

the farmington enterprise & observer

YOUR HOMETOWN NEWSPAPER

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Today's
hot line

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Offices Closed For Tre Ore

Observer Newspapers offices at 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia, will be closed from noon to 3 p.m. Good Friday, April 20, to allow employees to attend Tre Ore services. The switchboard will also be closed during that time.

What's Inside

Charter Opposition

A group has been formed to oppose the charter proposed for Farmington Township. A statement of the position and the date of the first hearing is on:

Page 4A

Operation Shovel

A group of neighbors who decided to dig themselves out of the mud has begun work on the streets in their neighborhood. The story of a successful neighborhood project is on:

Page 5A

Preservationist

That's what poet and artist Gwen Frostic says she is, and it's not the same as conservationist. She spoke recently in Farmington, and you won't want to miss what she has to say. It's in Observing Life.

Page 7C

Tough Test

Three Oakland Community College students from Observerland face a tough test -- and not just a classroom examination. They're in a national contest for business students.

Page 6A

Amusements	11, 12B
Churches in Action	13-15B
Classified Want Ads	Sec. D
Cooking, by Elly	9C
Deaths and Funerals	17B
Editorial Viewpoints	16B
Home and Garden	7-10B
Observing Life	1-8C
Readers' Forum	17B
Regional Affairs	6B
Sports-Prep and Pro	1-5B
Turf Tips, Quips	4B

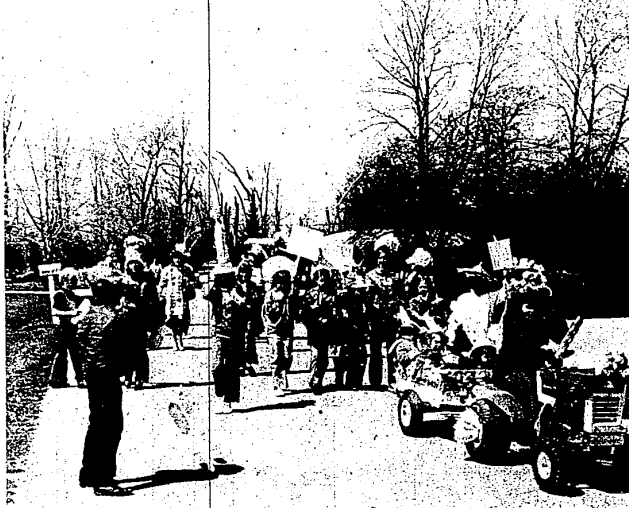


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City Ordinance Introduced To Control 'Adult' Movies



EASTER PARADE -- Greencastle Subdivision woke up at 8 a.m. Saturday to prepare for this

Easter Parade, which wound through subdivision streets later in the day. (Evert photo)

Ordinances to control "adult" movie theaters and pornographic book stores were introduced unanimously by the Farmington City Council Monday.

No such establishments exist in Farmington now, and no one has expressed interest in opening one, Capt. Dan Burns of the police department told the council.

The ordinances are modeled after two developed by Detroit, according to City Manager Robert Deadman. He said the Detroit ordinances, which require licenses for the movie houses and book stores, seem to have the best chance of standing up in court.

The strong Detroit ordinances were cited as one reason for introducing the local ordinance.

"As a result of the Detroit ordinances, dealers in such materials have turned to the suburban communities that lack such controlling ordinances to establish their businesses," Deadman said.

A second ordinance, which prohibits the showing of legally "obscene" movies in the city, also sailed through the council with little comment.

Both are up for final adoption by the council at the next meeting.

The licensing ordinance requires a petition from 51 per cent of the people living or doing business within a 500 foot radius of the premises approving of the proposed operation.

It also says no business dealing in pornographic materials may locate within 1,000 feet of other similar businesses or within 1,000 feet of a school or church.

The city council would be given authority to review the license applications.

Byron Oliver Retires

By MARIE MCGEE

The orderly mind of a mathematician makes Byron Oliver a natural neatnik.

But that still doesn't make the job of clearing out his desk and office after 32 years with the Farmington School District any easier.

The problem, Oliver concedes, is that most of the "things" he must dispose of are memories -- and three decades of service amounts to a hefty pile to sift through. But even so, Oliver's eyes twinkle behind mod wire-rimmed glasses as he ponders leaving the position as director of administrative services "with no regrets -- and, more importantly, with no job left undone."

Oliver signed on with the tiny Farmington School District in 1941 as a math and band instructor after a stint as a one-room country school teacher with grades one through eight.

He assumed his present position 11 years ago and has been largely responsible for

overseeing the district's building program.

In addition, he handles child accounting, makes school enrollment projections, takes charge of school elections, writes board policy and prepares state and federal reports.

Those are the big jobs, he says. One of his lesser tasks is the annual preparation of retirement certificates that are given each year at the faculty union dinner honoring retirees.

"I guess I'll be making out my last official act," And it also means he'll be making out a certificate for his wife, Josephine (Jo), who will be retiring after years as a fifth grade teacher at Middle Belt Elementary School.

The Olivers plan to head west soon after the end of school, waiting long enough only to see their daughter Pat's husband graduate from the University of Michigan law school.

In a new trailer, they will head for Colorado and "come

back when we want to." After that, Oliver said, the couple plan a Florida trip and are considering making their home in the sunny south.

The Olivers have been avid travelers ever since their college days at Central Michigan college, he recalls.

It was at Central the couple met when both joined the Apple Blossom Club, a rural teachers club that worked for school consolidation.

"We traveled as many as

26 states with the club," he said, studying educational patterns and "pushing" school consolidation as means of upgrading educational standards.

"You could say," he smiled, "that apple blossoms led to orange blossoms."

Oliver ("no one calls me Ollie") admitted that he has enjoyed the past 32 years. "But I'm glad it's over. I'm not the kind who would like to go back and do it all over again."

Instead, he said, he's looking forward to "at least 10 years of interesting retirement...the golden years."

Some of that time will be spent fishing, he said, and some may be spent on the golf course now that he and his wife have renewed their interest in that sport.

He also acknowledged his wife's great love for the game of baseball.

"She's a real Tiger fan," he says.

In fact, the question in some quarters is whether the board "front office" will miss Oliver's business expertise as much as Middle Belt fifth graders will miss their favorite female "coach."

In addition to the annual Farmington Education Assn. retirement dinner in June, Oliver will also be honored on May 18 by the Oakland County School Business Officials, an organization he once served as president.

Council Candidates Form A Coalition

A "non-partisan" coalition of four candidates for the proposed Farmington Hills Council includes Robert McConnell, Frederick Lightman, Joanne Smith and D. Keith Desean.

The four are among 19 candidates vying for seven seats on the council May 8. The council will be sealed only if voters also approve the charter for the proposed city at the same election.

Lichtman is currently a township trustee; McConnell is township supervisor. Mrs. Smith is the former chair-

man of the local Democratic Club, and is apparently the one who makes the coalition "non-partisan" -- the rest are nominally Republicans.

Desean worked with McConnell on the Future Farmington Assn. -- the group chiefly responsible for the successful incorporation vote drive.

"This decision is no reflection on our fellow incumbents on the township board," McConnell said, adding the "adoption of the charter" was the primary interest of the coalition.



BYRON OLIVER and his wife plan a trip after his retirement. (Evert photo)