

The Farmington

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42 pages, 4 sections

Philip H. Power, Publisher

today's hot line

Nixon Visit Due Oct. 29

Richard Nixon will visit Livonia Tuesday, Oct. 29, Republican leaders say.

The GOP presidential candidate will speak in Roma Hall on Schoolcraft Road at about 10 a.m. The rally will end at 11:30.

His visit here will be part of a five-hour visit to Michigan. He will also visit Macomb and Oakland counties, GOP leaders said.

Nixon will seek support for local Republican congressional candidates, most notably 19th District incumbent Jack McDonald.

Nixon's visit will be the first to Observerland from a presidential candidate. Democratic vice presidential hopeful Edmund Muskie was in Livonia earlier this month.

What's Inside

Ice Indoors

Livonia has opened Observerland's only indoor ice skating rink. For a look at the facilities and an idea of what it offers, see the picture page.

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Kitty's A Talker

Kitty Carlisle, widow of Moss Hart, got into town hall lecturing in order to settle a bet. She's doing rather well at it—as reporter Glenn Merillat learned when she covered her local appearance.

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Helen The Hostess

Helen Milliken, wife of Michigan's lieutenant governor, is being groomed for more political work. The keen political eye of Sue Shaughnessy watched her at work.

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Potential Chefs

High School students in Farmington are learning to cook at Oakland Community College. For a description of their culinary arts turn to...

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Let's All Push

The township's refusal to grant a variance in the setback requirements has forced a builder to move a newly-constructed home. What happened?

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A New Plant

Barnal Corp. broke ground for a new plant in Farmington Township Tuesday. For a description of the area's newest industry see...

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OBSERVER CLASSIFIED WANT ADS.

A JOB SEEKER'S DIRECTORY



Check the many job opportunities listed twice weekly in the Observer Want Ad section... the directory that produces results for job seekers. Mr. Employer... Want Ads are great for finding help when you need it, too! Simply call 422-0900 today.

State Makes New Moves On I-96

Nobody double talks like an official of the highway department—any highway department, state or county.

The Enterprise & Observer talked to the Michigan State Highway Department in Lansing this week to find out the status on the arm of I-96 that is supposed to cut through Farmington Township near Haggerty between 10 and 11 Mile.

The highway official was surprised that we asked. He said the route has been determined "for years."

What he didn't say and what was feared out from another source is that the department is currently in court pressing condemnation proceedings on

property north of Grand River up to I-96. He also didn't say that the department has an agreement to purchase property south of 9 1/2 Mile.

To further confuse us, the

highway official rattled off the route the expressway will take through the township in slambang style.

After deciphering our notes, here's the way it looks — Purpose of the whole project

is to tie I-75 in with I-96. I-75 begins near Monroe and becomes 275 where it joins I-96 at Schoolcraft near the western limits of Livonia. I-96, meanwhile turns south at Haggerty and runs southerly

to join 275 in Livonia.

The joining of 275 and I-96 begins in a corridor running along Haggerty.

The angle that 275 must make to meet I-96 is "locked in" as far as highway officials are

concerned.

That's as clear as we can make it, but work is expected to begin soon on the project because there is a 1970 deadline on expenditure of funds for this particular purpose.



HAPPY MAN — LaRue Patee, 72 years old, of Farmington, spends his time these days doing what he wanted to do as a young man — painting pictures. The Farmington Artists Club member is never happier than when he has his easel and paints out.

Art Is 'Full Of Joy' Says 72-year-old

By ELIZABETH WISSMAN

At the age of 72, LaRue Patee, of Farmington, is doing what he wanted to do as a young man—painting pictures whenever he feels like it.

Born with artistic ability, Patee gave some thought when he was young to earning his living painting.

But "Pat," as his wife calls him, decided, after reading biographies of painters, that he didn't want to be dead before he got rich—so he turned to the next best thing, drafting.

HE WORKED as a draftsman for General Motors for some years, and after serving in World War I became a patent attorney.

One of his proudest possessions is the 1928 yearbook he illustrated while a student at Detroit College of Law.

Even then, he had talent. Today, Pat finds an outlet for that talent painting to his heart's delight.

He has a sunny corner fixed up in the Patee home in the Farmington Plaza Apartments where he spends hours and hours with his paints and easel.

Mrs. Patee is resigned to all this. She says, "Sometimes he spends almost all evening in there. I always thought that artists wanted to get up and paint with the morning north light. Not Pat."

THE PATEES' apartment walls are laden with Pat's pictures.

Mrs. Patee claims they may soon have to knock out a wall to accommodate any more.

The pictures show a surprising versatility, subject matter ranges from still life to scenery to athletic events to portraits.

Pat's style of painting is just as hard to classify.

In some pictures, the style is out-and-out primitive. In others it is more sophisticated. In all, however, there is a strong sense of color, design, proportion and perspective.

PAT DIDN'T LEARN any of this in an art class.

"I've thought about taking lessons," he comments, "and finding out just how you should do it—but that'd spoil all the fun. I'd try to follow rules and I wouldn't enjoy it any more. I'd be just like learning how to play golf and I never

took any golf lessons. "Don't misunderstand me, I'm not so good they couldn't teach me a lot, but it would take the joy out of it," he adds.

PAT CAN'T PLAY GOLF anymore because he isn't in the best of health, but he'd rather paint anyway, just like Churchill and Eisenhower.

When the Patees moved to Farmington three years ago, first thing Pat did was join the Farmington Artists Club.

The club thought so much of Pat's talent it gave him an award for an auto-relief he did of a ship, titled "White Swan."

(Artist Pat explains that an auto-relief is an art work in which more than one-half of the subject matter is in relief.)

THE ALTO-RELIEF hangs in the Patee living room and Pat is still a little astonished that it cost him \$60 to have it framed.

"I'm making my own frames now," he says in a little louder tone than he ordinarily uses.

ON TWO OTHER discussion topics does Pat use this slightly louder tone of voice.

Modern painting — "I don't like the kind of stuff that they just slap paint on. Paintings have got to mean something."

The artists club — "I wish more men would join. Sometimes I'm the only male member at a meeting."

But Pat isn't every club member he can get to — just to talk about the love of his life—painting pictures.

At night and the police can't be expected to be everywhere."

Shultz told The Enterprise and Observer that the district's insurance covers vandalism but that broken glass coverage is excluded because of high costs.

"I don't think we could get Lloyd's of London to insure us for glass breakage," Shultz said.

Walters said that breakage has been spread throughout the township, with more than normal amounts at Alameda Elementary School last summer.

"I've repaired the same windows as many as three times a week," Walters said.

"I've been real busy the last few weeks, because everyone wants their schools to look real nice for the open houses coming up."

"I think they should let the windows go — and the people could see how things are."

Planners Nix North-End Car-Wash

The Farmington Township Planning Commission has denied a rezoning request to allow a coin-operated car wash on Orchard Lake Road at 13 Mile.

Rezoning denial came at the Oct. 15 regular planning commission meeting after John Leyland, the petitioner, said the self-operating car wash would not cause traffic congestion or a public nuisance.

Leyland had proposed the car wash for property on Orchard Lake Road just south of an existing service station and north of Burbank. He said it would be the only car wash in the township's north end.

The rezoning request was to change the property from special strip shopping district to neighborhood shopping district.

Broader zoning regulations under the proposed zoning do not conform to present uses of Orchard Lake Road, the planning commission said.

The request was refused by unanimous vote.

IN OTHER PLANNING commission action, rezoning requests for three separate township parcels were tabled for further study.

Rezoning for YMCA property at Farmington Road and 12 Mile was tabled after YMCA officials requested time to contact Vilcan and Leman, township planning consultants.

An earlier YMCA proposal had been returned by the Township Board for consideration of single-family homes buffering YMCA property.

Rezoning for a 4.3-acre parcel at Freedom and Drake was tabled, pending consideration of rezoning requests for Gill and Freedom property.

Site plan approval was tabled pending resolution of the deficiencies.

Site plan approval for a nursing home at Middle Belt and Eldred was tabled until the Oct. 24 meeting. Developers are expected to provide final plans at that meeting.

Jack Sanderson, of Vilcan and Leman, planning consultants, said by letter that developers had not met minimum standards for park development.

Site plan approval was tabled pending resolution of the deficiencies.

Site plan approval for a nursing home at Middle Belt and Eldred was tabled until the Oct. 24 meeting. Developers are expected to provide final plans at that meeting.

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Both requests involve office versus residential zoning and planners tabled the request to study zoning along Freedom and the I-96 expressway.

Rezoning for the west side of Farmington Road near Bostwick (south of Nine Mile) for a school furniture distributor's office, was tabled to the Nov. 19 meeting.

Douglas Mann, planning commission member, said that industrial property on the east side of Farmington Road should be considered as well as several nonconforming uses on the west side.

Property on the east side of Farmington Road is in the City of Farmington.

PRELIMINARY site plan approval was denied for the proposed Camolet Court subdivision at 11 Mile and Inkster after the township attorney and planning consultant recommendation.

Joseph T. Brennan, township attorney, said in a letter that the developers had made no provisions for a non-profit civic association or maintenance of proposed park areas within the subdivision.

Jack Sanderson, of Vilcan and Leman, planning consultants, said by letter that developers had not met minimum standards for park development.

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ROCKS — George Walters, of the Farmington School Board, repairs broken windows five days a week throughout the year. These Farmington Junior High windows, like most others, were broken by thrown rocks.