

today's hot line

Vol. 83 No. 16 44 Pages 4 Sections

what's inside

Clip It Out

Follow your favorite prep team this basketball season...Clip the schedule out of today's sports section.

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How To Win

A young person from Farmington will again be honored this year for citizenship by the Farmington Soroptimists. Details are given inside on the citizenship award and how it can be won.

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Minimizing

Any area surrounding a school will have problems of littering, trespassing and safety. Such problems exist around Harrison High but steps are being taken to minimize the frustrations.

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Bussing Meeting

The history of the Detroit segregation lawsuit will be traced at tonight's (Wednesday) anti-bussing meeting in Farmington High School. Details about this event can be found inside and for information about many other events consult the Farmington Community Calendar.

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You Beautiful Doll

Two very different kinds of dolls get the spotlight in our Women's Section today. Find out why both help lead to the Christmas season.

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GOOD NEWS

for Observer Readers



When your Observer carrier comes to your door to collect this month, don't forget to ask for a receipt. It's worth its face value toward an advertisement in the Observer Classified section.

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THE ARRIVAL -- Santa Claus arrived in Farmington by helicopter Friday, Nov. 26, with a landing on the Orchard Ridge campus of Oakland Community College. Farmington Township Supervisor Earl Teeples gave Santa a key to the township and Santa then received a police escort to his workshop at the Farmington Plaza, Grand River and Mooney, Farmington. (Evert photo)

Zoning Board Denies College

The Zoning Board of Appeals of Farmington Township drew a fine line and then voted to deny site plans for a college on Nine Mile between Halstead and Drake Rds.

The board decided the proposed college was not really a college in the traditional sense, although it satisfied the technical definitions, and should be prohibited on property zoned residential.

THAT CONCLUSION was reached after eight months of hearings by the Zoning Board and Farmington Township Planning Commission with the proponents -- the John Wesley Foundation -- and Heather Hills residents who opposed the project.

The request formally reached the board last March 2, when petition for site plan approval was filed by Dr. Kenneth Armstrong of Farmington, foundation chairman and president of the college.

Armstrong envisioned a campus to house students who would receive moral instruction on-campus and commute to nearby state universities to obtain academic credits for a degree.

The foundation purchased 53 acres on the north side of Nine Mile just east of Halstead Rd. and asked site plan ap-

proval for an educational building for an "extension educational facility" of Owosso College, a non-denominational Christian liberal arts college in Owosso.

The foundation had earlier purchased Owosso College which gave it a state-approved charter to operate an extension college in Farmington Township.

DECISION to reject site plan approval centered on the view expressed by Peter Klopp, zoning board member: "As presented to this board, the classes to be taught on the premises will be extremely limited, and the resident students will be completing the major portion of their college curriculum at other institutions.

"In terms of zoning and land use, it appears to me that this proposal is closer to a multiple housing project for young people than a college."

Klopp adds he believes approval would have been "both injurious to the surrounding residential district and contrary to the spirit and purpose of our zoning ordinance."

FRED LICHTMAN, township trustee and zoning board member, added the matter was one of the most difficult cases ever brought

before the zoning board because it "met all the technical aspects" of the zoning ordinance.

Lichtman felt the institution "was not a college in the sense that a college is normally thought of. It is not an institution where the major curriculum and main body of students are contained on the campus. It is somewhat of a transient institution."

Lichtman added that location of the college on the 53 acres would disrupt the township's master plan and the neighborhood unit plan for that area.

VOTE TO deny site plan was 3-0 with chairman Douglas Mann voting with Klopp and Lichtman.

The college had been recommended by the planning commission by a 4-3 advisory vote. Klopp felt that vote was too close to be taken seriously.

At the commission, Mrs. Grace Richardson abstained because she is developer of Heather Hills, and Mann abstained because he would vote on the matter on the zoning board.

The township's planning consultants, Vilcan-Leman and Associates, had recommended denial because he felt the college would be injurious to Heather Hills and disrupt the Neighborhood Unit Plan.



TEACHING TUNE-UPS -- Tom Allen teaches basic auto tune-up techniques to ladies attending the powder puff mechanics course being offered by Farmington School District

for some 20 ladies enrolled in the adult education program. (Sally Kuryla photo)

Center To Locate On Border?

The proposal for a major apartment-shopping center complex bordering Farmington, on the southwest corner of Eight Mile and Farmington Rd. in Livonia, has reached the Livonia City Council.

The center has been recommended for approval by the planning commission, and the council has scheduled public hearings on the plans for 8 p.m. Monday, Dec. 13. The shopping mall, a half-million square feet, would be slightly smaller than Livonia Mall or Wonderland and the entire complex would cost about \$10 million, proponents say.

The developer's architect, Giffels Associates of Detroit, propose an "old world" atmosphere for the multi-level mall with a park being located along the creek.

The developer, Livonia Associates, promised to pay for installing a sanitary sewer and road improvements, which include acceleration and deceleration lanes on both Farmington and Eight Mile Rds. and expansion of Gill Rd. to three lanes.

The planning commission has reduced the apartment portion of the complex from 50 to 35 acres. The 35 acres will house about 338 apartment units south and west of the Taribus Creek.

Panel Talk For Parents

Farmington parents are invited to attend a panel discussion on "Counseling at Harrison" Monday, Dec. 13, at 7:30 p.m. in the Harrison High Auditorium.

Taking part will be four Harrison counselors: Mrs. Nancy Rollinson, Jerry Sklare, John Summerlee and Jill Turley.

Among questions the panel will take up are how to select and prepare for a career, requirements for college entry, where to secure help for personal problems, where to learn about the draft, and how to plan a schedule and live with it.

A question and answer period will follow.

Female Mechanics Are Aware

By SALLY KURYLA

"There goes another fingernail on the distributor cap. That Pinto has such a cute little engine, doesn't it, Mr. Allen?" "What's this thing leaking oil?" "I think I left a screwdriver in the air filter, Mr. Allen." "Mr. Allen, I can't even get my hood up!"

Why take a mechanics course? "Tired of being taken in by gas station attendants" and "being stuck on lonely roads with a flat tire" were a couple of reasons given by students. One lady doesn't know what her original reasons were for taking the class ever since she won a cash bet with a friend.

"He said I didn't know what my radiator cap pressure was. Ha! I marched over to that car, raised the hood and confidently pointed to the little number on the radiator cap. Easiest money I ever made!"



CORRODED battery cables is a major cause of cars not starting in cold weather. Cleaning cables is one of the techniques being taught powder puff mechanics in Farmington Senior High. (Sally Kuryla photo)



REMOVING a sparkplug is this mechanic, who seems to enjoy getting grease on her hands instead of detergent. (Sally Kuryla photo)