

# Farmington Observer & Eccentric

Volume 87 Number 93 Thursday, September 9, 1976 Farmington, Michigan 104 Pages Twenty Five Cents

## But measure passes

# Trustees split on pass-fail

By LOUISE ORLUTSKY

Pass-fail courses will become available in all Farmington public schools. After surviving five months of discussion, the pass-fail grading system was narrowly passed over a last minute counter-proposal during this week's Farmington school board meeting.

Passed on a 4-3 vote, the program will allow students to take some courses without receiving a grade for them. Instead, only credits will be given for the course.

Trustees Michael Spiece, William Gravis and Emma Makinen voted against extending the program to all schools in the district.

Board President Anne Struble, trustees Dr. Mervyn Ross, Helen Prutow and Gary Lichtman voted in favor of the pass-fail system.

"The proposal doesn't recognize the needs of parents and students," Spiece said. "Specifically, non-credit courses should be decided upon by student, his parents and the instructor."

He suggested the board limit the program to each school could have a separate decision on the grading system.

STUDENTS in various Farmington schools are presently able to take sociology, Michigan history, art, grammar, language orientation, beginning typing and reading improvement techniques on a pass-fail basis.

Non-credit courses have been used in area schools for about 10 years, according to Asst. Supt. Lynn Nutter.

The courses are intended to encourage students to participate in an advanced program or to study a new skill.

Gravis, who opposed the extension of the pass-fail system, said, "I can't accept the proposal. It promotes future mediocrity."

Courses already graded on a pass-fail basis will continue as part of the school's programs, Supt. Lewis Schulman said.

The board is undecided when the optional programs will be available in all of the schools.

While Mrs. Struble, Spiece and Lichtman suggested that the issue be set aside until the next meeting, one board member said that she came to the meeting knowing how she would vote.

"I didn't say much at the meeting be-

cause I already knew how I would vote," Mrs. Prutow said.

"After five months of discussion, I had made up my mind."

"I don't think it would be fair to limit the program to a few schools," she said.

"If you have it in one school, you should have it in all."

"THIS POLICY is meant to get some handle on why somebody in one building gets graded in sociology, than another student in another building gets by with a credit, non-credit course," Ross said.

"This policy would help students who are physically or mentally handicapped to pass necessary courses," he said.

"Credit non-credit has assumed an importance beyond what it deserves," Schulman said. "It's not a critical issue within the staff. Abuses can take place in the regular system but they can also occur with credit, non-credit."

# Cops wait court decision on cost-of-living raise

By LOUISE ORLUTSKY

Farmington Hills city administrators and patrolmen are awaiting Oakland County Circuit Court Judge Robert Templin's ruling on the validity of a contract that could cost the city more than \$97,000. The decision is due this week.

Contract negotiations between the Hills and its patrolmen, scheduled to begin Sept. 8, the same day as the court's decision, were postponed until October.

"The vast majority of the contract negotiations is economic," said Jerry McKenae, president of the Hills Police Officers Association. "We can't negotiate economics if we're bogged down in salaries."

IN JULY, TEMPLIN informally decided

the contract's cost of living clause was valid. The clause provides that cost of living increases would double every six months by having the index compared each pay adjustment period.

"City Manager George Mayors estimated that the city could owe more than \$97,000 in cost of living increases, if it lost the case."

Patrolmen would receive \$21,194 a year after three years of service if the clause is upheld. They presently receive \$17,070 a year.

The last contract the patrolmen had with the city expired March 31, 1973, according to McKenae.

"We stopped receiving cost of living increases in 1973," he said. "We haven't had a raise since."

If the patrolmen are granted the increase, commanding officers would have their salaries adjusted. The increase would place a patrolman's earnings near the amount the commanders receive.

Sergeants earn \$17,832, lieutenants earn \$18,882 and captains receive \$20,232 under their contract agreement.

Templin said in July that the Hills was responsible for cost of living increases from April, 1972 to March, 1973. If the city refused to pay the policemen, Templin said he would issue a court order for the Hills to comply with the decision.

Hills administrators and patrolmen's representatives subscribe to different interpretations of the decision.

"THE HILLS FILED THE SUIT to re-

(Continued on page 2A)



## What's this?

A foreboding passageway, stained by years of use, will soon disappear from a Farmington building. To find out where this dank passage leads, turn to page 3A. (Staff photo by Harry Mauthe)

# Here's a chance to enjoy variety of night classes

Full is here and the Farmington Public Schools community education program is set to get in full swing, beginning Sept. 29. A variety of evening classes are being offered. Those interested in registering may either mail in the accompanying coupon, or come to Farmington High School, 32000 Shawnee on Sept. 12, from 7 p.m.-9 p.m. in room 104 D.

All classes will meet for ten weeks at Farmington High School unless otherwise indicated. Refunds will be granted when classes are cancelled. All other requests for refunds must be made to the community education office before the second class meeting.

\* Senior citizens over 65 are admitted tuition free to one class of unlimited enrollment. Resident citizens 60-64 years old pay one-half the registration fee. This is limited to two classes.

**GROUND SCHOOL FOR PRIVATE PILOT RATING** will be offered on Mondays from 7:10 p.m. in Room 107E. The course covers the fundamentals of aircraft structure, aerodynamics, meteorology, pilotage and radio navigation. It includes preparation for the private pilot FAA written examination.

**INSTRUMENT GROUND SCHOOL** will be offered from 7:10 p.m. on Mondays, in room 109E. Cost is \$25.

The course covers fundamentals of instrument flying, aerodynamics, instruments, radio, regulations, navigation, meteorology and flight procedures. Upon completion of the course, students will receive a certificate to meet FAA requirements.

**KNOW YOUR CAR** will be offered on Thursdays from 7:9 p.m. in room 107G. Cost is \$15.

This course is designed primarily for women and men who want to learn how and when to maintain their cars. This class has limited enrollment.

**AUTO TUNE-UP AND REPAIR** will be offered on Tuesdays from 7:10 p.m. in Room 107G. Cost is \$20. Students will learn minor tune-up and repairs and how to use electronic diagnostic equipment.

**WELDING** will be offered on Tuesdays from 7:10 p.m. in room 106G. Cost is \$20.

**MATERIALS COST EXTRA**

Students will learn basic experience in gas and arc welding techniques. Gas welding will include fusion-welding, fillet, groove, lap and brazing. Arc welding will include coding of electrodes, joint preparation and testing.

**MACHINE TOOL** will be offered on Thursdays, from 7:10 p.m. in room 106G. Cost is \$30. Students will learn how to operate cutoff saw, bandsaw, drillpress, lathe, vertical mill, shaper and surface grinder. Time also will be spent on basic blueprint reading and shop math. Books and materials are extra.

**PHOTOGRAPHY I** is being offered on Wednesdays, from 7:9 p.m. in room 103E. Cost is \$12.

It is an introductory course which deals with the basics of camera, lenses, exposure, composition, motion, depth of field, lighting, color and filters.

**PHOTOGRAPHY II** will be on Mondays, from 7:9 p.m. in room 103E. Cost is \$12.

The course will include advanced lighting and composition, special exposure problems, close-up, photography and photographing people.

**BEGINNER BRIDGE (GOBEN)** will be on Tuesdays, from 7:9 p.m. in room 104D. Cost is \$12.

**INTERMEDIATE BRIDGE (GOBEN)** will be on Wednesdays, from 7:9 p.m. in room 104D. Cost is \$12.

**BASIC READING SKILLS FOR ADULTS** will be taught at East Junior High School, room 127, from 7:4 p.m. on Mondays. The class is designed to help individuals participate in an advanced program.

**SPEED READING AND COMPREHENSION** will be on Wednesdays, from 7:9 p.m. in room 112B. Cost is \$12.

**BASIC WRITING SKILLS WORKSHOP**

will be on Wednesdays from 7:9 p.m. in room 111B. Cost is \$12. Attention will be given to the clear sentence, the well-built paragraph, organization of thoughts, openings and closings, emphasis and mechanics of writing.

**GUITAR** will be for beginning students on Tuesdays, from 7:30-9:30 p.m. in room 106C. Cost is \$12. Advanced students will have classes from 8:30-9:30 p.m. Please specify class times.

**DRIVER EDUCATION FOR ADULTS** has a limited enrollment. Those interested in participating should call the adult education office at 477-1300.

**WOODWORKING** for beginners will be offered on Wednesdays, from 7:10 p.m. in room 106G. Cost is \$15. Material cost extra.

After reviewing hand tools, the various power tools are introduced. Shop safety is emphasized. Planning, determining costs, and building projects comprise the major portion of the class.

**SQUARE DANCING** will be offered in the cafeteria on Wednesdays, from 7:30-9:30 p.m. Cost is \$12. Participants are advised to wear flat or comfortable shoes. Mostly for beginners or those who wish to get back in shape.

**BEGINNING TYPING** will be offered on Tuesdays, from 7:10 p.m. in room 102C. Cost is \$15.

**INTERMEDIATE TYPING** is on Wednesdays, from 7:10 p.m. in room 102C. Cost is \$15. The class will concentrate on speed and accuracy. It includes work on typing letters, tabulations and reports. Electric machines are used.

**GREGG SHORTHAND** for beginners will be at East Junior High School, on Mondays from 7:9 p.m. in room 111C. Cost is \$12.

**GREGG SHORTHAND II** will be on Wednesdays, from 7:9 p.m. in room 100C. Cost is \$12.

**GREGG SHORTHAND INTERMEDIATE** will be on Thursdays, from 7:9 p.m. in room 100C. Cost is \$12.

**SHORTHAND A-B-C STENOGRAPHY** will be on Tuesdays and Thursdays, from 7:9 p.m. in room 101C. Cost is \$25. Stenography is the easy-to-learn shorthand system written with the abe's.

**ACCOUNTING AND BOOKKEEPING I** will be on Tuesdays, from 7:9 p.m. in room 105D. Cost is \$12.

**ACCOUNTING AND BOOKKEEPING II** will be on Tuesdays, from 7:9 p.m. in room 105D. Cost is \$12.

**BUSINESS MACHINES** will be taught on Thursdays, from 7:9 p.m. in room 100C. Cost is \$12. Students will learn to use such

(Continued on page 13A)

See coupon, page 13A

# Eight Mile cost rises for city

By STEVE BARNABY  
Farmington editor

City of Farmington councilmen were greeted with a big surprise at this week's council meeting when they were told their portion of the Eight Mile paving project would cost an additional \$23,000.

The increase was determined, according to City Manager Robert Deadman, after a recent survey established that 30 per cent of the frontage on the north side of Eight Mile, between Orchard Lake and Farmington Road, is within city jurisdiction.

Previously, city officials believed only 20

per cent was under city jurisdiction.

**THIS BRINGS THE CITY'S total contribution to the widening and repaving project to \$64,330. It had been \$41,330.**

"There is little room for disputing the new cost distribution," said Deadman.

The council agreed, and unanimously voted to pay the extra cost.

The refurbishing of that stretch of Eight Mile is a cooperative project between the federal government, Wayne and Oakland Counties, and the cities of Livonia, Farmington and Farmington Hills.

Total project cost will be nearly \$1.6 million.

"Although the costs are considerably more than the original estimates, we believe the city should continue participating in the project, as failure to do so would in all probability cause this important improvement to be shelved," said Deadman.

Funds for the project, he warned, may not be available in the future if the city withdrew at this time.

**THAT STRETCH** of Eight Mile has been a bone of contention among area commuters who find themselves in one and two hour long traffic jams because of the road conditions.

Presently, the road is a two lane highway. It is due to be widened to five lanes in 1977.

Because the city only will only \$66,000 be reaching its bonding limitations for Act 175 bonds, it will have to rely into its 1980-77 contingency fund for an additional \$23,000.

"We have contacted Oakland County Road Commission and they have expressed a willingness to wait for the City of Farmington's contribution until highway bonds can be sold in the spring of 1977," said Deadman.



## Limbering up

Greg Miller, who should play an important role on North Farmington's varsity football team this fall, joins his teammates in a neck bridge exercise during a workout earlier this week. Miller, an offensive guard and a defensive linebacker, is one of the few experienced returnees on coach Ron Holland's North Farm-

ington team. North Farmington will try to improve on its 1-8 overall record last year when it opens the 1976 high school campaign on Sept. 17 at non-league Pontiac Northern. For more information, see page 1 of the sports section. (Staff photo by Harry Mauthe)

## inside

included in today's paper is our annual fall fashion section, featuring a table of excitement for the upcoming season.

**BIRMINGHAM AUTO 77 PREVIEW**

Your guide to the Birmingham Auto 77 Preview Show appears in today's paper. Use it out and use it when you go to the show. Meet your local car dealers in the Birmingham Ice Arena September 12, 14, 15.

News	Section A
Farmington entrepreneurs	16
Editorials	18
MDA News	20
Farmington Suburban Life	Section C
Church	Section C
Classified	Section C, D