

### today's hot line

### observerland

**GARDEN CITY**—The City Council will hold a public hearing next Wednesday, Sept. 4, on a proposed downtown redevelopment program, to be financed with federal urban renewal funds. The program would cover 31 acres on the northeast corner of Ford and Middlebelt.

**WESTLAND**—The City Council Monday approved a five per cent wage increase for its city employees. But the union had already rejected the increase and has another meeting scheduled for this week to reconsider its action.

**REDFORD**—Township Treasurer Edward Kennedy was embarrassed when the civil service commission refused to approve promotions within his staff for which he had been paying increased wages since April 1, 1968. An "approval first" policy was adopted and enforced by the civil service commission after both Township Supervisor Aldrick Bellaire and Township Clerk Mrs. Dawn Rice had gained promotion approvals related to payroll increases.

**PLYMOUTH**—Plymouth VFW Mayflower Post precision Color Guard unit has been retired after nine years of honors because "the men are just tired out." The unit took second in the national competition at the VFW convention in Detroit last week as their last official drill.

**LIVONIA**—The Livonia City Council will be asked soon to approve a \$100 down payment on the total purchase price of \$300,000 for two and one-half acres of land, including buildings, now occupied by St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church on Farmington near Five Mile.

**PLYMOUTH**—William Stirtion, 39, resident of Plymouth Township, was appointed to fill a vacancy on the Plymouth School Board Monday night. He is replacing Calvin Strom who resigned from the board two weeks ago. Stirtion, managing director of Detroit Tooling Association, said he will bring the board "expert advice" on vocational education.

**LIVONIA**—A cost-of-living salary boost next month will add three to four cents an hour to paychecks of Livonia city employees represented by Local 192 or who serve in non-supervisory capacities.

**LIVONIA**—Salary increases ranging from \$900 to \$1,670 per year are included in the new teachers' contract tentatively agreed upon by the Livonia Education Association and the Livonia Board of Education. The contract is awaiting approval of both groups early this week.

### What's Inside

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### Early Advertising, Editorial Deadlines For Holiday Editions

In accordance with its annual policy for the Labor Day weekend, the Observer Newspapers ask all advertisers and news sources to take note of the following deadlines:

- Editorial, Church and Women's copy—Saturday noon
- Display Advertising—Friday, 5 p.m.
- Classified Advertising—Saturday, noon.

We respectfully request that all meet these deadlines so that our staff can enjoy the long weekend holiday.

Observer Newspapers, Inc.

## Pat Smith Fills School Board Vacancy

By SUE SHAUGHNESSY

The feminine touch has been returned to the Farmington Board of Education.

Monday night the school trustees voted to appoint Mrs. William H. (Patricia) Smith of 26479 Greythorne to fill out the unexpired term left vacant

by the resignation of George Otis.

The term runs until June, 1969.

Mrs. Smith, 40, is the first woman to sit on the school board since Barbara Brown decided not to seek re-election in June, 1967.

The new trustee is the mother of three school-age children.

They are Scott, 15, sophomore at Farmington High School, Wendy, 13, and Kendall, 10, a fifth grader at Beechview Elementary School.

Mrs. Smith is a past president of the Farmington Branch of the League of Women Voters and has served as a member of the League's Board of Directors.

She is one of the League's two representatives to the Future Farmington Area Study Committee.

The Smiths are members of the Unitarian-Universalist Church of Farmington. Mrs. Smith also holds memberships in the Beechview Swim Club and the First Farmington Community.

Following her appointment to the Board, Mrs. Smith took her oath as a new trustee and participated in the Board deliberations.

She is a graduate of the University of Colorado. The Smiths have resided in Farmington for the past seven years.

## Township Seeks Concurrence

# Annexation Moratorium

By EMORY DANIELS

A moratorium on any possible future annexation, incorporation or consolidation of Farmington and governmental units was extended Monday night by the Farmington Township Board.

The extension, passed by a 6-0 vote, was made contingent upon passage of similar resolutions by the Farmington City Council and village boards of Quakertown and Wood Creek Farms.

The township action extended a moratorium enacted Nov. 6, 1967 by the City of Farmington for a period of six months beginning on the date that a report is issued by the Future Farmington Area Development Study Committee and by a township study by Don Oakes.

LAST NOVEMBER, the City Council passed a moratorium on all annexation activities until the Future Farmington Area Development Study Committee had completed their report and decisions are made on the alternatives for the future development of the Farmington area.

As that resolution stated, the moratorium was imposed "so that this study can be completed without any outside political influence or activity so that conclusions can be derived by unbiased and objective determination."

The resolution to extend the above moratorium was introduced by Township Trustee Earl Oppertbauer who said he contacted Farmington Mayor W.V. Brotherton asking for a concurrent resolution from the City Council.

City Manager John Dinsaid told The Enterprise and Observer he has not received a formal communication and as of Monday night the council had not discussed the moratorium resolution.

The council held a study session Monday, but the topic was not discussed according to the city manager.

Dinsaid expects the proposition will be discussed at length at a joint meeting of the four governmental units in early September.

OPPERTBAUER said Monday night the development study is almost complete and the extension was needed to insure citizens had adequate time to digest the report's findings.

He said the city's moratorium declared last year was only until the report was complete and, unless defined further, an annexation petition could be filed five minutes after the report is released.

He said the city didn't specify when the moratorium would end and the township had no way of knowing the time limitation.

The six-month period was placed, he explained, because of the danger of the upcoming presidential election, holiday season, and because the township board will contain new members after the November election.

"There is a definite possibility something may erupt before people have the opportunity to assimilate the report," he stated.

THURSTON Tom Nolan supported the resolution saying

money had been expended to find what the best steps would be and a period of digestion was warranted. (The Future Farmington Area Development Study was financed jointly by the city, township, the villages and the Jaycees.)

Oppertbauer told board members he had received personal endorsements for the extension from Mayor Brotherton and Dr. John Richardson, chairman of the Future Farmington committee.

Oppertbauer concluded his moratorium extension argument by stressing it might result in constructive action instead of a piece-meal, quick-fix, free-for-all race to the county courthouse.

Dinsaid, when told of the township's action, said the target date for completion of the report is still mid-October. He added he didn't feel any petition would be filed until a thorough study of the report was made.

## Schools Offer Portable Plan

The Farmington Schools will present a specific plan for moving three of the portable classrooms at Farmington Senior High School "no later than the end of the first semester" to the City's Zoning Board of Appeals during a special meeting tonight (Wednesday).

Last week the city ordered the district to move all six of the portable units behind the high school.

The schools have requested an additional hearing on the matter as it would cost about \$7,000 to move the units and the classrooms are a temporary measure to house the students until the construction work is completed at the school.

In addition to the cost, school officials contend that moving the units behind the school will interfere with the construction

work. Background of the dispute seems to stem from the fact that the school board contends that district received a verbal go-ahead to place the units on the west end of the school property.

The zoning board says that the units, which are in front of the school, are in violation of the zoning ordinance.

School Board President Richard Peters said Monday night that the District "wants to resolve the matter to the satisfaction of the city, but with the least cost to the taxpayers. The units are temporary," he emphasized.

The public meeting of the zoning board begins at 8 p.m. in the Council Chambers in the City Hall.

## Visiting Africans Study OCC Methods

Oakland Community College recently hosted three Africans who were visiting the Farmington Township campus as part of a State Department tour designed to improve understanding between America and other countries.

The three men, Simon Bikomou, a Congolese graduate student at the Faculte de Droit et des Sciences Humaines, Paris; Brahim Soumaili, a Moroccan college professor, and Moktar Zouari, a Tunisian student at the Sorbonne and instructor at Ecole Normale d'Instituteurs, arrived Aug. 1 to begin a 40-day tour of the country.

During their stay in the U.S., the trio has visited New York, Boston, and Detroit.

They are studying the American educational system to gain an understanding of the process and discover methods which may be adapted.

The tour, arranged and financed by the Education Travel Program of the Department of State, is coordinated by the African-American Institute in Washington, D.C.

The International Institute of Detroit selected Oakland Community College because of its innovativeness in teaching methods, and Wayne State University.

At the Orchard Road Campus Dr. Donald Godbold, provost, toured the campus with them explaining methods which were being used, and discussing the school's educational philosophy.

Americans had been friendly to them.

The vastness of the country was one of the most outstanding things Zouari noticed. "Everything is very big here, Kennedy Airport, with all its terminals and people was very interesting."

Bikomou said that many of the things he had seen and done, especially at the university and industrial level, "would influence my thinking and decision making."

The group agreed that the U.S. was the most advanced country in technological development and techniques.

Zouari, speaking for the three, said, "We knew before we came that it was a large nation with the greatest progress. That is why we came."

Although all refrained from making specific value judgments about the country until the tour was finished, they agreed that they are "optimistic" from what they have seen so far.

The three said that they wish to learn about all aspects of life here.

Soumaili explained that there were several impressions he had gained. "First of all, the Americans work very hard, and there is a youthful spirit in the country," he continued, "we have already made a lot of friends."

The visitors were reluctant to say what specific educational techniques they would try to adapt.

Zouari did say, "What strikes us is that the American student has all kinds of equipment to help him move ahead more quickly than the traditional

methods."

If some of these methods were adapted it would have a positive impact on their educational systems. "However," he added, "to introduce these methods, it is necessary to have a certain economic level."

Education is compulsory (from 5 to 14, in most cases) and free at all levels in the visitors' countries. A high percentage of their countrymen (around 92 percent) have completed elementary school.

Over half of their people, they said, had completed high school, and the percentage of those graduating from college is rapidly increasing.

African students learn, in addition to their native languages, either French or Arabic.

Bikomou, who is familiar with the French school system, said, "In France not everyone can make it. Here in America everyone can."

Working wives are common in Africa, and females are educated and allowed to enter in any occupation, but "they do not necessarily achieve the same level."

When asked if he had seen the last political convention, Soumaili said that although it seems to be a democratic system, "speeches are strictly an American problem, and I don't want to commit or involve myself."

One of the lighter moments of the conversation occurred when Dr. Godbold asked Soumaili if they had mini-skirts in Morocco, and if he enjoyed them. The playwright and poet quickly quipped, "Certainly we

have mini-skirts there, but the enjoyment of them depends on the taste of the girl wearing them."

So, when asked what he would ultimately like to do, said, "It is not so important what I do, but how you do it." He smiled, though, saying he would like to teach for another 10 years and then become a

journalist. He now works on a magazine during vacations.

Bikomou, who has an active interest in the theater, politics, and jazz, wants to get a government job which might eventually lead to politics, the diplomatic corps, or work in the Common Market.

Zouari, the only married man, doesn't know what he

eventually wants to do, "but at the moment I'm interested in politics."

Soumaili, who has already completed his doctoral degree, will return to Morocco after the tour ends, and the others hope to finish their doctoral degrees in France and return to their own countries within the year.



TOURING — Three African visitors visited OCC last week. They are, from left: Brahim Soumaili, Moktar Zouari, and Simon Bikomou.