

**THE SNOWSTORM THAT HIT Farmington last Thursday produced extremes of delight and frustration** as cars had difficulty negotiating roads but youngsters enjoyed a welcomed two-day respite from school and a chance to frolic in the heavy drifts and snowbanks. The scene in the top picture was taken Friday afternoon from Grand River Avenue looking south on Farmington Road where Farmington City police officers were on duty most of the day helping to direct the crawling flow of traffic (some cars weren't going anyplace, like the one at right, snowplowed in solid). It was a winter wonderland for three-year-old Capner Pelt, son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Pelt of 32521 Meadowlark, who is seen (bottom picture) cowering with his mother in front of their Farmington Acres home.

## Farmington City and Township Crippled by Record Snowstorm

The record snowstorm which struck Farmington last Thursday left an extensive clean-up job for Farmington City and Oakland County DPW crews and kept homeowners busy over the weekend clearing city driveways and walks.

Both City and Township police officers, as well as many private citizens, were seen during the two critical days (Thursday and Friday) when schools, stores and many businesses were closed adding stranded motorists. Good Samaritans abounded throughout the area (see story on Page 2-B) and were credited by police of relieving a serious situation.

**RESOURCEFULNESS** on the part of residents was seen in many forms. One young man saddled up his horse and was seen riding down Grand River (Thursday and Friday) when pedestrians and motorists alike who were finding the going very rough. Because most streets were closed and deliveries of all kinds were either delayed or canceled, bread and milk as well as other commodities were soon out of supply in the Farmington area until Monday.

Service stations were too busy helping stranded motorists out of ditches and repairing mechanical difficulties to worry much about grease jobs and oil changes, their usual bread and butter business. And in addition to that, canceled gasoline deliveries caused a shortage which found some pumps dry at local stations.

See **SNOWSTORM** Page 8-A, Col. 6

## Contents of Planning Comm. Minutes Results in Debate

Rather heated discussion erupted at the Farmington City Council meeting Monday night over the content of information in the City Planning Commission meeting minutes.

Councilman Henry Forrest leveled sharp blasts at City Manager John Dinan. He charged that Dinan is putting far too much of his own interpretation of what transpires at planning meetings into the minutes and is leaving out comments and statements made by citizens on some occasions.

The city manager explained that only brief notes are kept on the planning commission's proceedings and that he fills in information from these notes in preparing the official minutes. This explanation seemed to satisfy all but Councilman Forrest.

MUCH of the debate centered around an earlier statement made by Councilman Forrest at one of the City Economic Development Committee's meetings. Forrest's statement was that he was in favor of a thorough study and consideration of development of the 22 acre strip of property on the west side of Farmington.

See **PLANNING COMM.** Page 8-A, Col. 3



**RALPH YODER OF THE Farmington City Council** made through last Thursday's blizzard to keep his appointment with the City Manager and review the homeowners' plans submitted to counter the proposed ERO (Education-Research-Office) District zoning which has been under consideration by the City Planning Commission.

## City Appeal Bd. Denies Owner Mfg. Variance

The continuance of manufacturing operations from a problem building located a short distance north of Grand River Avenue off Lila St. east of Orchard Lake Road which abuts residential property, was unanimously denied by the City Zoning Board of Appeals at its regular meeting.

Some types of manufacturing and repair work have been conducted from this building for the past several years now despite strong objections from neighboring residential property owners. A court decision handed down a few months back ordered the Quigley Machine Products Co. to suspend manufacturing operations in this building and to sharply curtail outside storage of material.

**IN ORDER** to keep the building occupied and yielding some financial returns, the owner recently made an appeal for a variance to the City Zoning Board of Appeals for a different type of manufacturing that he felt would not be as objectionable to nearby homeowners as the type of operations of the past. The proposed use for which this latest variance was requested was that of the assembling of metal door frames by a local lumber company.

A small group of nearby homeowners made it clear to the appeals board that they did not feel the proposed new manufacturing use for this building would be all that desirable and that there would still be serious nuisances caused and that the values of their property would be adversely affected.

A six month extension of time was proposed by one of the appeals board members to permit the owner to make an appeal from this building until a new location could be found by the local lumber company officials but failed when only 3 of the appeals board members supported the motion.

## Apartments, Trailer Court Expansion Head Twp. Zoning Board Agenda

Four public hearings listed on the Township Zoning Board's agenda for tomorrow evening, Thursday, March 4, will include the controversial proposed development of 153 apartment units on the 13.2 acre triangular parcel bounded by Middlebelt and Thirteen Mile roads and Northwestern Highway. This development is being opposed

by a number of subdivision associations and homeowners represented by Wendell Brown, attorney, as well as by other individuals.

The matter was discussed at the January 28 meeting at the request of Wendell Brown who stated that he had not had access to legal papers in time to be prepared for the meeting.

**NORMAN KREIDER**, president of Wood Creek Farms Village, indicated at the January meeting that he would make a statement at the next hearing. The continued hearing was to have been held on February 25, but the meeting was canceled because of the blizzard.

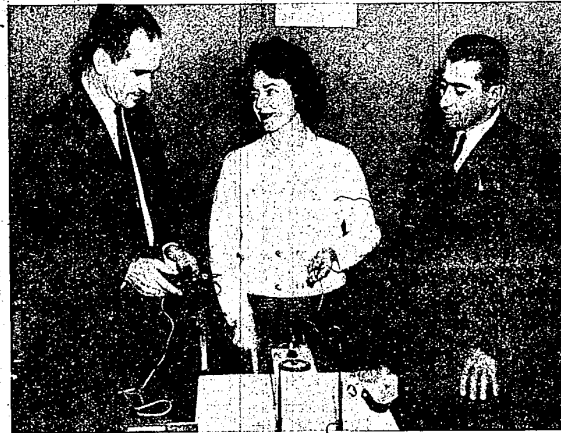
Re zoning permit expansion of the Flamingo Trailer Court

on Middlebelt north of 9 Mile Road, another controversial item in the past, has also been set for a public hearing at this meeting. The request for rezoning, made at the January 28 meeting was in two parts. One request was for expansion to the north of the trailer court site, and the other was for expansion to the south. The Board rejected the request for expansion to the north and approved the south side expansion for public hearing.

Two other public hearings — rezoning for apartments between Bostford Inn and Bostford Hospital, and rezoning of the southwest corner of 12 Mile and Halstead roads for a swimming pool sales and supplies business — are scheduled for tomorrow's meeting.

**ITEMS THAT WERE** to have been heard at the February 25 canceled meeting and will be taken up tomorrow evening are a preliminary site plan review for proposed multiple zoning for the southwest corner of 9 Mile and Hill roads; a review of the final site plan for Independence Green, the Duke development at Grand River and Halstead; a preliminary plan review of Heritage Hills subdivision to be located on 14 Mile Road from Farmington to Drake roads; and a preliminary plan review of Colonel Park subdivision on 13 Mile and Farmington roads.

A continuation of review for Hunters Ridge, multiple residential, commercial, a proposed, elaborate, 100-acre development at See **ZONING BOARD** Page 8-A, Col. 5



**A CLASS IN RADIATION** detection instruments, their operation and application, will be the classes in the class are (L to R) Farmington City Police Chief Maurice D. Foltz, Mrs. Tony Himmel-spach (Civil Defense Coordinator) and Ervin L. Schreiber, CBR (Chemical-Biological-Radiological) Civil Defense Officer for Oakland County.

Some of the apparatus which will be used in the class are (L to R) Farmington City Police Chief Maurice D. Foltz, Mrs. Tony Himmel-spach (Civil Defense Coordinator) and Ervin L. Schreiber, CBR (Chemical-Biological-Radiological) Civil Defense Officer for Oakland County.

## Two New Civil Defense Courses To Be Started

Once again the City of Farmington and Farmington Township will co-sponsor a medical and emergency course in survival and disaster training in cooperation with the Oakland County Office of Civil Defense and the Oakland County Health Department.

The 12 week course, which is open to all interested adults in the Farmington area is scheduled to begin Thursday, March 4 at 8 p.m. at Cloverdale School, 33000 Freedom Road.

## Industry Drive Sewer, Water Contract Let

Despite the fact that bids came in substantially higher than initial cost estimates, the City Council took action at its meeting Monday night approving the awarding of contract for the installation of water and sewer lines along the city's industrial drive at the north end of the industrial park at 8 Mile and Farmington Road.

## Eleven in Area On GOP Comm.

Eleven area people were recently appointed to the Republican County Committee by the GOP Executive Committee according to Dale A. Feet, Oakland County GOP Chairman.

Representing the City of Farmington will be Ray Baker, 2878 Grand River; Richard Duncan, 2436 Birchwood; and Harvey Mascon, 21510 Birchwood.

## GREMLINS DID IT

The gremlins were in the type last week when the names of the three men making up the "FRS Team" running for the three City Council seats to be filled April 5 were set.

They took the name of Robert Rogers, one of the three FRS candidates, and twisted it around so badly that it came out Robert Williams.

The gremlins have now been exterminated and our sincere apologies are extended to Bob Rogers for their actions.

## Decision Finally Made on Valleyview Sewer Problem

After several lengthy discussion sessions at City Council meetings over the past several months, the decision was finally made Monday night to go ahead with the City Engineer, Frank Papke's proposal to correct the sanitary sewerage disposal problem that exists near Valleyview in the lowland area north of Grand River Avenue between Lakeway and Prospect streets.

It was an approval with qualifications, however. Councilmen insisted that not only complete engineering data on both storm and sanitary sewer line conditions elsewhere in the area. The city engineer and city manager agreed to do this.

## DPW Praised on Snow Removal

The work of the city's department of public works in handling snow removal operations following last week's heavy storm came in for high praise from the council members at the regular council meeting Monday night. In fact they even passed a formal resolution commending the DPW crew.

It was reported that a substantial number of citizens had called to register complaints and even to complain as expressed by citizens in the audience at the council meeting. But, councilmen felt that most of these complaints were unfounded or unreasonable considering the seriousness of the problem that the DPW workers had to face.

## Judge Reduces Grandview Bar Brawl Charges

The bar brawl which sent at least two persons to the hospital and resulted in arrests of seven others at Farmington Township's Grandview Bar on Gill Road was climaxed this week as assault and battery charges were reduced to drunk and disorderly charges for most of the defendants.

Dennis Gondick of Detroit was fined \$25 and placed on one year's probation by Farmington Township Judge of Peace Allen C. Ingler. Gondick pled guilty to a lesser charge of being drunk and disorderly after originally being accused of attacking two local law enforcement officers who were attempting to make an arrest on him.

Ronald Rose, 26, of 14241 Rockvale, one of the principals involved in the brawl which at times had close to 40 participants, including police from the Farmington City of Farmington, Oakland County and the State Police.

Rose, charged with assault and battery on three different occasions, also pled guilty to the reduced charge of drunk and disorderly. His wife, Sharon, who was charged with two different offenses, also pled guilty.

See **BRAWL CHARGES** Page 8-A, Col. 3