

# Farmington Observer

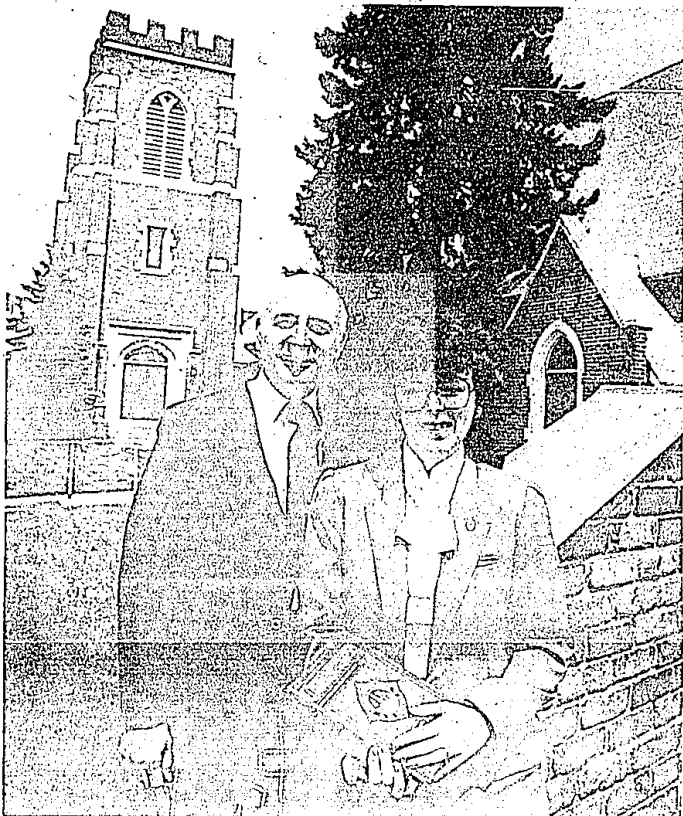
Volume 85 Number 65

Thursday, May 24, 1984

Farmington, Michigan

66 Pages

Twenty-Five Cents



Tom Carr and Charlone Olson of the First United Methodist Church of Farmington are working together to reprint "Protestantism in Michigan."

The push to reprint the century-old book coincides with the 200th anniversary of the Methodist Church.

RANDY BORST/staff photographer

## Rate stays static but taxes may rise

By Joanne Maliszewski  
staff writer

Farmington City Council's public hearing Monday on its proposed \$4.9-million, 1984-85 budget came and went without strains of opposition even though most taxpayers will be paying more in local taxes this year.

"The increase is a result of the increase in state equalized valuation (SEV)," said City Manager Robert Deadman.

Although officials intend to keep the tax rate at 11.74 mills (\$11.74 per \$1,000 of state equalized valuation), the SEV of residential property in the city increased by approximately 2.6 percent, he said.

That means the 11.74 mills is applied against a greater property assessment, driving up taxes.

DEADMAN TOLD the nine residents at Monday's public hearing that if a homeowner pays about \$400 in city

taxes, about the average, the increase in SEV will mean approximately an \$11 hike in local taxes.

But the 2.6 percent increase in SEV is an average with some homeowners receiving either a lower or higher assessment, Deadman said.

Meanwhile, commercial and industrial property values also increased and when combined with residential property values, the city's total SEV jumped about 4 percent.

Farmington will receive approximately \$45,000 more in revenue because of the total 4 percent increase in SEV, but "the total needs of the city have gone up 6 percent," Deadman said.

City officials plan to use about \$197,000 in surplus funds to balance the proposed 1984-85 budget. A little more than \$199,000 will be left in the city's surplus fund.

ALTHOUGH CITY officials recommend levying last year's 11.74 mills,

the distribution rate between the operating budget and debt service will be different than in 1983-84.

Rather than increasing the local tax rate to pay for the city's increased costs, Farmington officials propose transferring some of the debt service millage to the operating tax rate, Deadman said.

The recommended 11.74 mills would be broken down into two parts: .88 mills for debt service, a drop from 1.24 mills in 1983-84; and 10.78 mills for operations, a .26-mill increase over last year.

Reduced millage for debt service, however, will still allow the city to make payments for its loans over the next four years, Councilman Alton Bennett told residents.

The proposed 1984-85 budget, meanwhile, is based on maintaining the current level of services and includes no new personnel, Deadman said.

Formal adoption of the spending plan is expected June 4.

## With stars in his eyes, gov stumps for movies

By Joanne Maliszewski  
staff writer

Director of the Governor's Special and sale of home and commercial video products.

Farmington Hills' CBS/Fox Video was the stage this week for Gov. James J. Blanchard's official push to attract a larger share of the film, television and recording arts industry to Michigan.

With news media representatives, state officials and corporate leaders of CBS/Fox on hand, Blanchard signed an executive order Monday establishing the Michigan Film, Television and Recording Arts Advisory Council.

The 21-member council's purpose, Blanchard said, is to attract a larger share of that industry's \$1.3 billion annual production budget.

"Michigan has had some successes in the past. But we want to rededicate ourselves. This is the Governor's charge," said Attorney General Frank Kelley, chairman of the new council.

The birth of the new council at CBS/Fox, 2100 Industrial Drive, was his first for Farmington Hills which will lose the soon-to-be expanded firm, to Livonia. The firm is seeking property tax relief for the proposed Livonia facility which will sit on about 63 acres on Seven Mile, east of Haggerty.

FARMINGTON HILLS City Council last week approved the firm's move. CBS/Fox officials have promised that, despite its relocation to Livonia, jobs would be retained. In fact, firm officials have indicated that 120-150 jobs are expected to be created within two years of the project's completion.

Although moving from Farmington Hills, state officials are breathing a sigh of relief that CBS/Fox decided to stay in Michigan, said Faylene Curtis,

Director of the Governor's Special and sale of home and commercial video products.

Please turn to Page 12



RANDY BORST/staff photographer

Gov. James J. Blanchard was in Farmington Hills to announce the formation of the Michigan Film, Television and Recording Arts Advisory Council.

## Historical book revived for church anniversary

By Joan Adamczak/staff writer

The First United Methodist Church of Farmington has overcome a tribulation or two in reaching its 150th year. And now its history may be read in an 1878 book discovered and reprinted by two church families.

The church, which has served the community since Farmington's pioneer days, had its beginnings in 1840 on "Methodist Hill" (Shilawasee and Warner). In 1920 the old structure was destroyed by fire and a larger building was constructed on the present site at Grand River and Warner in downtown Farmington.

This year the church is participating in the nation-wide bicentennial celebration of the Methodist Church in America.

As part of this celebration, the David Olson and the Thomas Carr families are making available a reprinted copy of Elijah Pilcher's "Protestantism in Michigan."

Pilcher was a Methodist circuit rider who arrived in Detroit in 1830. One of his major contributions to Michigan Methodism came in 1878 when he published his 464-page history.

"Since this is the bicentennial year, we thought it would be a good time to bring the book out and make it available to the people," said Charlene Olson.

Originally, Olson just wanted a copy of the rare book for herself because of her interest in history and genealogy.

"Then I had a brainstorm about reprinting the book and because of the Canadian publisher who's doing it, it

will only cost \$30 a copy for the newly reprinted books," Olson said.

"It is a tremendous book that has been locked away for a long time. It is exciting to be able to bring a book like this to not only Methodist and Protestant people but to historians and librarians," Olson said.

LIMITED EDITIONS will be offered initially to all pastors and lay persons of the Methodist Church in Michigan. Then it will be offered to local, school and college libraries, Genealogical and historical societies, also will have the book offered to them.

Reprinted editions will not be edited or updated, just photocopied from the original 1878 version and rebound.

Please turn to Page 12

## oral quarrel

### Would you send son to fight for big oil?

The long-raging war between Iraq and Iran now threatens the movement of oil through the Persian Gulf to the United States and its allies. In past weeks, tankers returning from Midwest oil fields have been fired upon while sailing through the gulf by both Iraq and Iran.

With part of our oil supply threatened, the question about the likelihood of American servicemen being involved in that war came up at President Reagan's press conference last Tuesday.

Today's Oral Quarrel question is:

WOULD YOU WANT YOUR SON TO FIGHT IN A MIDEAST WAR TO SAVE PART OF AMERICA'S OIL SUPPLY?

To answer this question, call 477-8498 anytime before 1 p.m. Friday, May 25. To see how your neighbors feel about this issue, please look in Monday's Farmington Observer.

## what's inside

Amusements . . . 9-13C  
Business . . . 7-8C  
Cable Connection . . . 12A  
Classifieds . . . Sections D-E  
Community Calendar . . . 3B  
Club Circuit . . . 4B  
Crackerbarrel Debate . . . 14A  
Crossword Puzzle . . . 6E  
Editorials . . . 14A  
Engagements . . . 2B  
Memory Lane . . . 4A  
Obituaries . . . 2A  
Recreation News . . . 5A  
Suburban Life . . . 1-10B  
Sports . . . 1-6C  
Travel . . . 6C

NEWSLINE . . . 477-8480  
CLASSIFIEDS . . . 891-0950  
HOME DELIVERY . . . 891-0950

## EARLY DEADLINES

Due to the Memorial Day Holiday, our offices will be closed Monday, May 28.

To place your classified ad in the Thursday, May 31 edition, please call Tuesday, May 29 between 6 a.m. and 5:30 p.m.

Remember.

One call does it all!



891-0950

Use your MasterCard or Visa

## Telephone mix-up delays fire call

Thanks to a smoke detector, a Farmington Hills family escaped injury last week when fire caused at least \$125,000 damage to their house.

But Farmington Hills fire officials say that response to the family's call for help was delayed because a family member called the wrong emergency number.

Instead of calling the Farmington Hills emergency number, 477-8911, one of the residents of the home, owned by Fred Lueri at 23350 Vixen Lane, called 911 in Livonia, said Lt. Thomas Shurtliff.

The fire, which broke out in the family room basement after 11 p.m. April

17 had spread to all three levels of the rear of the house by the time Farmington Hills fire fighters arrived shortly after 11:45 p.m. Shurtliff said.

Brought under control by 12:10 a.m., the fire also caused \$70,000 worth of damage to the contents of the house, Shurtliff said.

ALTHOUGH LIVONIA dispatchers took the call for help, roughly 1.5 minutes passed before Farmington Hills received the emergency information, Shurtliff said.

That kind of delay, he said, can cause a major problem in fighting fires be-

Please turn to Page 12