

# the farmington

## enterprise & observer

Wednesday, December 29, 1971

YOUR HOMETOWN NEWSPAPER

15¢ a Copy

# 2 Millage Defeats Highlight 1971's Impact On Residents

## Ringing Out The Old

today's  
**hot line**

Vol. 83, No. 23 36 Pages, 4 Sections

what's inside

### A Very Good Year

1971 was a good year in many respects for both the City of Farmington and Farmington Township. The accomplishments of both communities are surveyed inside by Mayor Wilbur Brotherton and Supervisor Earl Teeples.

Pages 3A, 8C

### Beauty Wins Again

The City of Farmington Beautification Committee has announced winners of its 1971 Christmas decor contest and, as the year draws to an end, is finishing its scrapbook of 1971 beautification activities to enter in national competition. For pictures of winning homes and businesses, and the scrapbook, look for the photographic work of Ralph Evert inside.

Pages 3A, 4A, 6A, 8C

### 60 Years

It's a long time to be married, and a Farmington husband and wife join the growing list of couples in this area who have celebrated 60th anniversaries. Their story is in our Women's Section.

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### Another Holiday

Observer Newspapers offices at 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia, will be closed Friday, Dec. 31, in observance of the New Year's holiday.

No weekend edition will be published so that our employees and carriers may enjoy a full holiday.

Regular twice-a-week publication will resume next week.

FROM ANY DIRECTION...



IT LOOKS LIKE A GOOD YEAR!

Start the New Year off right. When your Observer Carrier comes to collect, don't forget to ask for a receipt. It's worth its face value toward an Observer Want Ad.

observer newspapers

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By EMORY DANIELS

The biggest local events in 1971, those having greatest impact on Farmington residents, were probably the two defeats at the polls of the extra tax millage requested by Farmington Schools.

A review of the year's news stories, month by month, reveals advances made by all governmental units and a continuation of some problems faced in 1970 — primarily settlement of borders for Farmington Township.

Here is a chronological summary of 1971:

**JANUARY** — Building department head and another official resign and zoning inspector retires in Farmington Township. Fred Ziedman is named temporary zoning inspector but later leaves to take job with City of Ann Arbor.

Farmington School District votes to withdraw from SEMCOG and begins serving a la carte lunches in cafeterias. Brian Sprague is named outstanding young educator by the Farmington Jaycees, and Ron Holland is honored by Farmington Chamber of Commerce as

man of the year. John Anbut is elected chamber president. Mrs. Mildred Droegge is honored upon her retirement as director of the Farmington Library District, a position she held for 20 years. Farmington Township goes bureaucratic and organizes four study committees: finance; police and fire; building and zoning; and personnel practices. The Chamber holds its annual dinner and hears Lt. Gov. James Brickley speak while police expert Johannes Spreen is speaker for Jaycees Prayer Breakfast.

**FEBRUARY** — Farmington Township withdraws from SEMCOG and the John Wesley Foundation announces plans to locate a college in the southern portion of Farmington Township. Farmington schools name members to its newly-formed Citizens Advisory Council. The City of Farmington announces a reappraisal of all properties to 50 per cent of market value, the first complete reappraisal since 1958.

The city's beautification committee is notified it has won a distinguished achievement award in the National Cleanup Contest.

**MARCH** — The Jaycees begin a petition drive to support location of a regional medical hospital in Farmington Township. The Township adopts a master plan after three-year study. The federal government approves the site for a new Farmington Post Office, three acres on the north side of Grand River between School St. and the Glen River Apartments.

The Board of Education approves the human sexuality curriculum, and rumors are first heard of recalling trustees. The board also announces its intent to trim the faculty by 10 per cent.

Student disorders break out at Orchard Ridge campus of Oakland Community College and the week ends with bombs exploding in the college's biology lab.

The township board is asked to apply for state recreation funds to develop a park in the township. The township planning commission holds a public hearing in North Farmington High on the HTK regional retail center and votes to recommend denial after subdivision associations organize to oppose the rezoning.

Our Lady of Sorrows  
Continued on Page 7A

## Historic Sites May Retain Life

By EMORY DANIELS

After two years extensive labor, the Farmington Historical Preservation Committee has submitted to Lansing the paper work necessary to make the old village area an official historic district.

Once the state approves the request, the paper work will be forwarded to Washington, D.C. in an effort to make the old village area a national historic shrine, says Paul Schrieber, committee chairman.

Schrieber expects it will take about four months to hear from the Michigan Historical Preservation Council and hopes national approval will be obtained by late spring or early summer.

THE CITY of Farmington

has scheduled a public hearing for Feb. 14 on an ordinance establishing the historical district and creating a new municipal historical committee.

A presentation on the historical district plan was made by Schrieber Dec. 13 to the city planning commission.

The historical district is generally the inner section of the Farmington Rd. - Shawassee intersection and extends southwesterly to include the Governor's Mansion on Grand River and the Quaker Cemetery and old meeting house on Gill Rd.

The city hopes the area, which includes 18 historic homes and buildings, will be made a historical district to protect the historical

character of the old village.

If the district becomes a national historic shrine, a congressional act will prevent use of any federal money to demolish any of the 18 buildings unless permission is given by the owner.

Included in the district as outlined by the local committee are: Gov. Fred Warner's mansion on the south side of Grand River between Cass and Wilmarth; the Quaker Cemetery and old Quaker meeting house on the west side of Gill between Grand River and Cortland; the Carter House on the north side of Shawassee west of the Baptist Church, the city's oldest house built in 1824; the Farmington Masonic Temple (former township hall); and a number of older homes along Shawassee.

RESEARCH to authenticate the historical significance of the 18 structures was done by Louis Gilson, a retired Farmington school teacher and active member of the Farmington Historical Society.

Both the state and national historical committees may alter the city's application, Schrieber explained, and delete buildings. But the committee is hopeful the district will remain intact, he added, and is confident because of the work done by Gilson.

Official photographer for the project was V. O. Bates, long-time city resident, who took pictures of the 18 structures submitted for registry and never submitted a bill for his expenses.

City Manager John Dinan says the necessary ordinance is being formulated and will be ready for adoption by the city council after the planning commission holds the Feb. 14 public hearing.

AT THE TIME the ordinance becomes effective, the present Historical Preservation Committee will be disbanded and replaced by a new historical committee which will enforce regulations to preserve the historical district.

Continued on Page 6A



THAT'S WHAT tiny Elena Legault is doing as she rings in 1972 with her bells, bright hat and all of the trimmings for the annual celebration. The Observer brings its readers this full color scene through the use of its new techniques and the Goss Offset Metro press which makes color pictures possible. (Observer photo by Bob Woodring)

## Contracts Inked; Tax Need Seen

By MARTHA MAHAN

With all but administrative salaries now settled, the Farmington Board of Education will turn next month to adoption of a final 1971-72 budget and preliminary skirmishing with budget needs for 1972-73.

A study session for consideration of any last minute budget suggestions will be held Monday, Jan. 10, to be followed by establishment of administrative pay and formal agreement on allocation of the year's funds.

SALARIES REMAIN to be determined for Supt. Roderick Smith, Asst. Supt. Marinus Van Ameyde, Business Manager William Frisk, directors, supervisors, principals, assistant principals and administrative aides.

Approval was given at the board's last meeting to agreements with teachers, secretaries, bus drivers and administrative secretaries. Meanwhile, the Citizens Advisory Council finance committee reported its study of next year's budget situation shows that additional millage will be necessary and that

March "appears to be the most reasonable time" to hold a millage election.

The committee added that some members wish to study the operations of the district further before recommending the amount of millage to be sought.

THE FARMINGTON Education Assn. (FEA), which represents teachers, is expected to call a ratification meeting soon after classes resume following the Christmas holiday. Secretaries and bus drivers already have ratified their agreements.

Teachers receive a 4.17 per cent increase in the first year of a two-year contract, the first for Farmington and one of the few multi-year contracts in the area. However, pay losses under the wage freeze bring the increase to an actual 3.35 per cent, according to Personnel Director LeRoy Bartman.

Bus drivers get a 4.2 per cent increase, cut to 3.2 per cent by the wage freeze, and secretaries 4.7 per cent, reduced to 3.5 per cent. Both groups waived all retroactive pay, Bartman said. Wages for

both are about at the median for the county, he reported, and were negotiated under a wage reopener clause of three year contracts now in their final year.

BOARD PRESIDENT

Richard Peters hailed the teacher settlement as a "mutual understanding which eliminates uncertainties that have existed" and expressed "hope that the staff and administration and citizens of the district all can be able now to unite in educational effort."

Trustee Aldo Vagnozzi praised the two-year pact as providing a "certain stability." It will enable the board, Vagnozzi said, to "plan budgeting and other matters offensively put in the background while trying to negotiate contracts."

Dr. Smith called board ratification of the new agreement as demonstrating its "continued interest and concern with the instructional staff."

"With all contracts now completed, we invite the total staff and community to unite efforts with the board of education to move forward to resolve the problems yet ahead."