

today's hot line

Vol. 83, No. 76 40 pages, 4 sections

what's inside

Tax Vote Aug. 30?

The Farmington Board of Education announced its intent Monday night to place another millage proposal on the ballot on Aug. 30. Action was not taken Monday and the decision will not be made July 6.

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Our Plot

Twice a week, a concerted effort is made in the Farmington Enterprise & Observer to give readers a variety of information and report news from many sources. Among the special columns included inside the pages of today's edition are Farmington Socially Speaking, At the Center, Floral Park, and the Farmington Community Calendar.

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Moving Tale

A bookstore and an empty building and a lot of helpful people get together to make things happen in Farmington. The story is in our Women's Section.

Page 1C

Fun And Profit

A "swinging grandmother" is hoping to raise \$5,000 for the Farmington Community Center. Other communities might be interested in her ideas for putting kids to work in a summer activity that should be fun as well as profitable.

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Minority Understanding Plan Approved By School Board

By EMORY DANIELS

The minority understanding program has been adopted by the Farmington Board of Education and will be implemented in the schools beginning in the fall.

The board approved the program Monday night at its regular meeting in Farmington Senior High's auditorium by a 6-1 vote.

THE NOW OFFICIAL version is one originally recommended by the board's Family Life Education (FLE) citizen advisory committee as modified recently by the board.

Dr. Roderick J. Smith, superintendent of schools, described the adopted program as a consensus of board, committee and citizen opinions and suggestions.

"Modifications have been incorporated which minimize or delete areas of greatest concern and strengthen the areas which needed additional support," Smith explained.

TWO WEEKS ago the modifications were reviewed by the board, and copies of the revised program have been available to members of the community upon request, added John Washburn, III, board chairman.

The dissenting vote on the program came from trustee Kenneth Perrin who com-

mented: "I believe that a good program to foster minority understanding would be an excellent addition to the curriculum of Farmington public schools. I do not believe that the proposed program, as presently modified, is, as yet, a good program."

Perrin explained he objected because the guidelines included provisions for field trips to schools with large enrollments of minority groups within society and because of the suggestions for voluntary exchange of teachers.

"I have no hesitation in approving field trips which fit naturally into the student activities program. I believe that field trips for athletic and debate team competition, for example, should be scheduled without regard to the racial or ethnic makeup of the other school -- they should be scheduled to provide equal opportunity."

"But a field trip just to visit a school containing a large percentage of minority students would be completely without merit or meaning. We treat this as we treat a visit to a bakery or museum, and I feel it is quite possible that our children would return from such trips with attitudes quite the opposite from those we wish to convey," Perrin said.

THE PROGRAM also allows exchange teacher of

minority groups to substitute for regular teachers for limited periods of time, Perrin continued.

"I do not believe that our children ever learn as much from substitute teachers as they learn from their regular teachers. I have read and heard educators stress the importance of giving our younger children a room and a teacher with which they can identify. Now, we are asked to adopt an expedient which is contrary to years and years of educational practice," Perrin concluded.

Trustee Gary Lichtman countered that the guidelines do not require field trips but mentioned this activity as an aside to cite an example of activities for students that could be used to foster minority understanding.

Lichtman said it was not the program's intent to require field trips for students into areas dominated by a racial minority.

TRUSTEE Aldo Vagnozzi described the program as a "moderate approach" and modifications were approved because of concerns earlier expressed by Perrin.

If a teacher feels an exchange would harm his students, he added, he would not volunteer to exchange. Vagnozzi added that the district this past year has had

Continued on Page 4A



NEW TRUSTEE — One of her favorite hobbies, needlepoint, keeps Mrs. Elizabeth Brennan occupied during what little spare time she has. She is shown here relaxing at her home on Drake in the City of Farmington. (Evert photo)

Quit Experiments, Says New Trustee

An "uphill climb all the way" is what Mrs. Elizabeth Brennan sees in store for her as the newest member of the Farmington Board of Education. She claimed weeks in the hospital when it was claimed she headed a group soliciting names for controversial elections in the school district's history.

THE SANDY-HAIRED Mrs. Brennan, a lifelong resident of 23965 Drake, Farmington, relaxed on the spacious front lawn of her home as she told of some of the problems encountered while running for the board as well as some of her views on the now default millage proposal, sex education and people in general.

Mrs. Brennan's low key campaign resulted in few public appearances because "I'd rather show people what I can do rather than have what I say turned about and misqu岸."

Mrs. Brennan said she feels that "we certainly shouldn't sacrifice quality education, but we should live within the budget." She added: "All new experimental programs are bound to be costly" (referring to the sex education, minority understanding and substance abuse programs approved by the board).

"I feel we should keep the programs that have been successful over the years rather than sacrifice them—like remedial reading and athletics—for the sake of implementing some new program that will be harmful to the child."

SHE DISCLAIMS having anything to do with the recall campaign aimed at four school board members and

said her name was erroneously linked with the group spearheading the drive. She said she was undergoing surgery and spent several weeks in the hospital when it was claimed she headed a group soliciting names for controversial elections in the school district's history.

But there is one group she said she is proud to head—the "Citizens United for Farmington Youth." As president she personally, and with her group, appealed to the school board last fall, presenting 1,600 signatures requesting the board to cancel implementation of sex education guidelines.

She has been an outspoken opponent of sex education guidelines as compiled by the board and citizens groups and attributes her success in the election to that aspect more than her "no millage" stand. "I didn't say I wasn't for sex education at all," she explained. "Sex is a beautiful thing and I feel it must be taught with God in mind. It's an infringement on the rights of every Catholic child and children of other religious faiths to be taught sex without a moral point of view."

She said that her supporters were not only Catholics who felt this way but also hundreds of persons of other religions. She said she foresees problems arising in professional care of students taken out of sex education classes. "Whoever takes care of them must be paid," she went on, "plus costs will enter when teachers must receive special training to teach the sessions 'professionally', and more money must be spent on materials to use in class."

MRS. BRENNAN said she is "satisfied with what is presently being taught in Farmington schools" as far as biology, hygiene and other machine operations with Friden, Inc., and one grandson, Peter, 3.

Many years' experience as president of the League of Catholic Women in the metropolitan area, she said, gives her a good idea of budgeting, financing and many other phases of administration.

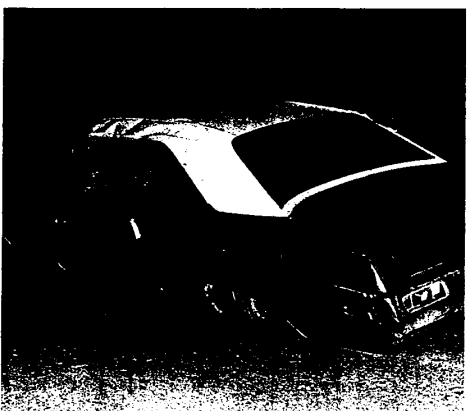
She was decorated on behalf of her group by then-Detroit mayor Jerome P. Cavanagh and other city officials for volunteer work. She was instrumental in establishing "Heartline," a social agency designed to take in girls in trouble from the streets for shelter and counseling. She was part of the organization which aided, out of volunteer funds and volunteer time, girls just coming out of prison and back into society. Mrs. Brennan helped obtain finances to keep up a former home for working girls that became a sort of "halfway house" in the inner city. In four years of operation, only one girl returned to prison.

MRS. BRENNAN said her family once owned 1,600 acres in Farmington including the house in which she has lived for most of her life. Her family donated the property on which Our Lady of Sorrows, Power at Shawasssee, now stands.

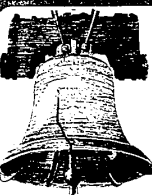
Calling herself a "moderate conservative," Mrs. Brennan lists her family, golf and needlepoint as her favorite hobbies, in that order. The family includes husband William, a contractor; sons William, 32, a stock broker; Peter, 22, presently working on a master's degree in education at St. John Fisher College in Rochester, N.Y.; and Terry, 21, a senior at Notre Dame University in Indiana majoring in math. The Brennans have a daughter, Joyce, 28, who is an instructor in business machine operations with Friden, Inc., and one grandson, Peter, 3.



TENTH FATALITY — David P. Geiger, 29, of 347 Third, Southfield, became Farmington Township's tenth fatality for 1971 when he was killed on I-696 freeway at Halstead at about 12:35 a.m. Friday, June 25. Geiger was killed instantly when the car he was riding in overturned and landed on top of him. Another passenger, Joyce P. Brooks, 39, of 22850 Maple, Farmington, received a serious injury and is in Botsford General Hospital, Farmington. Driver of the car was Ronald A. Sliwinski, 22, of 19701 Chapel, Detroit. Township police report Sliwinski's 1970 Dodge Dart ran off the roadway as it was eastbound on I-696, lost control, and rolled over. The accident is still under investigation. (Ralph Evert photo).



Observer employees will celebrate the Fourth of July with their families.



The Observer central offices and switchboard will close the evening of Friday, July 2. We will resume business as usual Tuesday, July 5, at 8:30 a.m. Due to the shortened business week, our Wednesday Observer will be published Thursday, July 8. Deadlines for this post holiday edition are:

CLASSIFIED WANT ADS	11:30 a.m. Wednesday
CLASSIFIED DISPLAY ADS	5 p.m. Tuesday
DISPLAY ADVERTISING	5 p.m. Tuesday
CHURCH-WOMEN'S NEWS	12 noon Tuesday
ALL OTHER NEWS	6 p.m. Tuesday

The Observer circulation staff will be available for calls concerning delivery of your hometown newspaper from 9 a.m. until 5 p.m. Saturday, July 3. 261-3800

