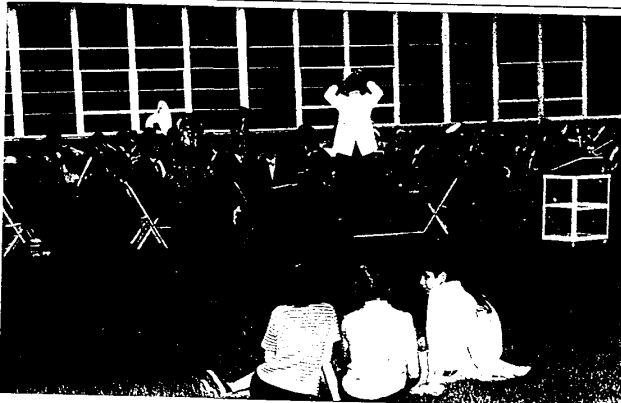
**ON TUESDAY, JULY 6,** the band will be held at Gill Elementary for southwestern Farmington residents. Each concert will begin at 7:30 p.m. and will be moved inside to the gym in case of rain.

The band was founded by the Farmington Exchange Club which sponsors the band along with Farmington public schools.

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**SWIMMING IS EASY** when you're a small fry like Timmy Joines of Farmington splashing around in the pool in North Farmington High. He's getting a little help from his friend Pat Duthie who coordinates the summer swim program at NFHS. Instruction is also being offered at Farmington and Harrison High School in two-week sessions. Registration is still being taken at the three schools, especially for the sessions from July 19-30 and Aug. 2-13. (Evert photo)



AT WILLIAM GRACE — The Farmington Community Concert Band presented a free outdoor concert June 22 at William Grace Elementary School and will be giving free concerts the next three Tuesdays at other Farmington Schools elementary buildings, Gill, Kenbrook, and Fairview. The four-week summer project is aimed at introducing the band to neighborhoods in the four geographical areas of Farmington. (Evert photo)

## Oak Hill Growth Unveils Problems

**BY EMOLY DANIELS** The decision to allow a second floor to be added to the Oak Hill Nursing Home in the City of Farmington, has presented two sets of problems which now require solutions.

One is an administrative problem involving a review of land area requirements for nursing homes to determine if less land area is acceptable.

The other is a human problem involving a group of handicapped young adults residing in the nursing home under the Living Opportunities experimental program to see if young adults in wheelchairs can live cooperatively with senior citizens.

The controversy raised by neighbors in opposition to the nursing home addition has uncovered incidents of individual prejudice against handicapped persons and demands by some homeowners which, if met, could result in stringent restrictions being placed on the liberties of the young adults residing in Oak Hill.

The City's zoning board of appeals recently approved a variance on open space requirements requested by Dr. Edwin Blumberg, owner of Oak Hill.

The approval gave Blumberg permission to add a second floor to Oak Hill to expand the nursing home's capacity from 80 to 125 beds. The present ordinance requires 1,100 square feet of land area per bed for nursing homes which is the same requirement for hospitals, says, which generate five times as many visitors and three times as many employees as nursing homes.

**WHILE HEARING** Blumberg's request, the zoning appeals board decided the land area requirement for nursing homes was unreasonable and asked the planning commission to review the requirement.

The commission reviewed the 13 communities in the area and decided the 1,100 square feet was excessive. The planners have recommended to the council that the requirement be reduced from 1,100 to 500 square feet of open

land per bed. The city council has scheduled a public hearing for 8 p.m. July 6 to consider the zoning ordinance.

Blumberg has obtained the necessary approvals he needs and now can proceed with construction. The ZBA hearings on the variance, however, did result in opposition from residents living near Oak Hill.

**DURING THE** debate on whether Oak Hill should expand, some residents complained in public meetings that the handicapped residents of Oak Hill presented an "unsightly appearance" and should not be allowed outside of the nursing home grounds.

One resident, in particular, asked that the handicapped young adults be prevented from wheeling their chairs on the sidewalks along Grand River and Gill to the front and west side of the nursing home.

At the zoning board hearing, Blumberg was asked if the wheel-chair patients were using the sidewalks instead of the court, and he confirmed that both areas are used.

**THE HANDICAPPED** patients are young enough to want to get outside and wheel up and down the sidewalks for exercise as opposed to being confined inside the home or in the small court area.

Some of the Living Opportunities patients have lived in the home for some time now and make a point to vote in general elections. Last November, city officials constructed a special ramp at city hall to facilitate a group of Oak Hill wheel-chair patients who wanted to vote.

At about the time of the debate over the expansion, the nursing home posted a notice inside advising wheel-chair patients not to use the sidewalks on either Grand River or Gill.

The ban was enacted because of construction work along Gill, which is now being paved and receiving storm drainage improvements. Concerns for the patients' safety reportedly led nursing home officials to restrict patients to the court area.

With construction beginning in the summer months, the wheel-chair young adults may find themselves restricted from even the court area and confined indoors for most of the daytime hours.

Restrictions being placed for safety reasons may be legitimate but demands to keep the patients inside because they are "unsightly" could be considered by many as a violation of civil rights.

The Living Opportunities experiment probably will end with the findings that senior citizens and handicapped young adults can co-exist and relate with each other.

## Year's Study Abroad In Store For Trio

Three Farmington High School students will be boarding planes for Europe and the Netherlands in a first for Farmington students — their "13th Year Abroad."

Cindy Borgman of 3401 Grand River, Doug Coutts of 3317 Hopecrest Ct. and Karen Weller of 3461 Arundel, all graduating seniors, are busy packing their bags for an entire year's stay with host families across the ocean. Cindy goes to Finland, Doug to Switzerland and Karen to Germany.

**ALL THREE** are "A" or "near-A" students with some background in the languages of the countries they intend to explore.

Cindy is being coached by a real pro, Anne Marie Saarinen, this year's exchange student from Finland at FHS. Doug will be learning a new dialect of German when he lives in Thun near the Swiss capital of Bern while Karen increases her proficiency in High German.

They're able to participate in the program under the sponsorship of "Youth for Understanding," a group which has helped promote understanding between countries through exchange efforts for many years.

Said Miss Carley, FHS counselor, is coordinator of the program at FHS and moderator of the popular exchange club.

Said Miss Carley: "This is the first year our students will be able to spend an entire year studying and living abroad. Usually the program has only been for three months during the summer, but now they'll really get the feel of the countries they visit."

**BOTH CINDY** and Doug have had experience with exchange students from other countries when their parents offered to be host families.

They're acquainted with some of the things they may encounter when they become "guests" of a new host family. But it's a first for Karen who says one of the highlights of her trip will be seeing the Olympics scheduled for Germany this year.

She said: "I'll be spending the first two months in a youth hostel in Hamburg before I'm sent to a host family. That ought to be a real experience!"

Cindy, Doug and Karen were chosen because of excellent scholastic averages, proficiency in languages, active interest in school, church and community affairs, and good health records. They had to submit two application forms, four photographs, triplicate school records for the grades 10, 11 and 12; personal statements, letters of recommendation from a school counselor, a pastor, priest or rabbi, and another adult; and written consent from their parents. Each student pays his own fare and program fees.

None of the three expressed anxiety at being away from home for an entire year, although they said their parents "were not too thrilled" about them going away for so long. But as Germany's Hartz Mountain Karen put it, "It's a once in a lifetime experience" and they admitted their parents were Germany."



DOUG COUTTS



CINDY BORGMAN



KAREN WELLER