

the farmington enterprise & observer

YOUR HOMETOWN NEWSPAPER

15¢ a Copy

Wednesday, March 21, 1973

Volume 84, Number 46 • Four News Sections

20 File For Proposed City Of Farmington Hills Council

By DAN McCOSH

A total of 20 candidates filed for the seven seats on the proposed City of Farmington Hills council but the names of Farmington Township Clerk Floyd Cairns and Treasurer Thomas Nolan were not on the list.

When the filing deadline of 4 p.m. came Tuesday, all members of the township board with the exception of Cairns and Nolan had become candidates.

The 20 will run for election along with the vote on the proposed charter for the new city on May 8.

The charter currently rests on the desk of Gov. William Milliken for review and is expected to be approved well in advance of the election.

If the charter is approved by the electorate, then the new city will be born and the proposed city council will become an actuality.

Should it be rejected, then the entire matter will be dropped and those supporting the proposed new city will have to go through the entire procedure again in a couple of years.

It will mean drawing up another charter, presenting it to the governor for review and then another election.

Four township trustees were among those filing: Margaret Schaeffer, 26900 Drake; Frederick Lichtman, 28618 Kendallwood; Earl Opperthaus, 32216 Baintree; and L. David Stader, 30262 Pipers Lane.

Twp. Supervisor Robert A. McConnell, 30106 Valleyside Drive, who also chaired the charter commission, threw his hat into the ring.

The youngest candidate was Thomas R. Auchtenberg, 20, of 28534 Westerleigh.

Joan Dudley, 25829 Chapelweigh, along with Lichtman and McConnell, was another of the three charter members to file.

The others included: R.W. Baers, 28529 Cumberland, a volunteer fireman; Quakertown Village Clerk Vivian Jurosek, 32665 Biddestone; and William Hatton, 34526 Nine Mile Road.

Planning Commissioner James Moreen, 30217 Ravenscroft; Harry Grysh, 31575 Rocky Crest Drive; Joanne Smith, 31858 Stamen Circle Drive; Southfield police detective Melvin Panovitch, 26425 Springfield and Donald Chisholm, 35249 Gary.

The remaining candidates: William Ortman, 28010 S. Harwich; D. Keith Deacon, 28336 Peppermill; Larry Perry, 22354 Tredwell; Wylie Pruner, 21515 Farmington Road and Michael Feiler, 27611 Forestbrook Drive.



STORM VICTIM — Mrs. Felix Bregni, 30949 Sudbury, had this huge tree come crashing onto her patio during the height of Saturday's

storm. Edison Co. men waded into the mud and snow bound house on foot to repair damage to the wires. (Photo by Ralph Evert)

Schools Close; Roads Clogged By Snowstorm

Farmington School District youngsters played hooky legally last Monday. It was partly because the going was tough for school buses and partly because a good many teachers were snowbound.

William Prisk, school district business manager, said a sizable number of the walk-in students could have made it to school, but it might have been a do-it-yourself teaching situation.

Prisk said some 55 teachers were contacted late Sunday in a mobility sample and 34 reported "no way." Another

10 said they weren't sure they would be there and nine promised to show, rain, sleet or more snow.

By Monday afternoon Prisk had a report that all school drives and parking lots were clear, and Oakland county officials reported that all main highways were in traveling condition and county crews were clearing side roads.

Schools did open as usual on Tuesday.

Other than the school closings, the biggest snow

since 1965 slowed but did not stop the Farmington area. The worst effect was a power failure in the southwest portion of the city and township for as long as 11 hours, leaving the Farmington DPW barn on standby generators.

Hundreds of cars stuck in the snow were the worst problem, with one car actually abandoned sideways in the middle of Grand River.

Although much of the township was still digging out Monday afternoon, city crews

worked around the clock to keep streets clear.

Their efforts drew praise from most quarters.

Except for one housewife in Twin Valley subdivision, Just finishing clearing the drive before a city plow came along and buried it again, the unidentified woman chased the plow down the street, banging on the truck with a shovel.

"Some people got a little hostile," said David Jones, head of the City DPW.

"You can't please everybody."

All-Area Basketball

The top cagers of the 18 high schools in Observerland are announced in today's sport section along with pictures and statistics of the '72-'73 season. For the complete story, turn to today's sport section.

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Shovel Progress

An ambitious neighborhood group has been organizing to dig drainage ditches, hoping to dry out their roads. We have a progress report, along with a list of who to contact to participate, on:

Page 3A

Zoning Denied

A controversial rezoning for Farmington Road has been denied again. But city council members made strong arguments for balanced zoning at Monday's meeting.

Page 3A

Beautification Meets

Farmington was host to a regional meeting of the beautification councils recently. Guest speaker Robert Bean had some observations, reported on:

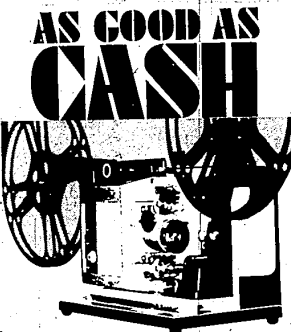
Page 5A

Togetherness

New programs at the Northwest YWCA offer it for mothers and tots. Meet some of those enrolled in today's Observing Life.

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What a happy ending! If you no longer use your motion picture projector, or other visual and photographic equipment, you can convert them into cash. You'll find cash buyers easily and quickly when you advertise these items for sale the low cost way... with an Observer Want Ad. Call:

522-0900

Illness Brings A Warm Response

By STEVE BARNABY

A few months ago Lisa Wright, 10, of 21048 Whitlock, was just another child who attended Flanders School in Farmington. Today, after a two-month battle with meningitis, she is the sweetheart and folk-hero of the community.

Stricken shortly after Christmas, Lisa entered Botsford Hospital Jan. 13. On March 4, some 52 days later, she came home victor over a disease fatal to the majority it strikes.

During this battle, hundreds came to the aid of the Melvin Wright family, either through monetary contributions, free services or good old-fashioned concern and kindness. "There are just so many people to thank. I don't know how we'll ever do it," says Lisa's mother. "We don't know even half of the people who helped us, and we couldn't possibly write to everybody."

Among those who came to the aid of the Wrights was Ascension Lutheran Congregation of Livonia, which contributed \$350 to alleviate a medical bill which totals, after insurance payments, more than \$8,000. More costs are inevitable during Lisa's recovery because of required weekly trips to the doctor and hiring of a tutor.

Neighbors along Whitlock joined in the fight by collecting more than \$200. Most contributing didn't even know Lisa.

Two bowling leagues have contributed \$138, with Lisa receiving hundreds of dollars more from individual sources.

Lisa's long stay in Botsford was brightened by visits from her teachers and get-well cards from fellow students which covered the walls of her hospital room. She was surprised and delighted when even some of those "dumb boys" sent her a card.

The seven doctors who treated Lisa became devoted fans.

"As time went on, the doctors became friends with Lisa and would come in and kiss her and say, 'I love you.' One of the doctors called me every morning and every night," says Mrs. Wright.

Since her release, Lisa has been treated to lunch and a trip to an ice cream parlor by some of the doctors.

One of the nicest gestures was made by a doctor who spent many of those 52 days with Lisa. He charged the Congregation of Livonia, family only \$35 for services which probably would have cost them thousands of dollars.

"Even the cleaning ladies would come up and ask me about Lisa," says Mrs. Wright.

Pat Vantassell babysat free for Lisa's brother every day



SURROUNDED by some of the tokens of the friendship and good will her 52-day illness

invoked, Lisa Wright feels a little overwhelmed. (Photo by Ralph Evert)

while Betty Kraus drove Mrs. Wright so she could visit the hospital.

In a letter to the Wrights, Rev. Arnold Jahr, of Ascension Lutheran Church, summed up everyone's feelings: "We are happy Lisa

is home again and on the road to recovery. We thank and praise God for his loving kindness and mercy."

The Wrights also thank God for all the wonderful people who helped out in their time of need.