

Hold Public Airing Thursday On Mall

Vol. 83, No. 42 40 pages, 4 sections

Falcons, Rah!

Farmington's Falcons weren't expected to do much in high school basketball tournament play, but they pulled an amazing upset by defeating top-rated West Bloomfield.

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Police Help Boys

City of Farmington public safety officers have organized a basketball league for fifth and sixth grade boys. The league has had a big turnout of players and is proving a profitable experience for all.

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Is Center Wanted?

Thursday night, another public hearing will be held on the proposed rezoning for a regional shopping center in Farmington Township. The issues of the center are discussed in depth in an editorial on the second front and in "The Observation Point" on the editorial page.

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Quite Often...

Often more important than the board of education meetings are the results of that planning that is evident inside the classrooms. Often The Farmington Enterprise & Observer brings you stories such as the Science Fair at O.E. Dunckel Junior High, the Our Lady of Sorrows debate team capturing the state title, the upcoming junior high Band Festival and local junior high winners of musical competition.

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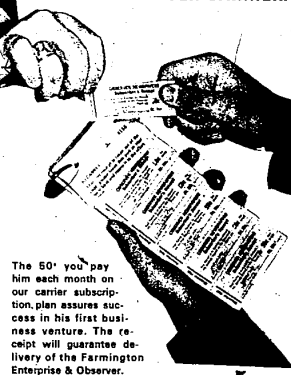
Idea Dropped

Clarencville school board members were considering what seemed like a good plan to even out elementary school enrollment, but emotionally, the people just didn't want it. Marie McGee was on the scene.

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The 60¢ you pay him each month on our carrier subscription plan assures success in his first business venture. The receipt will guarantee delivery of the Farmington Enterprise & Observer.

A full house is expected to pack the auditorium of North Farmington High School Thursday, March 4, for the second public hearing on the Northland-sized regional shopping center proposed for Farmington Township.

The hearing being held by the Farmington Township Planning Commission will begin at 8 p.m. The NFHS auditorium is being used because the first hearing attracted a turnout of residents too large for the township hall to contain.

FOR THE PAST couple weeks, township officials and planners have been gathering information to answer some of the questions residents asked at the first hearing.

Much of the research has been devoted to getting firm answers on construction plans for proposed 1-275 north-south expressway and improvement of Northwestern Highway.

The Center is proposed for a 30-acre site on the north side of 13 Mile between Halstead and Haggerty Rds.

The location was selected primarily because of the state's plans to locate an interchange at 13 Mile and the proposed 1-275 expressway according to officials from Taubmann Co. of Southfield, one of the three major developers backing the project.

THE TRANSPORTATION planning division of the State

Highway Commission reports the following status for the various sections of I-275:

• From Eight Mile north to 12 Mile: final design plans are completed and construction bids are scheduled to be taken in July 1971.

• From 12 Mile north to Junction of Northwestern Highway: survey completed, some design work started; scheduled for construction bids in second quarter of 1971.

• From Northwestern north to M-59: survey and preliminary plans completed and scheduled for construction contracts in third quarter of 1971.

Preliminary design plans are completed for widening of Northwestern and connection to I-275. Advance right-of-way acquisition is in process and the project is scheduled for construction bidding in 1974 from Telegraph northwesterly to I-275.

"In reference to the shopping center, we have been in contact with the Taubmann Co. developers. In anticipation of the center, we are revising our 13 Mile Rd. interchange to handle the additional traffic volumes," says Sam Cryderman, engineer of transportation planning for the State Highway Commission.

56 Speak Mind On Sex Ed

By MAJTEHA MAHAN

The Farmington Board of Education is expected to mull over, as a result of its public hearing Monday night into a proposed course in family relations, including human sexuality.

Close to 400 persons, dubbed "a bunch of scared adults" by one high school youth, turned out for the orderly 3 1/2-hour session. About two-thirds of the audience appeared opposed to the program.

Twenty-seven of the 56 speakers voiced opposition to the course on grounds ranging from charges of a takeover of parental functions to accusations of a Communist conspiracy to weaken and demoralize America's youth.

Among them were the Rt. Rev. Thomas Beahan of Our Lady of Sorrows Catholic Church and the Rev. Charles J. Fisher of Bible Baptist Church, both of whom insisted sex education belongs in the home and the church.

AMONG 22 speakers favoring the course were the Rev. Hugh V. Stewart of St. Stephen Presbyterian Church and four local physicians: Drs. Calvin C. Kay, Mervin B. Ross, Edwin Blumberg and Seymour Ziegelman.

"The answer to what the family and churches have done to sex education can be found in my office any week of any year and in the clinics of New York," said Dr. Ziegelman, an obstetrician and gynecologist.

FRANK BEECH, from the Oakland County Road Commission, reports that 13 Mile will be widened to five lanes

before 1990, with or without a regional shopping center. Beech said 13 Mile is now handling twice the traffic volumes a two-lane road should. Twelve Mile will also be five lanes before 1990, he added.

In 1969, Beech says, 12 Mile had a traffic volume of 2,600 cars a day, and in 1970 the volume rose to 4,800 cars a day. By 1990, there will be 25,000 cars a day on 12 Mile between Orchard Lake and Haggerty Rds.

Oakland County will double its population in 20 years, says Beech. Almost all the new growth will be in Farmington Township and to the north and west. There is no doubt that 12 and 13 Mile Rds. must be five lanes within 20 years, he added.

The widening of these two mile roads, he continues, will depend upon the growth rate and available finances. If the center goes in, and the county gets its fair share of gas and weight tax refunds, Beech says, the financing could be available in about five years.

I-275 is definitely in the construction stage south of I-96, reports a state highway official. North of I-96 to Northwestern, the expressway is in the advanced planning stages and the money is programmed.

The center now is scheduled for an opening in 1975 if plans proceed without unforeseen delays. The state reports I-275 between I-96 and Northwestern could be completed by the fall of 1976.

Beech reports there are no plans now for improvement of Haggerty Rd. or for 13 Mile west of I-275.

A cloverleaf interchange is planned for Northwestern and 13 Mile by Orchard Lake Rd., Beech says.

Clyde Shapes Rocks Into Priceless Gems

By LINDA BOYD

Most people just dream of beautiful gems but Clyde Graham of 3045 Farmington Rd., Farmington has his basement full of them. Graham is a lapidist. He doesn't hoard his gems but cuts and polishes to change them from their rugged natural state into beautiful jewels.

"It all started about three years ago when we went to Washington to visit our daughter," Graham said. "We saw so many rock shops out there that I guess I got the bug."

FROM THERE it was a short step to lapidary journals, a class through the Ferndale adult education program, and lessons from Orvis Leidy, a lapidist from Grosse Pointe.

"Stone cutting is not hard," Graham said. "It just takes time and patience."

What he doesn't mention is the skill involved in discovering just the right point to go into a stone.

Making sure the star in the sapphire shows up where you want it or that the light goes through a moon-stone at just the right angle to illuminate it is the crux of the lapidary art.

After that, the first step is polishing. The rugged gems are put in a small cylindrical container with solution which is machine turned continually for 32 days. This smooths them and takes off the jagged edges.

THE SECOND step is to make a cabochon. Cabochons usually have a flat under side with a smooth rounded upper surface. This upper surface is shaped by machine grinding.

The first grindings are with a coarse diamond powder. Finer and finer diamond powders are used until the stone has a clear polished quality. Graham has a star sapphire in the early cabochon stages, and the star is barely visible yet.

Most opaque and translucent gems are left in this cabochon state where they are mounted in jewelry settings, as a natural diamond. Transparent gems usually



WORKING AT HOBBY — Clyde Graham of Farmington, who enjoys lapidary as a hobby, is in the process of faceting a stone on a fine cutting wheel. The first process involves cutting eight facets, or surfaces, from the stone in its rough stage. (Fran Evert photo)

The best gems are from India, Graham said. Through the Lapidary Journal he can order gems from Australia, Africa, and South America as well as India and the Far East. The Gramhams are planning a trip to the west coast this spring to collect rocks too.

THE RANGE of things you can do in lapidary work is endless," he said. "There are so many materials to work with. I have some ideas for making walnut bases for my work. I hope to design and cast jewelry settings someday, too."

Right now this is a hobby but Graham is anxious to retire from his air conditioning repair business so he can devote more time to it. His wife has developed an interest in gem cutting, and Graham hopes to interest his daughter who lives at Union Lake in designing settings.

The Gramhams also have a daughter in Washington and another in Massachusetts. Both are far away places with lots of rocks in-between.



PATIENCE REQUIRED — Clyde Graham is a meticulous man who has the patience required for his hobby of cutting gems and

stones. He is mastering the art of faceting which can involve cutting up to 58 surfaces on a polished stone. (Fran Evert photo)