

## Farmington's Ready.....



"AND A ONE AND TWO" -- Paul Barber, conductor of Farmington Community Concert Band, puts the musicians through their paces.

## ..... So 'Strike Up The Band'

By ELIZABETH WISSMAN

"Let the drums roll out,  
"Let the trumpet call,  
"While the people shout,  
"Strike up the band!"

Anyone who reacts to this song by George Gershwin will have the time of his life at the first concert this year of the Farmington Community Concert Band.

The concert will be given Nov. 25 in Farmington High School, with all 50 band members tooting and drumming numbers that might send the

audience marching around the school.

PAUL BARBER, FHS band director, will be in his usual place on the podium. Barber has directed the band since it began four years ago as part of the adult education program.

The Farmington Exchange Club recently voted unanimously to make sponsorship of the band the club's number one project.

This sponsorship will not change the club's heavy commitment to the annual Christmas time Goodfellow drive.

The membership agreed, however, that the cultural benefits for the community in having a focal point for community involvement, such as a community band, would be a meaningful contribution.

ONE OF THE CLUB'S purposes in sponsoring the band is "to provide the community with its own musical organization, which in addition to being useful on many occasions, will develop a wholesome community pride and establish cultural dignity."

While the band is as modern as today no matter how many traditional marching tunes it plays, it does have an interesting tie with the past.

Floyd Sallow has donated a heritage drum used by his father, Henry Sallow, in the Farmington band of the early 1900's. The drum has been in the Sallow family all these years.

WHILE SPONSORSHIP of the band is an Exchange Club project, the band's board of directors includes representatives from other areas of the community.

They are: Bruce Polkinghorne, chairman, representing the band; Mary Legg, secretary, Farmington Township; Harry Wingerter, treasurer, Board of Commerce; and Bill Conroy, executive director, Exchange Club.

Other board members include: Dick Habicht, Exchange Club; Don Howell, Farmington schools; Ralph Yoder, City of Farmington; Charles Bridges, Exchange Club; Lanny Swanson, the band; Art Lamb, Exchange Club; Roland Sharette, Oakland Community College; and Barber.

IN PREPARATION for the first concert, Barber has set an expanded schedule of rehearsals.

The band has tentatively scheduled an appearance at next year's Michigan State Fair and at Pontiac's 150th anniversary celebration next summer.

With students as well as adults in its membership, Barber intends to have the band number 80 members by the time these future appearances are made.

WHEREVER they take their instruments, these 80 persons are certain to set feet tapping:

"Let the cymbals ring,  
"Calling one and all,  
"To the martial swing,  
"Strike up the band!"

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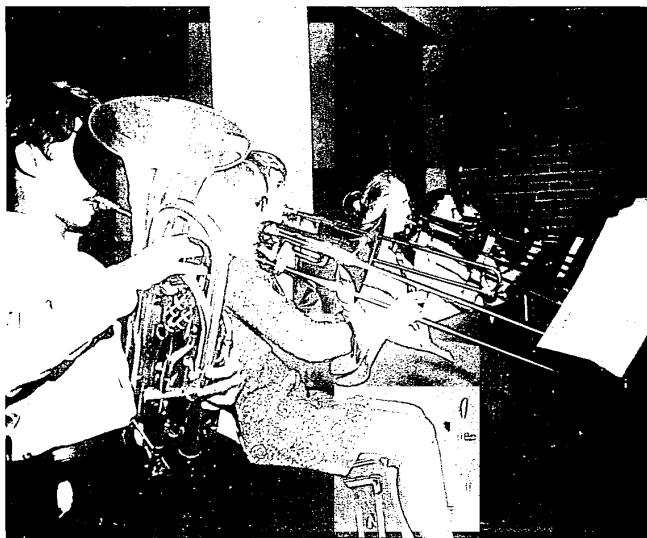
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HISTORIC -- Bill Conroy (at left) presents Paul Barber a heritage drum used in the Farmington Band of the early 1900s. The drum was given to the present Farmington band by Floyd Sallow. From left in back are Lanny Swanson, Bruce Polkinghorne, Dick Habicht, Harry Wingerter, Mary Legg and Ralph Yoder.



BOOM!!! -- The drum beats roll as the Farmington Community Concert Band rehearses.



BRASS SECTION -- Farmington Community Concert Band horns fill the air with mellow notes.



FROM ABOVE -- A bird's eye view of the Farmington Community Concert Band rehearsing at Oakland Community College.

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