

today's hot line

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bulletin

Quit SEMCOG

The Farmington Board of Education voted unanimously Monday to withdraw from the Southeastern Michigan Council of Governments. Board members charged that the education bloc in the six-county agency had always been outvoted and that the needs of education were consistently ignored.

The withdrawal came at a crucial time for SEMCOG, which holds its annual meeting this weekend. Farmington School District had been one of the first to join SEMCOG. The city and township, staunch SEMCOG supporters, remain as members.

what's inside

Spina's Here Tonight

Tony Spina, who has acquired a national reputation as a talented press photographer, will be appearing tonight (Wednesday) at 8 p.m. in the Farmington Community Center. Details on Spina's presentation plus other activities can be learned by reading the regular "At The Center" report inside.

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High Or Low

Someone tried a drug that was supposed to be a depressant, and got high instead. Why? P.O. Box Drugs has the answers on this and other questions on the most serious problem facing society today.

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Adult Sports

The state is opening up all sorts of parks for snowmobilers, and we have the list. Meanwhile, Sports Editor George Maslin suggests a course in umpiring for parents who are really, truly interested in Little League.

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Township Continues City Lawsuit

Farmington Township will go to the Michigan Court of Appeals Monday, Feb. 1, appealing rejection of an incorporation election for the township and both villages.

The township board Monday night instructed its attorney, Joseph T. Brennan, to continue with the case and be prepared to argue the township's case beginning Feb. 1. Brennan told trustees he hopes a decision will be made within 90 days to six months.

THE LAWSUIT is an appeal to a ruling made against

the township by Oakland County Circuit Judge Frederick Ziem.

Ziem's decision involved two separate rulings: That the State Boundary Commission was correct for substantive reasons in rejecting the township's petition to incorporate with both villages; and that the Boundary Commission was correct for technical reasons in rejecting the subsequent substitute petition asking for a consolidation election to join with both villages.

There are two decisions

which could result if the township wins its appeal, Brennan told trustees. One could be a consolidation election asking for cityhood for the township and both villages.

Another result could be an election calling for the incorporation of the township with both villages.

If the township loses, Brennan continued, the next action would be for the Boundary Commission to act on a petition asking for an election to incorporate the township with Quakertown, leaving out the Village of Wood Creek Farms.

Brennan presented trustees with a list of pros and cons for (1) continuing the lawsuit and for (2) dropping the lawsuit and asking the Boundary Commission to proceed with the one-village incorporation request.

AFTER DISCUSSING the alternatives, the board voted 7-0 to instruct Brennan to continue the lawsuit to its conclusion.

Brennan said the Boundary Commission staff has examined the one-village petition and is prepared to recommend to the commission that action be taken.

Under the one-village approach, Brennan said, Wood Creek could petition for consolidation after the township becomes a city if the village so desires.

"The Boundary Commission must rule on the advisability as well as the legality of the petition," explained Brennan. "Logically, the Boundary Commission would like Wood Creek added in if possible, but the commission has said it is not possible without a consolidation election."

"You can have a viable

city without the one square mile of Wood Creek. The village remaining may not be viable, but Wood Creek can always choose to join us."

Brennan added that rejection by the Boundary Commission of the one-village petition is a possibility but not probable.

The worst possible result for township at this point — and maybe unlikely — would be for the Michigan Court of Appeals to rule that a one-village incorporation is not proper because a village charter must be protected by consolidation.



FATHER AND DAUGHTER — Susan shows her father, Barry Peebles of Farmington, the art of water coloring during the Father-Daughter Art Activities program at Wooddale Elementary. School sponsored by the Wooddale PTA on Jan. 18. This is the first time such a program has been tried here. (Everett photo)

Lunch Changes Given Approval

By MARTHA MAHAN

Moving to halt a growing lunchroom deficit which already totals \$10,000 for the current school year, the Farmington Board of Education, in a 5-2 decision, has voted to begin serving prepackaged Type A lunches in junior and senior high schools beginning with the new semester.

The a la carte lunches will continue to be served.

The action will mean layoff of eight lunchroom employees and reduced work hours for some remaining on the staff.

It also will keep the system from going another \$20,000 in the red, according to Business Manager William Prisk.

ABOUT 65 lunchroom employees attended the board meeting and presented petitions protesting the lunch change which they said carried signatures of 985 students and adults.

Trustee Aldo Vagporzi, who was joined by Trustee Ronald W. Enmitt in voting against the proposal, said he was "concerned" about laying off eight employees who are not covered by unemployment compensation and reducing the hours of others at mid year

and at a time "when the general economy is down."

"Are you prepared to underwrite \$40,000 from the general fund budget?" Prisk countered.

THE CHANGE means Type A meals will be prepared at a central kitchen, refrigerated and then transferred to the individual schools to be rewarmed and served. The a la carte meals will continue to be prepared at the local schools.

The same switch at the elementary level has put that operation at "very close to a self-supporting position," Prisk said.

"Most of our loss is occurring at the junior high and senior high level, and especially in the Type A lunches," he told the board. "We do not feel a price increase in the Type A lunch at this level will help," he said. "In fact, we feel a price increase would worsen the situation because it would reduce participation of the students."

While expressing regret at the necessity of laying off employees, Trustee Gary Lichtman said: "We've been given the responsibility of running the schools in a businesslike way.

My concern is that if we have to have prepackaged meals for students or cut an educational program, by God I'll vote for prepackaged meals and hope to put something in their heads instead of their stomachs."

Commented Washburn: "We have no choice. There just isn't the money."

High Schoolers Hear Vocational Ed Expert

Farmington high school students recently heard about the vocational opportunities that will become available to them with next fall's opening of the Southwest Oakland Vocational Education Center in Walled Lake. Explaining the 16-course addition to their learning program was the school's principal, John Xenos.

Xenos strongly emphasized the point that college-bound students as well as those immediately entering the job world can benefit from the courses to be offered. "In

BOTH WERE fired by Trustees and then ordered reinstated by the trustees at the last board meeting on Jan. 25. The two sent letters of resignation to Lichtman rather than to Teeples.

Snover wrote Lichtman there was a strain between him and Teeples, and he felt that "it would be best for all

High Schoolers Hear Vocational Ed Expert

today's unpredictable labor market," he said, "it is almost mandatory to possess some saleable skill."

He cited figures which indicated that for every 100 students entering first grade in Michigan, only 14 graduate from college. Also, there is a 50% rise in demand for professional and technical workers forecast by 1980.

There will be a growth of 39% in service occupations, 33% in clerical fields, and 39% in sales occupations.

The vocational center will be considered an extension of

concerned" for him to resign effective Feb. 1.

Lush cited poor health as reason for resigning effective Jan. 31. Lush has been unable to report to work since being reinstated because of a spinal condition.

Both expressed their appreciation to the board for championing their cause at the Jan. 25 meeting. Zoning Inspector William Taylor, also fired by Teeples, was reinstated by the board but has announced intentions to retire effective March 1.

Fred Ziedman has been hired on a temporary basis to replace Taylor as zoning inspector. Should Ziedman prove capable during the probationary period, the board will consider hiring him permanently as zoning inspector.

Snover pointed out in his letter that he did have considerable contractor experience because his father was a contractor and he was a contractor for 17 years as well as having experience as a mortician.

AFTER THE board accepted the resignations of Snover and Lush, Teeples then renominated Ed Rydell to the planning commission.

Trustee David Stader moved to ratify and was supported by Trustee Mrs. Margaret Schaeffer. The board ratified Rydell by a 7-0 vote.

Rydell lives in the south end of the township, is an electrical engineer with Detroit Edison and has lived in the township for nine years.

The new planning com-

missioner is 36 years old, married with three children, a member of the township auxiliary police department, a member of the Michigan National Guard and is buying his home here.

AFTER RECEIVING confirmation of Rydell, Teeples then nominated Robert Svoboda for the remaining vacancy.

Svoboda is a township resident, has lived here for 15 years and is a retired architect, Teeples explained.

An objection was immediately raised by Mrs. Schaeffer who expressed disappointment that Teeples did not ask for the reappointing of Mrs. Barbara Benya.

Mrs. Benya was appointed to the planning commission last November by then-Supervisor Curtis Hall to replace Percy Cardhouse, who had resigned. Her term ex-

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Outstanding Women Can Apply

The Farmington Area Jaycee Auxiliary is searching for an area woman eligible to receive the group's Community Service Award.

This award has been given in the past to women under the age of 35 years in conjunction with a state-wide Auxiliary program called "Four Outstanding Young Women of Michigan."

The local auxiliary this year, however, has decided to waive the age limit and include in the competition all those over 35 years of age who have contributed to the community with outstanding and unselfish service.

To enter, women must be residents of the City of Farmington or township, be active in local affairs or projects for the benefit of the community and have been instrumental in organizing or conducting a worthwhile community activity through her own efforts.

All entries must be filed with the auxiliary before March 15. Award questionnaires may be obtained from Mrs. Norman Dickson, 2454 Springbrook, Farmington, at 476-3793.

The winner will be announced in May providing there are sufficient nominees.