

## Skywatch

# September's harvest moon shines on

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September brings the end of vacation beginning of school, longer nights for sky watching and two specials: the autumnal equinox and the harvest moon.

The day the sun crosses the celestial equator from northern to southern hemisphere is called the autumnal equinox. On

this day—at 5:38 p.m. Sept. 22-day and night are of equal length and autumn officially begins for the northern hemisphere. What makes that great romantic harvest moon in October is called the harvest moon so special is that the full moon near the autumnal equinox seems to rise about the same time several nights in a row. This is due to the fact that the orbit of the moon around the earth is slightly tilted to the earth's equator, causing the ap-

pearance of moons rising at the same time.

THERE ARE several prominent planets this month. Just after sunset, Venus will be low in the western sky. On Sept. 25 the crescent moon will be very close to Venus. Stars will be too close to the sun to be easily seen this month but you might find it with binoculars on the 10th when it will be close to Saturn. Jupiter rises about three hours after sunset and will dominate the eastern sky of the late evening. The ringed planet Saturn will rise in the east about three hours before sunrise. At the end of the month if you're lucky you might catch a glimpse of the elusive planet Mercury, low in the east just before sunrise.

The constellations this month reflect the change of seasons. The bright star in the west in the early evening is called Arcturus. It lies in the kite-shaped constellation Boötes the herdsman. East of Boötes is the S-shaped pattern of stars known as Corona Borealis, the northern

crown. And east of Corona Borealis is Hercules, the famous strongman of old.

ALMOST OVERHEAD will be the bright blue-white star Vega in the constellation Lyra, the harp. Northeast of Vega is the cross-shaped constellation called Cygnus, the swan, with its bright star Deneb.

Southeast of Cygnus lies Aquila, the eagle, which contains the bright star Altair. Linger in the low southern sky is Sagittarius, the archer, whose principle stars form the pattern of the teapot. Well up in the east will be four prominent stars in a square or diamond shape that form the body of the flying horse Pegasus. North of the square of Pegasus lies a double row of stars that mark Andromeda, the princess.

Finally, the bright star Capella, the goat star, can be found low in the northeast along with four other stars in the shape of a pentagon that form the constellation Auriga, the charioteer.

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## BANK SALE IN OFFING?

The financially troubled National Bank of Southfield (NBS) may be purchased by Manufacturers National Corp., holding company for Manufacturers National Bank of Detroit.

NBS president William Henry said earlier this week, "We're negotiating that all and refused to comment further. Sources say that the deal is expected to be complete by early September and may include the six-story Telegraph Twelve Mile office headquarters which houses the bank and its holding company, NBS Financial Corp., as well as outside tenants."

## ROCHESTER SUPERINTENDENT

After three months of interviewing, the Rochester Board of Education has selected Edwin W. Crandell of Somerset, N.J., for the superintendency. The announcement of Crandell's appointment was made by board president John Solverson at a Monday afternoon press conference.

Crandell, a Detroit native and former Birmingham school principal, signed a three-year contract at a Monday luncheon. Final approval is expected Aug. 30 at the board's regular meeting.

Crandell has extensive administrative experience, serving most recently as superintendent of the Franklin Township Public School District in New Jersey. He spent 10 previous years as assistant and deputy superintendent in Grand Blanc.

Crandell was chosen from an original field of 80 candidates from across the country. After reviewing qualifications and credentials, the board narrowed the field to 12. Four applicants were further screened and Crandell was the final unanimous choice.

Crandell, who received his bachelor's master's and doctorate at Wayne State University, will take the \$30,000 a year post-effective Nov. 1. He succeeded former superintendent Richard Escott, who resigned June 30 to become superintendent of the Jackson School District.

BIRMINGHAM OFFICIAL TO RETIRE  
Asst. City Mgr. John F. Saeffe announced his retirement Monday after nearly 15 years of Birmingham public service.

In a letter given to City Mgr. Robert Keeney, Saeffe requested that his retirement take effect Dec. 7. Counting accrued vacation time, Saeffe will be eligible for city retirement benefits at that time.

When asked why he decided to retire, Saeffe said, "After 35 years of public service, I made up my mind to look for a job with less pressure." Saeffe was in the military for 20 years before retiring in 1962.

## TRIOY DISPUTE

Parents in the southeast section of Troy are debating whether a change in school district boundaries would mean better education for their children. Some parents want their section of Troy removed from the Warren Consolidated School District and annexed to the Troy School District. While they argue the community would benefit from closer ties to the City of Troy and better education opportunities, education in Warren is the way they want it.

Those who oppose the change say they don't want to leave the district they have supported financially and emotionally for many years. If the proponents are able to get 67 per cent support in a petition drive for the change, the matter will be decided by the Oakland Intermediate School District.

## BONANZA

Some 4,700 Farmington Hills lot owners will be receiving a special assessment rebate from taxes paid between 1963-67. Because of lower than anticipated costs and a lower interest rate, the city has found itself with the cash to give away. After a title search is completed, the checks will start rolling through the mails about Dec. 1.

## WHO'S COUNCIL NOW?

The post-recall squabble continues in Orchard Lake, where four persons elected to the city council Aug. 3 were sworn in for the second time Monday. They held a meeting Tuesday despite charges from a defeated candidate that under city charter they could not take office until a requested recount has been completed.

The petition for recount was filed Monday, minutes after dismissal of a suit which sought to have the August election declared void and a new election scheduled.

The suit was dismissed by Oakland Circuit Court Judge Frederick Ziern who ruled the newly elected council could be sworn in "without prejudice."

## NEGOTIATIONS CONTINUE

Progress on non-economic issues has been made during daily 12-hour bargaining talks between West Bloomfield school board and the teachers' West Bloomfield Education Association.

Progress came despite a call for mediation made last week by teachers union negotiators.

Neither side is optimistic that the entire contract can be settled before teachers report to work Monday. At the same time, there has been no apparent movement toward a teacher strike.

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