



### Trailblazing

Blazing a trail where one ought to be is bike rider Janet Rainko of Farmington Hills. Miss Rainko discovered that the bike trails are crowded—with weeds instead of bicyclists. As she rides through the scratchy burrs, Miss Rainko learned that weeds are just Nature's way of saying I told you so. (Staff photo by Harry Mauthe)

## Schools gear up as summer ends

Summer vacation will end Sept. 6 for Clarenceville School District students when all schools open for a new term. The opening day will be a half-day only with high school students attending 7:40-10:30 a.m. Junior high students will attend from 8:05 to 11 a.m.

Hours at Grandview Elementary will be 9:05-11:45 a.m. while at both Edgewood and Botsford Elementary schools, opening day hours will be 8:45-11:25 a.m.

Registration for students in grades 10-12 will be Tuesday (Sept. 5) when they will schedule their classes. Ninth grade students will pickup their class schedules the same day.

Buses on opening day will run at the regular time in the morning and will be at the high school at 10:30 a.m. to take students home.

Regular classes for senior high school students will be from 7:40 a.m. to 2 p.m. Class time for the junior high will be from 8:05 a.m. to 2:25 p.m.

Grandview Elementary hours will be 9:05 a.m. to 3:15 p.m.; Edgewood from 8:40 a.m. to 2:50 p.m.; and Botsford Elementary from 8:45 a.m. to 2:55 p.m.

Enrollment is down eight per cent this year over last year. There will be approximately 2,826 in the school district this year compared with 2,839 last year.

There are several rule changes for students this year. Seniors will be required to take a full schedule of classes (six classes or five classes and a

study hall) unless fewer credits are needed to complete graduation requirements in January.

Seniors who carry partial schedules (less than six classes) must arrange those classes during consecutive periods. Students with partial schedules must enter school grounds no earlier than 10 minutes prior to the beginning of their class and leave the school grounds no later than 10 minutes after their last class.

Loitering in the school, the parking lot, at the wall or any other place around the school premises is a violation of school procedure. Students will be suspended one day for loitering for the first offense and three days for subsequent offenses. Supt. David McDowell said.

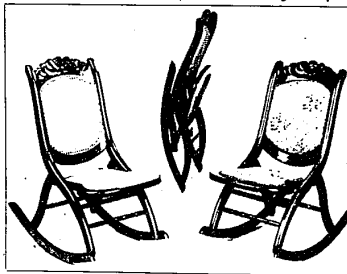
Adult continuing education classes will begin the week of Sept. 11 for high school completion, and enrichment classes will begin the week of Sept. 18. There will be a registration night Sept. 6 at the high school at 7-9 p.m. Registration also may be made by mailing in a registration form or in person at the Board of Education Office, 28830 Eight Mile, Farmington Hills.

McDowell said there will be a text-book deposit at the high school.

"A \$10 book deposit will be collected only from 9th grade students and students new to the district. The book deposit for students in grades 10-12 paid last year will be carried over to the 1978-79 school year."

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## Walled Lake charged with shut meetings

The Walled Lake Board of Education has been charged with violation of the Open Meetings Act in a criminal complaint filed by a Walled Lake Junior High School teacher.

The complaint was filed with the Oakland County Sheriff's Department Aug. 15 by Gerald Plas.

He charges that the board failed to provide him with notification of and agendas for three meetings which have been conducted during the past month.

Under the Open Meetings Act, a unit of government is required to provide notification of meetings to all individuals who request the information and pay a fee to cover duplication and mailing costs.

Specifically, Plas' complaint alleges that the district failed to provide him with notification of three special meetings which were July 24, July 25 and Aug. 14.

Plas reported last week that the sheriff's department has conducted a preliminary investigation which has been delivered to the Oakland County prosecutor's office.

It is up to the prosecutor's office to decide to pursue prosecution under the complaint.

Plas complaint marks the second time within the past year that the school board has been charged with violation of the Open Meetings Act.

A similar complaint was filed by Arthur Stokus, a teacher at Walled Lake Western. Stokus alleged that the board was in violation of the act by failing to properly post notice of a meeting to hear a grievance.

The prosecutor's office decided to dismiss the Stokus complaint after discovering that his name had been removed from the list of individuals who had requested notification of all meetings.

Under Walled Lake School policy, an individual who requests notification must renew that subscription every six months.

Stokus failed to renew his application and was not legally qualified to receive special notification in accordance with the law.

On Plas' complaint, Supt. Don Sheldon admitted that agendas to two of the three meetings cited by Plas had not been mailed because his secretary had been away from work on a medical emergency.

Plas said that he has received a letter of apology from Sheldon for failing to send notices of two of the three meetings.

Plas stated that his purpose in filing the complaint was not to harass the board, but to force compliance with the Open Meetings Act.

Plas added that in the event the prosecutor's office does not prosecute the board under the complaint, he may file with the state attorney general's office for prosecution or commence civil actions against board trustees.

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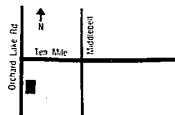
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### Farmington Observer

Published every Monday and Thursday by the Observer & Eccentric News papers, 36251 Schoolcraft Rd., Livonia, Michigan 48150. Second-class Postage paid at Livonia, Michigan 48151. Address all mail (subscriptions, change of address, Form 3579) to P.O. Box 2428, Livonia, Michigan 48151. Telephone 261-3800.

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