

PHONE DIRECTORY	
General Office	GA 2-3160
Advertising	GA 2-3160
Editorial	GA 2-3160
Want Ads	GR 2-9000
Circulation	GR 6-7025
Plymouth Office	GL 3-0038
Farmington Office	GR 6-7025

# The Observer

## OF FARMINGTON

AS CERTIFIED BY POST PRINTING CO.  
**Press Run 71,350**  
 THIS ISSUE

The six Observer Newspapers are Michigan's Largest Weekly Newspaper Group. Complete up-to-the-minute news of local interest. Detailed coverage of the dramatic 125 square mile area of Western Wayne County's booming suburbs.

THE OBSERVER NEWSPAPER GROUP publishing newspapers in the cities of Livonia, Plymouth, Farmington, Garden City and Townships of Canton, Plymouth, Redford, Salem, Nankin, Farmington  
 Vol. 1—No. 36 27 Wednesday, April 14, 1965 33050 Five Mile Road, Livonia Paul M. Chandler, Founder

# Township Detective Cracks Big Crime Ring

Alert police work by Farmington Township Detective Russ Conway has solved at least 75 crimes that have taken place in Farmington, Farmington Township, Livonia, and West Bloomfield, in a period that dates back to 1950.

In the process, Conway, Farmington Township Officers Arlo Newell, and George Maier,

and Oakland County Sheriff's Officer Charles Whitlock arrested four men and two women on Friday evening.

The arrest climaxed a 90 mile an hour chase, and a surveillance of several weeks by Conway.

The six have confessed to a wide variety of crimes, including car thefts, breaking and en-

tering, larcenies from homes, larcenies from autos, and one attempted safe cracking.

Police have withheld the names of those arrested, pending further investigation.

There are no charges of violence laid to them. But the arresting officers uncovered a loaded, sawed-off shotgun.

Conway had been following one of them for a couple of weeks. This man had previously done a federal prison term for car theft.

This past Friday evening, Conway observed the man's car at Keller's Cabins, 29105 Grand River in Farmington Township. He required assistance from a stakeout, at 3 p.m.

At about 8:50 p.m., two men and a woman came out of a cabin there, and headed west on Grand River. The police tailed them.

They reached a speed of about 80 mph, and turned off onto Nov Road. At Novi and 12 Mile Road, the Police brought them to a halt. The suspects were surrounded by three cars—Sheriff's car driven by Farm-

ington Township Officer Newell; another sheriff's car in which were riding Conway and Sheriff's Officer Whitlock; and a Township car driven by Officer Maier.

While questioning the three admitted committing certain crimes. The interrogation led to the discovery of three other members of what seems to have been a ring.

One of these people was turned up in the Oakland County Jail. He has been doing a sentence of 90 days, after being arrested by the same Det. Conway.

Two of the six accused have records. One is a woman of 17.

The other female is 49. One of them is the wife of a person who is currently doing time.

Police recovered approximately 40 pieces of stolen property in the arrests. These range from tape recorders to credit cards.

At least one of them is facing an additional charge of breaking federal parole.

Also helpful in solving the crime was Sgt. Glenn Helgemo of the West Bloomfield Police.

## Will Sue Township

At 7:30 Monday night, a law clerk for the firm of August, Frimet, Goren, and Rains served the members of the Farmington Township Board with a complaint for mandamus, and a summons requiring their answer within 20 days.

During this period, they will be required to explain why they refused to call an election on whether or not to permit construction of Independence Green—despite a petition demanding such an election which had been circulated by the Harris Bergers and Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Larson. These latter are the plaintiffs in the present case.

The administration argues that the petitions were insufficient both in number and detail. The plaintiffs disagree. The matter will be settled in Oakland County Circuit Court.



**THE RECENTLY ELECTED** Councilmen Wilbur Brotherton (incumbent), Ralph Yoder, and John Allen, (left to right), are seen here being sworn in by Farmington City Clerk Trena Quinn, at the Farmington City Council meeting, Monday night. About 50 people were in attendance at the ceremony.

# Elect Brotherton New City Mayor

Wilbur V. "Sandy" Brotherton is the new Mayor of Farmington. He was elected by his fellow Councilmen, Monday night, to replace retiring Mayor Robert B. Lindbert.

Councilman Howard Thayer was elected to the post of Mayor Pro-Tem. As such, he will act as Mayor in the absence of Brotherton, who held that post for four years under Lindbert.

Brotherton has lived in Farmington for 11 years. He has been a Councilman for the last seven of those years. He also served on the Planning Commission and the Retirement Board.

In private life, he is Manager of Field Sales for the Sinca Division of the Chrysler Motor Corp. He was born in Chicago, and attended Northwestern University. During the Second World War, he flew missions with the Eighth Air Force.

The 50 year old Thayer is the descendant of one of the oldest families in Farmington. The Thayers have lived here for over 100 years.

The 50-year-old Thayer has served on the Council for six years. His family has lived

in Farmington for over 100 years.

A funeral director by profession, operates the Thayer Funeral Home, 33603 Grand River, in Farmington.

His son, John, is with the U.S. Army in Germany. His daughter Nancy goes to Longacre School.

In the course of the Council meeting, City Manager John Dinan entered the live record a communication from the Oakland County Road Commission, indicating it has scheduled the widening of Farmington Road between Eight and Nine Mile Roads for 1966.

A representative of the Automobile Club took the floor at the meeting to present an award to the Farmington DPW, for its "outstanding job" during the heavy snow of Feb. 25 and 26.

The Greater Farmington Softball League was granted permission to use the Farmington City Park on Friday evenings, from May 14 through Sept. 3, 1965.

The Farmington Cab Company was granted five taxicab plates in the City. In discussion leading to this action there was considerable criticism expressed

against the Checker Cab Co. of Livonia, which has had an exclusive franchise here. A representative of the company stated that the company has had a problem of both inadequate organization and deteriorating equipment.

A letter from Carl Hoehner, campaign manager for the defeated Council member of Henry Forrest, Ernest Sauter, and Robert Rogers, wished the Council well.

Hoehner described the campaign in which his candidates lost as "one of the most active . . . in recent memory."

Representative "graduation over the amount of citizen participation FRS had inspired. The team had polled a total of over 2,600 votes, and Hoehner expressed the belief that this was a victory. It showed, he said, the need for improvement in the Farmington City government.

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## Lights Out in the City

The severe thunderstorms that struck Michigan Sunday night did not completely spare Farmington.

Wind or lightning knocked down a tree on Floral and Nine Mile Road, at 9 p.m. that night. It blocked a driveway and sidewalk. A power line was knocked down, and street lights were out for four hours in the City.

# Farmington Doctors Appointed Coroners

By Jerry Wendt

Dr. Bernard Berman, Oakland County Health Commissioner, and coroner, has announced the appointment of two Farmington physicians to the post.

Dr. Berman's appointment was effective March 1. Dr. Lawrence Goldman will begin his tenure June 2.

Dr. Goldman is from Des Moines, Iowa, and a graduate of Wayne State University. He graduated from the College of Osteopathic Medicine and Surgery in 1960. His main interest is athletic injuries. This comes to him naturally. He played football at Wayne State and Semi-Pro football in Port Huron. He is also a Semi-Pro hockey player. At present he is team physician for Farmington and North Farmington High Schools.

Dr. Berman is from Kansas City and is also a graduate of Wayne State University, and the College of Osteopathic Medicine and Surgery—class of 1955.

Both doctors are on the staff of the New Botsford General Hospital.

Dr. Goldman has been practicing in Farmington since 1962, Berman since 1957. They share offices at 21500 W. Ten Mile Road.

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## Alf Well, Allen Ails

Alf Landgren was feeling better this week. For Farmington Democrats that meant the culinary pleasures of his famous smorgasbord, at their regular meeting.

Sadly though his friend and fellow Democrat pioneer W. Allen Nelson has been having a little trouble with his heart. Allen is in Botsford Hospital, for rest and examination.

A tiny symbol of the great and bipartisan esteem in which he is held by this city is the fact that someone wrote his name in on the Council ballot in the recent election.

## Democrats Lash Township Roads

The Farmington Democratic Club has proposed the creation of a local level Fair Election Practices Commission patterned after a similar unit now functioning at the state level.

The proposal for a Farmington FEPC was made in a resolution adopted at last week's Farmington Democratic Club meeting.

Democratic Club Chairman, Aldo Vagozzi said he proposed such a step now so that such a committee could be activated before next year's election campaign.

Vagozzi said his move was prompted by several pieces of literature issued in recent campaigns which went beyond the scope of farm committee.

He cited a last-minute letter which tried to win support for the township officials salary increase in the Feb. 15 election, personal attacks on the late

## Observing the Scene...

By MYRA CHANDLER

We would call your attention this week to our editorial page (5-B). It is the treasure of a Livonia widow who would not part with it for money but loaned it to us to share with you.

We have reprinted this historical document not so much for parents, but for the young people of our community—with the hope that they will realize their heritage, believe in it, be proud of it, and desire to live up to the faith of those who have died for them.

One hundred years and a day ago, a man, who dreamed of making the world better for the young people of this day, was killed. Abraham Lincoln was shot on April 14, 1865. He died at 7:22 a.m. on April 15—100 years ago.

Isn't it strange that we are still involved in the battle he gave his life for—freedom and the dignity of man.

A century ago they were called abolitionists—today they are called Civil Rights workers. One hundred years ago they were the Republican party—today the Democratic Party has led the way.

Oh, there are some Republicans involved in the movement, but for the most part they are called liberals and are not the delight of the party—not really. But somehow this breed of cats is the only one able to get elected—and it is most frustrating to conservative Republicans—who look on Civil Rights workers as slightly pink—as in Communist.

All groups will agree—it is the youth of our nation and world we are looking to for salvation. They are the ones that will have to keep us from being blown off the face of the earth—and incidentally will have to pay the rather large bills we are accumulating as a result of excursions to the moon; not to mention a couple of expensive wars—plus putting everybody on the dole as soon as they stand still for it.

Some adult groups aim to lead—as Moral Rearmament is doing with their Mackinac Demonstration "Modernizing America." They expect 10,000 youths from all over the world at Mackinac this summer dedicated to the ideals of ending dictatorship; giving birth to liberty for all men; to ending racial violence and moral pacifism. Good luck.

There is the Birch Society which feels the adult population is too involved in a "welfare state"—and must convince the youth of the nation to become more militant, more disciplined—against communism.

The even more extreme right-wing Americans want to control what youth shall think and read—by force if necessary. Unfortunately they, more than any other, spread the deadliest poison known to man—hate.

Then there are the extreme left-wing groups—which are dedicated to mediocrity for this country because they want to move forward arm in arm—no one being an individual—no one rising above others by virtue of hard work and talent.

One great salvation lies within the hearts and homes of individual parents. It was in such a home last this week—one that gives me real hope. Its inhabitants are true community leaders. They know there are things to abhor in the world—but they don't have to call meetings and set up cells to clap hands and beat their breasts about it.

Instead, they emphasize and associate themselves with what is good in their home: Good books—proud open to interesting pages; lovely paintings; good music—both played and talked about; a cheerful home atmosphere. No, they are not wealthy, but they enjoy. Ideas are important to them and so are people.

History as it was made 100 years ago may be something the youth in your home may want to keep and contemplate. In the hope that it is meaningful to them we have reprinted it.



THEY'RE REALLY NOT that reluctant. Mrs. Chuck Boston (left) and Mrs. Dick Tupper are in the process of getting Youth Guidance Committee Headquarters in shape. On the right is the Committee's Chairman Rev. Robert Eddy. Mrs. Boston and Mrs. Tupper are representatives of the Jaycettes—an auxiliary of the Farmington Jaycees. They have taken responsibility for decorating and furnishing the Center, which is located at 33423 Grand River.

## Proposed City Budget Stresses Recreation

Farmington City Manager John Dinan has submitted, to the City Council, a proposed budget for the fiscal year 1965-1966. The Council has until not later than the third Monday in May in which to adopt the proposed budget in its final form.

The budget includes an allocation for a new road grader, replacing the present one, which is 11 years old; a new street sweeper, replacing one that is eight years old; a five ton dump truck, with underbody scraper, to strengthen the snow removal equipment; a catch basin elevator, to improve the efficiency of present catch basins throughout the City; plus other pieces of equipment.

According to Dinan, "these pieces of equipment have been needed for several years."

The overall budget calls for

## Proposed City Budget Stresses Recreation

over \$70,000 in capital improvements.

High priority is given to Recreation and Park Improvements, in the proposed budget. Dinan recommends that a part time Recreation Director be retained to broaden the program, and subsidize the summer program that is sponsored by the Farmington Area Recreation Commission.

Dinan further recommends installation of the Civic Square to be located at the Maplewood School.

With respect to the salaries of the individual employees, Dinan says, "we have taken into consideration salary adjustments, improvement factors and recommended a basic 3 per cent increase with exceptions of a few classifications and a slightly higher rate to merit."

"The Water and Sewer Fund

## Proposed City Budget Stresses Recreation

Budget has been designed to retain the same water rate and afford equipment and improvements to the system. We have proposed \$5,000 to be allocated to the Recreation Improvement Fund for water main extension of Mooney Street north of Grand River, to insure proper pressure circulation and to afford proper fire protection for the heavy commercial development located in this area.

"High demand for water utilized in the present fiscal year has improved the financial outlook for the Water and Sewer Dept. so that monies could be allocated for capital improvements and new equipment. The department plans an extensive sewer cleaning program to improve the existing sanitary sewer situation throughout the community during the forthcoming year," concluded Dinan.

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# They're Off at Wolverine!! Details on Sports Pages