

# The Observer OF FARMINGTON

This Week's Press Run  
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**60 PAGES**

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THE OBSERVER NEWSPAPER GROUP, founded by Paul M. Chandler, publishing newspapers in the cities of Livonia, Plymouth, Farmington, Garden City and Westland and Townships of Plymouth, Redford and Farmington  
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## Snow Slows Down Farmington

### Corner Rezoned Again

The corner of 13 Mile Rd. and Northwestern Highway was rezoned again last week by the Farmington Township Planning Commission.

A 2.02 acre parcel was rezoned from residential to office to allow for the construction of an office for the Chamberlain Real Estate Company.

Action by the Planners came exactly four days after the Township Board had voted to change the zoning. The Planning Commission only recommends zoning changes to the Township Board, which makes the final decision.

A public hearing on the corner was scheduled for the January session of the Planning Commission, but was delayed for one month at the request of residents of Franklin Fairways and Franklin Forest Subdivisions who have fought for more than a year to retain the residential classification on the property.

Township Attorney Joseph T. Brennan asked the commission to hold its public hearing and to take action because Attorney Wendell Brown had changed in an amended brief filed Thursday that the Township had not followed the proper procedure in the matter.

Brennan said that he did not think that Brown's point would hold up in court and pointed out that the Township Board had acted after the Circuit Court had declared that the existing residential zoning was unreasonable for the property.

(Following the Planning Commission's refusal to re-

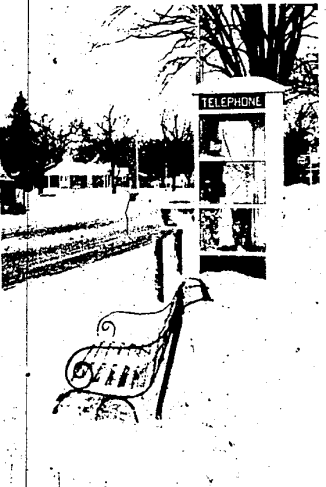
(Continued on Page 4A)

### Departments Total '66 Fire Losses

Fire losses in Farmington Township reached an estimated \$228,050 during 1966, while fire losses in the City were placed at \$37,815.76 for the same period.

In the Township there were 89 house fires, 45 car fires, eight house trailer fires, 118 grass fires, and 18 false alarms. Also included in the figures are 78 rescuator calls, 29 assists of other departments and 133 miscellaneous calls which include lightning, boat, ma-

(Continued on Page 4A)



THE PARK BENCH on Grand River was empty Friday.

### Petitions Await Supervisor Action

Farmington Township's incorporation petition are currently languishing in the county files awaiting action by the Board of Supervisors.

Under the state law, the petitions must be presented to the Board of Supervisors and then be referred to the Boundaries Committee. The boundaries committee will determine if enough signatures were filed and report back to the supervisors on the date for an election.

County Elections Clerk Mabel Child, told The Observer that nothing would be done on the petitions for "at least 30 days. The Board of Supervisors had adjourned subject to the call of the chair," she said, "but the next meeting has not been scheduled. There will definitely be a meeting in April, but I don't know if the Supervisors will meet before that."

Mrs. Child said that it takes about 90 days to set

up an election of this sort so the date would be at least that long after the Board acts.

When filing the petitions the Citizens Council for Community Development stated that it favored "a sufficient amount of time before the election is held in order to give our members time to convince our citizens that they should vote 'yes' for incorporation."

The petitions asking for an election on the question of the incorporation of Farmington Township were filed at the Oakland County Clerk's office Jan. 12.

### Railroad Must Fix Crossing

Following a citizen complaint, the Michigan Public Service Commission ordered the Chesapeake and Ohio Railroad to fully modernize crossing protection devices at its crossing with 10 Mile Rd. in Oakland County's Novi Township.

The railroad crossing was inspected as a result of the complaint made by a local man concerning the physical conditions of the crossing's surface which caused severe jolts to motorists traveling at the allowed highway speed of 50 miles per hour. "The Public Service Commission investigator found

(Continued on Page 4A)



THE MAIN ROADS may have been plowed Friday morning, but the downtown area in the City was practically deserted. This picture was taken about 11 a.m. when the intersection is usually filled with cars.



THE MOST WELCOME sight all weekend was the snow plow to clear out the roads. This was in the Springfield Subdivision.



DIGGING OUT his car on Springfield Drive. He must be thinking that there are better means of transportation.

### Storm Causes One Fatality

The elements forced the Farmington community to, if not halt, slow down over the weekend after an estimated six inches of snow fell and was followed by sleet hampering the cleanup work.

One resident, Einar Arthur Wanhapha, 56, of 22025 Springbrook, Farmington Township, suffered a fatal heart attack Friday while clearing away the snow at his home.

Wanhapha was a custodian at the O. E. Dunckel Junior High School. A member of the Apostolic Lutheran Church, he is survived by his wife, Gertrude, and four daughters: Mrs. Daniel (Marie) Croker; Mrs. Roger (Virginia) Anderson; Beatrice; and Mrs. Lewis (Barbara) Clapp.

No serious traffic accidents were reported in either the city or the township over the weekend.

The storm, which followed record high temperatures at the beginning of the week, forced Farmington's schools and many of its businesses to close. Mail service was suspended Friday, but restored on Saturday.

Major damage inflicted by the storm occurred when the roofs of two structures collapsed. A shed behind the Arrowsmith Tool and Die Co. lost its roof as did the Farmington Boat Store on Grand River on Friday.

The Detroit Edison Company reported one power failure on Friday due to the storm. Two sections of primary lines on Orchard Lake Rd. between 10 and 11 Mile were blown down by the wind at 5:32 p.m. Service was restored to the homes in the area by 6:4 p.m.

Michigan Bell encountered no difficulty until Sunday when salt and snow cut the service of a main cable line at 9 a.m. in the 9 Mile and Middlebelt areas. This cable was restored by 5 p.m. Workmen, however, were forced to dig through the snow drifts in order to reach the manhole before the line could be repaired.

Individual phones in the area were cut off when falling limbs cut the lines. Ted DeBeane, director of public service in the City of Farmington, said that a total of 180 manhours was put in by the crews in order to help clear the streets. An estimated 50 tons of salt were used in the effort.

"The roads are cleared and we are in fairly good shape now," DeBeane said, but added that there were spots where his crews would have to return to widen the area cleared.

A spokesman for the Oakland County Road Commission, which maintains the roads in the Township, said that most of the roads were clear by Monday, but that some streets still had to be plowed out. No figures were available from the county on the amount of time needed to clear out the main roads.

### Spring Is Just Around The Corner

It might be winter, but spring can't be too far behind. Mrs. Donald Matthews, of 21120 Haggerty, just north of Eight Mile in Farmington Township, reports 30 robins in the yard on Monday. "They have been eating apples on the tree since 7:30 this morning," she said.

So with all the snow remember that Groundhog Day is this Thursday, Feb. 2, and spring has to come soon after that. Besides with the robins here the thaw must come.

### City Has Council Petitions

Farmington City Clerk Tenta Quatt reports that the nominating petitions for the City Council are ready and can be picked up at her office during the normal working hours.

The deadline for filing the petitions is 5 p.m. Friday, Feb. 20. The petitions cannot be filed before Feb. 10. A minimum of 50 signatures is needed in order to be placed on the ballot. The maximum number is 75.

Three Council seats will be up at the April 3 City election along with the posts for two municipal judges. The judges will be elected to two year terms, while the two Councilmen polling the greatest number of votes will receive four year terms and the third highest will be elected for two years.

Present Councilmen, whose terms expire in April, are: Howard Thayer, Hugo "Pete" Peterson, and Ralph Yoder. The judges are: Michael J. Hand and Dennis Phoney.

The last date for new voters to register for the election is March 6. All those current voters in the newly annexed portion of the City have been transferred from Township registration to the City voter records.

## Township Gets 6 Weeks on Monument Site

Farmington Township's Planning Commission was asked last week about providing a specific site for the location of a veterans' monument.

The request came when the citizens committee for the updating and relocation of the monument passed a formal resolution allowing a time lapse of six weeks for the Township to come up with a recommendation for the site.

Township Clerk Floyd A. Cairns, who is a representative on the committee from the Township, said that he would relay the message.

has offered to provide a spot in the City Park just west of the Masonic Temple for the monument. Councilman Ralph Yoder told a group that this location would be along a suitable parade route and provide a sufficient space for memorial ceremonies.

Talk about moving the monument started about a year ago, when the American Legion and VFW proposed that the structure be moved from its present location at Grand River and Farmington Rd. and be updated with the names of Farmington residents who died in all wars. At the present time the monument lists the names of

service men killed during the "war to end all wars."

Farmington Township has stated its opinion, on at least

two occasions, that it thought the monument should be relocated in the Township.

Township Treasurer Elise

Avery has been outspoken in the opinion that the monument was originally built in front of the old Township

Hall (which is now the Masonic Temple) and that it should be in the Township.

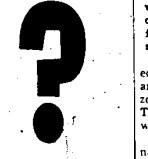
Officials have cried about the need for "identity of the Township" as a community and added that they thought bringing the veterans monument to their community would be a first step in establishing such an identity.

So far they haven't named a specific site, although, and last action by the citizens' groups seems to tell the Township to "put its money where its mouth is."

The Oakland County YR meet the third Tuesday of each month. The next meeting is scheduled for Feb. 21.



The Monument City's Site Township's Site



### Farmington Gals Are YR Leaders

Diane Johnson of 27845 Peppercorn, Farmington, has been elected vice chairman of the Oakland County Young Republicans for the coming year. Joann Smith of 30118 Eastfield, Farmington, was named to the organization's executive board.

The Oakland County YR meet the third Tuesday of each month. The next meeting is scheduled for Feb. 21.

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