

Today's  
**hot line**

Vol. 83, No. 15 52 pages, 5 sections

**Bulletin**

## New Clark Charge

Dr. Ronald E. Clark, former Farmington physician, has been charged with manslaughter in the death of his office manager, Hannah Bowerbank. The warrant was issued Monday at the request of Robert Smith of the homicide division of the Detroit police department.

Dr. Clark, now serving a 3-18 year sentence in Jackson State Prison for the 1967 death of his nurse, Grace Neil, is scheduled to be arraigned today (Wednesday). Clark is eligible this June for release from prison on good behavior.

## Inside

### Holland's The Man

Ron Holland, coach of the all-victorious North Farmington football team, has been selected Observerland's "Coach Of The Year." Sports Editor George Maskin tells why on

Page 2B

### Health Hazard

Today's look at the poorest section of Farmington Township deals with health hazards in the area. Third in a series discussing this "poverty pocket," it shows how the poor condition of the area leads to disease.

Page 3A

### Play That Pays

Physical education has an advantage which is often overlooked and not very well known. Phys ed is now being used to help improve the learning ability of children with perceptual development problems.

Page 4A

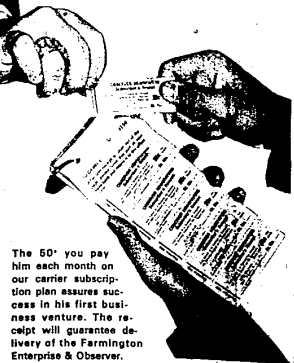
Amusements	8-9B
Classified Want Ads	Sec. D
Deaths and Funerals	6B
Editorial Viewpoints	10B
Home and Garden	6-7B
Readers' Forum	11B
Regional Affairs	12B
Sports-Prep and Pro	1-4B
Skiing	3B
Spotlight on Women	1-4C

### A Holiday!

All Observer Newspapers offices will be closed Thursday, Thanksgiving Day. Have a happy and safe holiday!

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# Suggest Citizens' Committee For School Finance Advice

By LIZ WISSMAN  
Through the medium of the Citizens Advisory Committee, already established by Farmington Board of Education, residents of the school district may have a voice on school finance.

Consideration had been given to setting up a totally new citizens' committee on school finance, but board trustees decided at their meeting Monday night to study making the new group a subcommittee of the existing citizens' advisory committee.

BOARD PRESIDENT John Washburn said: "What we want to know is what position on finance should the board take in the future?"

"We're in a distressed position. We need to know if we should look for a higher school tax. And what about millage renewals which are coming up?"

The motion to make the finance committee a subcommittee of the advisory group was initiated by Trustee Aldo Vagnozzi, who said: "What we need is clarification on what areas we need looking into."

"Couldn't this be an area for the Citizens' Advisory Committee? And what do we want them to look into — the local millage problem — school legislation?"

Washburn added: "There is a great need to get the community involved in this. It could be something resi-

dents have done themselves and not something just handed down to them by the board.

"I think we need to study school finances six to eight months ahead of the zero hour, which will be next June. Let's give this two more weeks to see if we can get the citizens' advisory committee ready to operate on it."

THERE WAS an exchange between Washburn and Robert Newhouser, executive director of the Farmington Education Association, (FEA) when the matter of the teacher contract came up for ratification.

Washburn said the board would refer the contract back to the board's bargaining team for clarification. "The board has not found it completely acceptable."

Speaking heatedly, Newhouser jumped to his feet: "The board is not ratifying? The contracts are already being distributed to the teachers."

"What action do you propose we take? Do you intend to re-open negotiations on this? You have put us in a very difficult spot. I suppose we (the teachers) have to go ahead with ratification."

IN THE ROLE of peacemaker, Vagnozzi intervened: "There is just a question of teacher involvement in certain decisions and one other item. What the board is ask-

ing for is a mutually agreed upon memorandum on what these two items mean."

Newhouser said: "In explanation, an effective voice by teachers does not entail a veto power. But the contract has been under tentative agreement and in writing for three months. I think it's rather late to be acting this way now."

Total cost of the teacher's contract has been estimated at \$9 million by Supt. of Schools Dr. Roderick J. Smith. The settlement meant the district had to trim about \$400,000 from its operating budget, which is expected to be approved in two weeks.

The salary schedule of the contract starts at \$3,000 for a beginning teacher with a bachelor's degree. After 10 years, the teacher with a bachelor's will receive \$12,500.

The teacher with a master's degree will earn \$3,800 this year and the top of the salary schedule is \$15,300.

The percentage of pay hikes negotiated are: 8 per cent increase for BA minimum; 9.5 per cent for BA maximum; 9 per cent for MA minimum; and 10.5 per cent for MA maximum.

The contract covers about 800 Farmington teachers including some 18 elementary teachers who may be laid off if the proposed operating budget is approved as presented at the budget hearing on Nov. 16.



THE WHITE turkey has so completely replaced the traditional black-and-white bird of history that it's nearly impossible today even to find a traditional bird to photograph — as Roving Editor W. W. Edgar learned. Moreover, the modern bird is so plump of breast that he can't breed normally and is the product of artificial insemination. Read the story that would astound the Pilgrims on Page 7B.

## Police Contract Applies To All

Farmington Township police officers above the rank of patrolman will receive the same fringe benefits outlined in the Farmington Police Officers Association's contract after an unanimous vote by the township board Monday night.

Earl Teeple, in his first formal role as township supervisor, asked that the

measure be added to the regular agenda.

He said Chief Irving Yakes told him earlier in the day that officers above the rank of patrolman were "not specifically included" in contract provisions.

JOSEPH T. BRENNAN, Farmington Township attorney, suggested at one point

that "perhaps there ought to be another bargaining agent for the rest of the force."

The 1½-hour long meeting went smoothly, barring a few procedural questions by Teeple and L. David Stader, two newcomers to the board. About two dozen spectators braved sub-freezing weather to attend the meeting.

In other action, the board tabled a resolution by Fred Lichtman concerning the formation of committees to "share some of the burdens of the entire board."

Lichtman proposed that committees on finances, police and fire, building and zoning, and personnel be established and run by members of the board.

He asked in particular that a finance committee be set up to include Stader and trustee Margaret Schaefer to be chaired by Thomas Nolan, township treasurer.

Teeple told the board that he and Nolan had met with an accountant who "promised to have facts and figures" about the shape of township finances by Nov. 30.

Mrs. Schaefer recommended Lichtman for membership on the finance committee, and discussion ended when Stader said he had "no objection" to the formation of these committees but only to "requirements for membership" on them.

TEEPLES' MOTION that Stader be appointed as the board's representative to the planning commission, where Stader has served for several years, was also unanimously approved by the board.

Trustees also approved a joint request by the Farmington Elks Lodge and the U.S. Marine Corps to proclaim Dec. 7-14 as "Toys for Tots" week.

## Accident Rate Soars

Traffic accidents in Farmington Township rose heavily after the season's second snowfall with 16 mishaps reported since Sunday afternoon.

Sergeant Arlo ("Rusty") Newell, of the Township Traffic Bureau reports two of these accidents involved injuries. There were no fatalities.

ONE INJURY accident occurred early Monday morning on Middle Belt north of 10 Mile.

Police said a car driven by Karen E. Evans of Farmington and another car driven by Kenneth R. Carrithers, 26, of 11335 Brownell, Plymouth collided on snowy roads. One car skidded out of control. Police said. Both drivers were taken to Beaumont Hospital for treatment.

AN HOUR LATER, police said, another accident just south of where the first occurred, was reported.

David W. Chefan, 17, of 32225 Staman Circle Dr., Farmington, and Jeanne Marie Lerg, 17, of Detroit,

were driving again on snowy roads near Middlebelt Elementary School when their cars collided. The injured were taken to Botsford Hospital for treatment and released.

Newell blamed snowy, icy road conditions for the sharp rise in auto accidents.

"Accidents have been way down for weeks," he said. "When bad weather comes on this quick, people don't respond as quickly to the situation."

NEWELL SAID Oakland County's salt trucks were out en masse at the first sign of snowflakes.

"They were probably out all Sunday night." He added they do a "fabulous job" consisting the trucks, stationed at Southfield, are responsible for salting all Oakland County roads.

Newell said traffic accidents began a sharp upward climb Thursday. Since that time, more than 31 accidents have been reported.

Officers in the City of Farmington said they handled only a few minor mishaps since Sunday.



SPOTLIGHT ON KIDS—The spotlight was turned on the kids Sunday for the formal dedication program of the new Woodcreek Elementary school in Farmington. Jim Martin interviewed pupils attending the school for the enjoyment of the audience. Among the interviewees were Susan Reeker (left) and Napoleon Aboudal. (Evert photo)