

today's hot line

Vol. 83 No. 20 48 Pages 4 Sections

what's inside

Goodfellows All

Heavy rain and winds made it unpleasant for Farmington Goodfellows hawking papers, Friday but donations from passing motorists still passed last year's collections by \$500. A pictorial report on the Goodfellow paper sale is given inside.

Pages 4A, 8A

Students Help

The student body at Farmington Junior High spent three days recently collecting 5,000 coupons to go towards the purchase of a kidney machine. A report is given inside on the students' efforts.

Page 3A

For Your Holiday

The holiday season in Farmington is marked by entertainment offered by Farmington High School, North Farmington High, Farmington Junior High, Power Junior High, the Farmington Community Center and Nardin Park Methodist Church. Check the Farmington Community Calendar for date, time, place and admission charges.

Page 8A

Falcons Finally Win

Farmington opened Inter-Lakes play with a basketball win over Waterford ... Read today's sport section for the game story.

Page 3B

Christmas Light

It shines in many ways, and a Farmington mother tells how the glow of a special ritual became warm friendliness. Her story is in our Women's Section.

Page 2C

Amusements	8-9B
Classified Want Ads	Sec. D
Cooking, by Elly	11B
Deaths and Funerals	13B
Editorial Viewpoints	12B
Home and Garden	5-6B
Readers' Forum	13B
Regional Affairs	10B
Sports—Prep and Pro	1-4B
Ski Hill	4B
Spotlight on Women	1-5C
Turf Tips & Quips	4B

Township To Build Fire Hall In Freeway Industrial Park



WIND DAMAGE -- Heavy winds left their mark on the Farmington landscape Friday afternoon with damage including a transported storage shed and a bent cross. The bent cross is attached to the roof of the Forest Hills United

Missionary Church, 30623 W. 12 Mile, Farmington. The 12 by 200-foot storage shed was transported from a residence on Runnymede to the backyard of the residence on the next street, Ridgeway. (Ralph Evert photos)

Farmington Township will build its first fire station in the Farmington Freeway Industrial Park at 10 Mile and Grand River.

That decision was made Monday night by the township board, which authorized an initial \$15,000 towards an anticipated total expense of about \$120,000.

The two-bay station will be constructed on Research Dr. near 10 Mile in the Thompson-Brown developed industrial park.

The land is being donated by Hickory Grove Land Co., which has promised to give the township a clear title. The parcel is about 345 feet long, 165 feet deep on the south end and about 80 feet deep on the north.

The new station will replace the fire station presently located on the Star Cutter property on Grand River.

Star Cutter is closing its operation in Farmington and will be selling its property, including the building and land now used by the volunteer fire department.

Director expects the building can be completed within 120 days once construction begins.

The new station will house an aerial ladder truck which can be used to combat fires in two-story buildings, such as the Holiday Inn now operating within the FFIP service area.

Holko told trustees a new ladder truck will cost about \$157,000, but an existing unit can be converted for some \$15,000 which will relieve next year's budget. The following year, Holko quickly added, the new ladder truck would have to be obtained.

The initial \$15,000 outlay approved 7-0 Monday night will finance preparation of the site once title is obtained and pay for preliminary architectural costs.

Treasurer Thomas Nolan also pointed out the township will soon have to build a new fire station in the northeast portion of the township.

The State of Michigan is acquiring the property of that township fire station in order to extend Northwest Highway.

THE RECOMMENDATION on the Research Dr. site was made by Ronald Holko, director of public safety.

The township's master plan also recommends that a fire station be located somewhere within the industrial park. Holko estimates \$125,000 will cover construction costs, including a blacktopped parking area which can also be used as a training area. The

Supervisor Earl Teeples added that the station, named by Bob Buttens, is an old building and cannot be counted on to last forever.

The station where Button is chief is located on Button's Overhards with firetruck equipment stored in an old building once used to compress apples for cider.

Continued on Page 3A

Tax Collection Fee Protested

By EMORY DANIELS

The furor began last Wednesday and probably didn't end Monday night.

The taxpayers had their say, but the Farmington Township Board decided the one per cent tax collection fee, cause of the anger, would remain.

The agitation began Wednesday, Dec. 8, when residents began receiving their tax bills in the mail. They were disturbed when noticing the bill included a one per cent collection fee.

The fee is applied on the total taxes paid, so a resident paying \$1,000 in taxes would pay an additional \$10 because of the collection fee.

The fee had been waived for a number of years, but this year the township board, when it adopted the 1971-72

operating budget, decided against waiving the fee.

The board found the township short of operating funds and decided to charge the one per cent collection fee which will bring in about \$118,000 to the township's general funds. Treasurer Thomas Nolan told residents at Monday night's meeting.

TOWNSHIP Attorney Joseph T. Brennan explained state law provides that the fee shall be applied unless the board votes to waive the fee. That vote was not taken this year.

If the fee were not applied, Nolan said, the shortage of funds would have forced the township to lay off policemen or other employees or reduce township services.

Brennan explained the fee is

Continued on Page 4A

Center Stages Annual Christmas Carol Sing

A Christmas gift to the people of the Farmington area is being presented by the Farmington Community Center.

ON TUESDAY, Dec. 21, in the center, there will be a special program for school aged children and adults given at 10 a.m., 2 p.m., 4 p.m. and 7 p.m.

At 8:15 p.m. all Farmington families are invited to the annual carol sing on the grounds of the center. This will be followed by refreshments of cocoa and cookies.

Flying in from the south will be guest stars Andrew and Georgene Gainey, a well known baritone, will sing special Christmas songs. Mrs. Gainey will be telling unusual and interesting Christmas stories.

Gainey has had a versatile career. In opera he has sung 28 different roles with four years as a leading baritone in the New York City Opera Company.

In musical comedy, he appeared in "Kiss Me Kate" on Broadway and in 34 other musicals around the nation's summer theaters. In television he has been on NBC Opera, CBS "Omnibus," the "Kraft Theater" and "Studio One."

MRS. GAINEY finds time for active participation in both directing and performing in addition to mothering their four children. For several years, she and her husband had Philadelphia's only husband and wife radio team and after moving to Birmingham, Ala., they continued the program there. In addition to recital programs with her husband, Mrs. Gainey has performed before many organizations, civic groups and service clubs.

Since the main room of the Community Center seats only 120 persons, tickets (which are free) must be picked up in

advance before the evening of Dec. 17.

The Bergstrom Insurance Agency and Thompson-Brown Co. are backing the center to bring the Gaineys here for the program.

All families are welcome to the carol sing without tickets since it will be outdoors. Max Davey, who directs and produces the center's summer concerts, will be directing the Christmas carols as he has in previous years.



GEORGENE GAINEY



ANDREW GAINEY

No Publications Dec. 25, Jan. 1

Observer Newspapers will not publish weekend editions on Dec. 25 and Jan. 1, the Christmas and New Year's holidays respectively.

Publisher Philip H. Power said the unprecedented decision was made in order to give employees and carrier boys and girls a full holiday weekend.

In addition, ONI offices will be closed on the two Fridays preceding each holiday - Dec. 24 and 31. The main office at 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia, and the Southfield office at 20059 W. 12 Mile will thus be closed from Thursday at 5 p.m. until Monday at 9 a.m. for each holiday weekend.

A trend has been developing in the metropolitan area to suspend publication on such holidays, Power noted.

Deadlines for the editions of Dec. 22 and 29 will be the normal Wednesday edition deadlines: Monday at noon for women's and church news, Monday at the close of business for general news, and Tuesday at 11 a.m. for classified advertising.



Don't Miss the **observer** Gift Spotter in today's Classified Section

If you have a long list of gifts to get this Christmas, save your feet and start early by reading the **Observer Gift Spotter**. It's a special page in our classified section devoted to gift-giving ideas. It includes items for the whole family. Turn to the Gift Spotter and get a head start on your Christmas shopping.

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