

# the farmington enterprise & observer

Weekend of April 10-11, 1971

YOUR HOMETOWN NEWSPAPER

15¢ a Copy

## today's hot line

Vol. 83, No. 53 16 Pages, 2 Sections

## what's inside

### Fifth Junior High

Farmington School District has authorized its architects to proceed with drawing plans for the fifth junior high school. Construction funds for the building, which will include many innovations such as a cafeteria, were approved by voters in November 1967.

Page 3A

### 3 Newsy Persons

A comic magician, creative weaver, and Bible professor are three persons making news this week in Farmington. That's What's Inside today, plus such regular favorites as At the Center, Wood Creek Farms, Local News, Kendallwood Comments and the Farmington Community Calendar.

Pages 2A, 3A

### Landmark Beginning

A church that's bound to become a landmark in the Farmington area gets underway with ground-breaking Easter Sunday. The story is in our Church Section.

Page 6A

### Lucky Man

Farmington's Bill Longo is a lucky man. He had a mare that won \$200,000 in her harness racing career, and now he owns a three-year-old that's one of the best in the country. Racing columnist Doc Minard tells all.

Page 8B

### Jealous?

Don't be, if your neighbors all are headed Florida-wad this vacation and you are not. Our quick survey indicates so many are going that there'll be lots of room to enjoy spring here.

4A

Churches in Action	6-7A
Classified Want Ads	Sec. B
Deaths and Funerals	6-7A
Observing Sports	8B
Sports — Prep and Pro	8A, 8B
Spotlight on Women	4A

#### INSIDE YOUR HOMETOWN NEWSPAPER...



Every effort has been made to provide Observer employees with convenient working conditions and pleasant surroundings in their new home. Work areas are designed for the smoothest possible copy flow and many desks are located near windows that offer a scenic view of the beach forest that stands on the Observer property.

# Schoolcraft Will Redistrict; Election Delayed To Sept. 13

By KATHY MORAN

The Schoolcraft College Board conceded on the reapportionment question Thursday and asked for a delay on the June trustees election until the board can draw up a new apportionment plan.

In a hearing on the issue before Judge Roland Olzak in Wayne County Circuit Court, college attorney Edward Draugelis asked for a postponement of the June 10 trustees election until Sept. 13. He also asked the court to issue a writ of mandamus compelling the board to draw up a reapportionment plan.

Basically, these were the requests made by the New Democratic Coalition of Livonia, the plaintiffs in the case. Their attorney, former State Sen. Roger Craig, concurred with Draugelis' proposal and Judge Olzak approved of the settlement.

DRAUGELIS' action on behalf of the board was, in effect, admitting that the board is illegally constituted in light of a U.S. Supreme Court decision made in March of 1970. The court had ruled that community college districts should be represented according to the "one-man, one-vote" concept.

"We are as concerned about our legality as anyone, perhaps more than the plaintiffs," Draugelis told the court.

But he added that the board was forced to present this solution because of the lack of time before the expiration of the terms of three trustees.

As a result of the court action, the June election will be postponed until Sept. 13, and all eight trustees will be up for election under the new apportionment rather than three trustees. The new offices will take effect on Oct. 4.

The filing date for petitions will be July 27.

THE BASIS on which the NDC filed the suit was the contention that the board was illegally constituted as a result of the Supreme Court decision.

The college district is not constituted under the "one-man, one-vote" rule because the Livonia School District has a far greater population than Clarenceville, Northville, Plymouth and Garden City School Districts. Yet each has one allocated vote.

The Schoolcraft Board maintained that it was legally constituted under the Michigan community college act until told otherwise. It was planning to await a decision from Att. Gen. Frank Kelley before taking any action regarding reapportionment.

Under the present plan, one trustee is elected from each of the five K-12 school districts, and three trustees are elected at-large. The NDC forced the issue to a head by filing a suit in Circuit Court asking for a restraining order on the June election.

"IT IS REALLY tragic that they (the NDC) waited until this has become a political football," board Chairman Jane Moelke said.

But the board met with Draugelis in a closed session Wednesday and decided not to contest the question of reapportionment. They had been advised by Draugelis and the law firm of Miller, Canfield, Paddock and Stone that the U.S. Supreme Court decision would apply to Schoolcraft and that eventually the district would have to be reapportioned.

So they unanimously voted to ask the court to delay the election and allow the board to draw up a reapportionment plan and submit it to the court by June 1.

Attorneys John Thomas representing Plymouth, James Tobin representing Garden City and David Joswick representing Livonia concurred with the recommendation.

"I APPROVE of the plan wholeheartedly," Judge Olzak said. "I compliment both of you (Draugelis and Craig) on coming to a reasonable conclusion on this matter."

The judge questioned whether the election could legally be postponed until September and if the new election would cause taxpayers any additional expense.

The attorneys said it would be legal to continue the board 'de facto' until the election and that a millage election was already scheduled for Sept. 13 so it would not be an additional expense.

A NUMBER of problems come to light as a result of the court action:

• A bill is ready for introduction into the State Legislature asking to have the community college districts divided into equal population districts. If it passes, will the court action, or the legislative action, take precedence?

• If trustees are elected based on a court-approved plan, what will happen to them if a higher court reverses the decision?

• If the whole board has to

be re-elected, will Garden City and Northville have grounds for a suit because the terms of their elected representatives will be cut short?

• If the court approves an at-large election, will the current three at-large trustees be allowed to keep their seats?

• Will the present board be able to come up with a plan for equal population districts when the census figures broken down for school district populations are not yet available? The data that is currently available from the census covers only municipal populations.

DRAUGELIS informed the court that two mistakes existed in the complaints that

the defendants were served. The complaint named the "Schoolcraft College District" as the defendants when the district is legally known as "Northwest Wayne County Community College District."

Also he said that the population figure cited in the complaint for the Plymouth School District was incorrect because the plaintiffs did not consider the populations from Canton Township, Salem Township and Superior Township that make up the district.

The writ of mandamus will be issued within 10 days and the board will have to come up with a reapportionment plan by June 1 to submit to the court.

## Dr. Searle Finishing Century In Farmington

By LINDA BOYD

The Henry Ford Trade School no longer exists but its spirit is alive and living in the hearts of its alumni. "Pops" Searle of Farmington is one of the reasons the spirit is so strong and alumni so loyal.

DR. F.E. SEARLE was the school's superintendent from 1917, one year after Henry Ford I started it, until his retirement in 1946. His devotion to his boys at the school earned him the nickname "Pops" and their life long gratitude and appreciation.

"Pops is the reason that any of us have been able to enjoy life's successes," former student Leo Obloy said. "He taught us mechanical trades but also life values of worth."

Dr. Searle will celebrate his 100th birthday

this summer and the alumni already have the party planned. But then they have honored Pops on his birthday every year.

ONE OF THE reasons the alumni is so appreciative is because many of the boys were underprivileged.

The trade school gave them opportunities they would not have received elsewhere, Paul Charette of Ford Motor Co. and a former student said. "At the trade school we had the best of teachers and everything."

The Henry Ford Trade School was the first to combine academics and on-the-job training. Students, up to age 18, learned mechanical trades while gaining practical experience working at Ford Motor Company.

The school merged with other Dearborn educational facilities in 1952 but its alumni is still active. The alumni association owns the Bonnie Brook Country Club on Telegraph where they have a clubhouse for their social functions and monthly meetings.

A monthly magazine, "The Alumni News," is circulated to over 900 active members. The association sponsors several scholarship funds including the Dr. F.E. Searle Scholarship fund.

DR. SEARLE was born in 1871 in Massachusetts and received a BA degree from Williams College in 1893. He later received an honorary masters of art degree from Williams College and an honorary doctor of science degree from University of Detroit.

In 1895, he came to Detroit to teach in the Detroit School for Boys. While there he tutored the late Edsel Ford and thus met Henry Ford I who asked him to supervise his trade school.

Since his retirement in 1946, Dr. Searle has served on the Michigan Industrial Training Council, several chambers of commerce boards of directors, and he organized the Boys Club of Highland Park. The many shelves of books in his home give testimony of a scholar who still reads and learns.



POPS SEARLE of Farmington will reach the century mark this summer but more important than his 100-year-life will be the mark he has left as founder of the Henry Ford Trade School. (Evert photo)

## Joseph Himmelspach Funeral Is Today

Funeral services are scheduled today (April 10) at 11 a.m. for Joseph Himmelspach, 77, owner of the former Himmelspach Dairy and resident of Farmington for 30 years.

The elder Himmelspach started the family business which was a favorite eating place in downtown Farmington on Grand River just east of Farmington Rd. for 30 years.

Mr. Himmelspach, who had lived in Brighton for the past 27 years, died April 6 in St. Mary Hospital in Livonia. He was first president of the Farmington Kiwanis Club and was elected lieutenant governor of the Michigan Kiwanis District. He was also past master of the Farmington Lodge, F&AM, 151.

Services will be held in the Thayer Funeral Home in Farmington with burial at Glen Eden Cemetery.

The dairy's operation ended about two years ago when the building was completely destroyed by fire, the largest fire in the City of Farmington's recent history.

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Services will be held in the Thayer Funeral Home in Farmington with burial at Glen Eden Cemetery.

## NFHS Gets Talk Record

Twelve North Farmington High students brought back a school record from the district forensics contest held recently in Southfield Lathrup High School. Never before had the team chalked up so many stellar performances.

Barbara Pape received a first place award for women's oratory, and Sue Noetzel tied another contestant for first place in women's extemporaneous speaking.

Another first place was awarded for multiple reading. The winning group bested seven others and was composed of Diane Peterson, Joe Teeples, Sue Toffanetti, Sheila Chambers, Maggi Sutherland, Jeff Osterhage and Mark Forth. Coached by Michael Kaplan, they did a selection from Howard Richardson's "Dark of the Moon."

Miss Carol Kudushin worked with the students as their coach.



TALK SPECIALISTS—Winners of the district forensics contest held in Southfield Lathrup High School, share their victory with North Farmington's coach, Mrs. Margaret Chamberlin. From left are: Lee VanAmeyde, second place

for radio newscasting; Peg Muller, second for serious reading; Barbara Pape, first for women's oratory; and Sue Noetzel who tied for first in women's extemporaneous speaking. (Evert photo)

## Bell Falls, Breaks Hip

Ralph Bell, a zoning inspector for Farmington Township, had an accident on the job this week resulting in a broken hip and wrist.

Bell was injured April 7 when he fell at the site of an old home at 14 Mile and Farmington Rd. which is scheduled to be removed.

He was scheduled to undergo surgery April 8, but the operation was delayed. Bell is now the senior member of the township's building department and had just returned last month from a Florida vacation.

"We'll miss Ralph very much," says Supervisor Earl Teeples, "because he has done such a splendid job in coordinating the twice-a-year cleanups and the spring cleanup is coming up."