



Who's Burton?

The City of Farmington has an expert to help the city during the boundary hassle. Who's the expert? Burton Shifman. Who's Burton Shifman? His background is told inside.

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Deadeye's Success

Deadeye went north Friday and returned Saturday afternoon with a 10-point buck. His success prompted Daniels Den to spend half an hour on a cracker barrel in deep meditation.

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Thanksgiving Services

Churches have announced plans for Thanksgiving observances and there are a number of ecumenical services planned. There's a roundup of these observances on the Church Page.

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Finance Project

Teenagers from an Oberverland religious education class are busy designing and producing Christmas cards in order to finance some Christmas charity during the holiday season.

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Decoration Tips

If you're stuck for a decoration for the Thanksgiving table, maybe suburban garden-er Betty Frankel's suggestions can help.

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GARDEN THERAPY—The Hill and Dale Garden Club, as a special project, conducts a Garden Therapy program for Farmington Schools. Bi-monthly, the club visits 16 classrooms within the district to work with handicapped children, including the orthopedic, mentally retarded, physically handicapped and emotionally disturbed. The project has won state recognition for the Hill and Dale Garden Club. Making fall decorations of Fairview School are Bob Schler (left) and Clay Bartsch. (Event photo.)

Is It Possible?

Mini-Rent For Aged

By ELIZABETH WISSMAN

Farmington could benefit from Livonia's experience in the building and maintenance of senior citizen housing.

Farmington Township Board has indicated an interest in constructing housing for the area's elderly.

Livonia already has an 81-unit, \$1.5 million senior citizen housing project underway.

THE director-secretary of the Livonia Housing Commission spoke at the Farmington Township Road Association meeting this week and outlined his community's experiences in the field.

Charles L. Cook emphasized two points:

"This type of housing is made

for the people who are most in need.

"It's difficult to do, but there shouldn't be any politics in this sort of thing."

COOK explained that a housing commission is appointed by the local governing body, which leaves it open to what he called "political hanky-panky."

He said the hanky-panky generally occurred around election time.

At its meeting during which housing for the elderly was discussed, the Farmington Township Board suggested a monthly rental of \$65, a ballpark estimate.

This differs from what Livonia is charging, Cook said the

Livonia project's rentals range from \$39 to \$45 per month.

HE SAID the first step in building the housing should be taken by the Farmington Township Planning Commission. The commission should survey possible sites, survey needs and arrange for architectural plans.

Plans for the building sometimes require a change in the building code because experts have found that high-rise buildings served by elevators are the most practical.

As Livonia had worked it the residents of its project must be 62 or older; if single must not have income in excess of \$3,600; if married not to exceed of \$4,200. Total assets should not exceed \$10,000.

Plans are to have a committee chairman on each floor to handle complaints.

The entire complex is under the care of one manager, who is salaried.

Signs Of Time: Why One Is Better Than Two

By EMORY DANIELS

A prolonged debate and split vote were the only results when the Farmington City Council was challenged to interpret the intent of the new sign ordinance. The sign ordinance was recently adopted to assist in reducing the city's clutter, numerous ugly signs at business sites.

THE SPECIFIC requirement, discussed at length Monday night, states that only one stationary sign may be located on a single business site.

Boron Oil Co. had asked for a variance to allow two signs at its new gas station site at the southeast corner of Drake and Grand River.

After the debate ended, the request failed in a tie vote.

Fred Selbert and Ralph Yoder voted for the variance and William Brotherton and John Richardson against. John Allen was absent.

BORON presented the following arguments for a variance:

1. Grand River is heavily traveled and, within the next two years, development in the area will cause a considerable increase in traffic on Drake.

2. The signs are neither distracting nor offensive and no other fixed, free-standing signs would be erected.

3. Streamers or banners would not be strung on the site although one illuminated stamp sign might be attached to one of the fixed poles.

CITY MANAGER John Dinan said he could see no real need for the sign on Drake because the terrain of the area results in limited exposure.

Dinan mentioned a neighborhood shopping center is contemplated on the southeast corner of Drake and Grand River and two signs for the gas station would affect the general aesthetics and the center's signs.

"Signs on two sides of this location are definitely not warranted for the size of the site or its operation," said Dinan.

A SPOKESMAN from Boron told councilmen both signs were needed because "recognition is an important factor for a business relying heavily on passing traffic."

Dinan reminded the council that the city is currently sending notices to some 40 businesses along Grand River ordering them to remove signs in the public right-of-way.

"We've been trying to restrict the number of signs," said Dinan, "I don't see any need for two signs here now. Maybe you should come back in the future when you need the second sign, if you ever do."

Selbert said the big gripes in the past about gas station signs have been their height. The proposed Boron signs were not offensive, especially in a commercially developed area, he added.

BROTHERTON agreed the signs were not offensive, "But we are trying to curtail signs and we could establish a precedent here affecting future sign requests. I don't see any particular need for two signs at

this site because Drake is a short road."

Dinan said it would be premature to issue the second sign when the need is not yet certain and when the council has not yet seen plans for the shopping center. "Once it is up, you won't get it down," he warned.

Dinan then stated that two gas stations at Power and Grand River and another at Haisland and Grand River have only one sign for their sites.

PLANNING Commissioner Richard Tupper, speaking from the audience, commented that Birmingham while redeveloping its downtown area found gas station signs were the hardest to deal with.

"The trend of designers today is towards signs on buildings and off the highway," said Tupper. "My personal opinion is one sign is more than enough and you shouldn't set a precedent."

The Boron spokesman responded that businesses relying on passing motorists do not restrict their advertising to building signs only.

"I've got to believe we will get more requests like this if we pass it now," said Richardson. "Would we be doing ourselves a favor to grant this variance while we are involved in a purge to cleanup signs along Grand River? These signs are tasteful and, I agree, each request should be judged on its own merits but we should be cautious."

Yoder said the council should decide on each request as it comes up and should approve the Boron variance because the signs were in good taste.

"I think it would put them at a competitive disadvantage if we deny the request," said Selbert.

"I'M CONVINCED that it isn't essential to their business to have two signs," replied Brotherton.

"But it would create a hardship if they had to move a sign later or add the second one," said Yoder.

"Does the city have the obligation to see that a man gets the most money out of his property and grant him a competitive edge?" asked Brotherton. "If so, the shopping center will want more and bigger signs than the gas station. Our ordinance spells out what we will do for everyone."

Mrs. King Killed In Auto Crash

A Farmington Township woman was killed Monday in an auto accident on Farmington Rd. just south of 15 mile.

Mrs. Ruth O. King, 54, was dead on arrival at Bolivar Hospital. She was the wife of William O. King of 21799 Power Rd., who is a Thompson-Brown Co. executive.

The Kings have lived in the Farmington area for 12 years.

Township police said Mrs. King was driving her car some on Farmington Rd. about 5:30 p.m. when it apparently went out of control and struck a north-bound auto. Mrs. King was alone in her car.

ART CLOSE UP — Mrs. Roger Robinson, volunteer worker from the Detroit Institute of Arts, explains a piece of Ashanti sculpture at a lecture entitled "African Legacy" to upper elementary students at Flanders School.



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City OKs Contract For Farmington Rd

The City of Farmington has negotiated a new agreement with the Oakland County Road Commission which, hopefully, will result in better maintenance of Farmington Rd., a county primary road, from Eight Mile to Grand River for the year 1970.

THE CITY HAD a similar agreement with the county last year which, according to City Manager John Dinan, "proved to be quite satisfactory to the Department of Public Works."

The rate per mile the county will pay the city for maintaining Farmington Rd. will remain at \$3,750.

But to offset increased la-

bor and material costs, the road commission has agreed to perform all normal guard rail repair, sign and marker maintenance, pavement painting, tree removal and stump burning, and routine traffic signal maintenance.

Dinan says the removal of the above work items will "more than make up" for the increased costs the city has been experiencing. Dinan added that the additional work assumed by the county may make it possible for the city to increase the level of maintenance on the county primary roads.

If Farmington Rd. maintenance was financed under the gas and weight tax returns from the state, the city's share would be about \$2,200 per mile. Thus,

the city gains \$1,550 per mile through the county contract.

IN OTHER action, the council agreed to lease answering service equipment from Michigan Bell for one year.

Once installed, the answering service will be used during non-working hours at city hall. When residents call in after hours, a recording will inform them city hall is closed and then give an emergency phone number.

The cost of leasing the equipment will be \$180 a year. The council had investigated purchasing the equipment and received quotes of \$435 and \$350.

THE COUNCIL also agreed to sponsor a Farmington girl

for the 1970 Wolverine Girls State. Cost of sponsorship will be \$50 for one girl.

The city had been sponsoring a boy each year to attend Wolverine Boys State and agreed to sponsor a girl also when requested by the Groves-Walker American Legion Auxiliary of Farmington.

Permission was given the Salvation Army to sell its Christmas magazine in Farmington between Nov. 15-27.

The Farmington Seventh-Day Adventist Church was given permission to solicit funds in the city from Nov. 15-Dec. 21 for the 66th annual World Service Appeal.

Nobody Cared

Except Young Teen

A 13-year-old girl proved to be more mature and responsible than her adult counterparts Monday night when she took action which might have saved a Farmington resident's life.

The girl, whose name is unknown, responded to a call for help from a lady having a diabetic attack after adult passersby refused aid.

MRS. ISABELLE Leonard of 37446 Carson, Farmington Township, was driving on Grand River about 7:30 Monday night when she became ill.

Her husband, James, works part-time for Federal's Department Store in their downtown center so Mrs. Leonard drove some two miles to reach her husband.

As she drove into the driveway at Federal's, she slumped over the steering wheel and called out the window for help.

A man and woman stared at Mrs. Leonard, then turned around, entered the store, and began looking at dresses—making no attempt to contact a sales clerk or store official.

Other adults ignored Mrs. Leonard's plea for help. But a girl, believed to be 13 years old, responded and, following Mrs. Leonard's instructions, entered Federal's in search of her husband.

THE GIRL contacted the assistant manager, passed on the message, and Mrs. Leonard immediately went outside and discovered his wife slumped over the wheel.

She was rushed to the doctor's where nurses quickly administered an insulin shot.

"It angered me that adults ignored her call for help when she was parked only five feet from the entrance to Federal's," Leonard told the Farmington Enterprise & Observer.

"But I'm real thankful that young girl was more civic minded. I don't know her name but would like to personally thank her. She might have saved my wife's life."

The Leonards moved to Farmington from Detroit last April.



BRIGHT GIFT IDEAS FOR CHRISTMAS SHOPPERS

You'll find a treasure chest of sparkling, practical gifts for everyone on your list in the "Gift Spotter" in the Classified Section. Pick the gifts, select the store, then be off on your whirlwind shopping tour. Check it now!