

# the Farmington enterprise & observer

YOUR HOMETOWN NEWSPAPER

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## today's hot line

Vol. 83 No. 99 20 Pages 2 Sections

## what's inside

### \$21,000 In Bank

The campaign led by the Farmington Junior Football Association to underwrite sports and all extra-curricular activities for the year is progressing well, according to F.J.F.A. leaders. There is now \$21,000 cash in the bank and \$9,000 in outstanding pledges.

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### Where To Go

A trip often requires a map, and living in Farmington, more often than not, requires reference to the Farmington Community Calendar. The calendar inside today's paper will help tell you where to go.

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### Exchange Visits

A different type of student exchange program has the enthusiastic endorsement of several young people here and in Germany. Read how it's different in today's Woman's Page.

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### Rosicrucians

If you've read those advertisements for the "Ancient Mystical Rosae Crucis" and wondered what they were about, you'll be interested in today's "Religion Update." Religion columnist Lester Kinsolving has a few things to say about the Rosicrucians.

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### Retirement

A Farmington priest is retiring after one of the longest single-parish tenures in this area. Read about Msgr. Thomas Beahan in today's Church Section.

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ATTITUDE makes one newspaper's church pages different from another . . .

READ this difference on today's Church Pages



# State Aid Approval Spurs Strike Talk

By MARTHA MAHAN  
With the school financial picture clearing since legislative action on the state aid bill, Farmington teachers are becoming impatient to learn how much more they can expect in their paychecks after the wage freeze ends. They currently are working under terms of last year's contract, extended by mutual agreement of the Board of Education and the Farmington Education Assn. (FEA). Meanwhile, negotiators are writing a new pact for 1971-72.

HOWEVER, the FEA executive board meets Monday night and may well decide to set a deadline by which settlement must be reached or a strike called, according to Roger Allen, executive secretary. "I anticipate an ultimatum," commented LeRoy Bartman, the board's chief negotiator.

The contract extension provides for termination on 48 hours notice by either party. Bargaining on most economic questions has been stalemated while the Legislature wrangled over the amount of the state aid bill. But its decision will leave negotiators with little to scramble over, according to

Business Administrator William Prisk.

PRELIMINARY calculations show the district may well come out with only \$9,500 more in state aid this year than last, despite a 250 pupil increase and \$29,500 per pupil more in state aid, Prisk said.

Total basic state aid is figured at about \$1,837 million compared with last year's \$1,538 million, he said, but there's a hooker.

The Legislature is withholding funds from local districts to set up an unprecedented \$30 million contingency fund to meet deficiencies in estimated revenue caused by shifts in the economy. It was the state's failure to pay an expected \$157,000 — \$105,000 of it in basic state aid — which put last year's budget \$97,600 in the red, Prisk said.

IN FARMINGTON'S case, the state would withhold \$240,600, he said, bringing net state aid for 1971-72 to \$4,656 million.

"It puts a tremendous crimp in the very minimal plans we had," the business administrator mourned. "We can't take a chance on spending the money. We'll just have to hold off and start off

with that amount the following year. "Moreover, the \$240,600 withholding is in basic aid only. We can't calculate how much we may lose in state funds for transportation, remedial reading and other special contributions."

### State Of Schools Being Reported

Dr. Roderick J. Smith, superintendent of Farmington Public Schools, will deliver his "state of the schools" report at the next board of education meeting set for 8 p.m. Sept. 21, in Kenbrook Elementary School, 32180 Bonnetthill, Farmington.

The report was requested by members of the board of education at their last regular meeting. The public is invited to attend.

BESIDES teachers, the district is negotiating new contracts with its secretary, clerks and bus drivers. Custodians and maintenance workers begin the second year of a two-year contract negotiated a year ago. Teacher demands and board offers remain about where

they were when first laid on the table last spring, negotiators say, with give-and-take stymied until it was known how much money the district would have to spend.

The FEA salary demand is for a \$11,500 top, down from an original \$11,750, and a \$9,000 starting pay, Bartman said. It amounts to a 16 per cent hike. The board's offer remains at \$200 across-the-board, a 10 per cent increase. Allen said. The 1970-71 contract ranged from \$8,000 to \$15,300.

However, the contract has a "built in" increment formula which provides automatic salary increases ranging from four to six per cent, Bartman said, so that the board's offer actually represents a six to eight per cent increase.

UNION DEMANDS for improved fringe benefits remain "out of this world" the board bargainer said, "and haven't changed one iota" since talks started.

FEA leaders have been under "quite a bit of teacher pressure," to set a deadline for reaching agreement, Allen said. "Enough variables now are in that a settlement of some kind has got to be adopted," he declared. "State aid is known. We do need a little bit more

Continued on Page 2A



HOME FROM ISRAEL. Heidi Rudner reviews her 10 weeks abroad. She's wearing a hand-woven, hand-embroidered Bedouin dress purchased in the Arab market in Jerusalem. (Observer photo by Fran Evert)

# Excavating With Heidi

By LINDA BOYD  
Special Writer  
Heidi Rudner, 18, of Wood Creek Farms, has just returned from a vigorous, 10-week trip of excavating, exploring, and enjoying Israel. Miss Rudner, who will be a sophomore in archaeological studies at the University of Michigan next fall, got a practical look at the field of archaeology and the excavating work it involves. Coming back more enthusiastic than ever, she concludes, "I may be digging for the rest of my life."

The trip, sponsored by the American Zionist Youth Foundation, started with two weeks of classes at Tel-Aviv University. Classes ranged from excavation techniques and pottery identification to Biblical archaeology and geography.

After the classes, the group put their lessons to the test at a site in the southern part of the country called Beer Sheva. This tel and the modern city nearby of the same name are the gateway to the Negev, a desert region near the Sinai Peninsula.

"THE TEL LOOKS like a giant and hill sticking out of the desert," Heidi said. "Cities were built on hill tops for defense. This way, they could see their enemies coming and it was harder for the intruder to get at them."

"The Israeli Beer Sheva was destroyed by the Assyrians in 700 B.C.," she said. "Later Greeks and Romans built fortresses on the Israeli ruins."

Miss Rudner's group was primarily interested in the original Israeli city. This meant digging through six to 10 feet of Roman and Greek ruins first.

THE HIGHLIGHT was excavating an Israeli home built into the wall of the city. In what appeared to be the kitchen, Miss Rudner discovered plaster benches, a plaster floor, wash basin, and an oven and cupboard which both contained perfectly preserved pottery dating from 1,000 to 700 B.C.

"Digging is nothing glamorous," Heidi said. "It's hard physical labor. We got up at 6:30 a.m. and dug until 1:30 p.m. with only 45 minutes for breakfast and a 15-minute break. The temperature rose to 105 degrees every day. We camped in tents at the tel, and after three weeks, we were all ready for a break."

two-week tour of other Israeli excavations. Masada, a city built by Herod, was the first stop. The city sits on a high cliff next to the Dead Sea and in Biblical times was almost impregnable.

According to legend, the city held out three years against Roman siege, and when their food supply gave out, residents killed themselves so they would not be taken alive. Masada is the home of the oldest existing synagogue and the palace of Herod.

The Dead Sea, Jericho, and Jerusalem were other stops on the tour.

DURING THE LAST three weeks members of the group were free to do what they wished. Heidi went on a tour with ISSTA, a student organization, to the Sinai Peninsula.

A highlight was climbing Mt. Sinai where Moses is said to have received the Ten Commandments. The ascent began at a Greek Orthodox monastery, St. Katherine's, which could only be reached by a three-hour trip on a dry riverbed.

"We started to climb at 3:30 a.m. because it's too hot during the day," Miss Rudner said. The ascent up steep walls and in thin air was exhausting, but the sunrise and the beauty of the mountain made it well worth it.

"The mountain looks sculptured," Heidi said. "Planes of rock look more like crystal formations than part of a mountain."

THIS WAS NOT Heidi's first trip to Israel. She went with the original Israeli city. This meant digging through six to 10 feet of Roman and Greek ruins first.

"They didn't give us any excavating instructions and no one knew what they were doing, but I still loved it," she said. She doesn't know where she got her love for archaeology. Neither her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Theodor Rudner, nor her 17-year-old twin brothers, Barry and Bennett, have any interests along these lines. Miss Rudner hasn't decided what area and era of archaeology she would like to go into. "I want to find out what is in the United States first," she said. "I have only been exposed to Palestinian archaeology so I can't judge yet."

# Police Given Pay Hike After 'Error' Discovered

By EMORY DANIELS  
The new contract for Farmington Township patrolmen has been implemented after an agreement that there had been "a meeting of the minds" before the Aug. 15 presidential wage-price freeze. Implementation of the new contract was made Monday night by the Farmington Township Board after an admission from the Police Officers Assn. (POA) that the contract previously ratified by POA members had contained a "clerical" error.

THE CONTRACT ratified by patrolmen contained higher percentages for longevity pay at which trustees balked when acting on the pact on Aug. 9.

At that time, the trustees approved the new contract pending agreement on longevity because they considered the percentages in the contract handed them were much too high.

Before a week elapsed, President Nixon announced his freeze and declared new labor contracts could not be implemented after Aug. 15 for 90 days.

John Hedrick, POA president, wrote the township on Sept. 3 that the contract had retroactively been ratified on Aug. 9 and, because it should have been implemented between Aug. 9 and Aug. 14, it was not subject to the freeze.

Monday night, township trustees agreed with the POA interpretation and went on record that the contract had, indeed, been ratified Aug. 9 and was now in effect. The new pay scale, as agreed earlier, will be paid retroactively to April 1, the date last year's contract expired.

TOWNSHIP ATTORNEY Joseph T. Brennan explains that Hedrick and Supervisor Earl Teepley had reached verbal agreement before July 9 that the proposed longevity percentages were too high and

would be dropped as a demand.

But the proposed longevity package was left in the contract by mistake when patrolmen voted on July 9, Hedrick claims. It was the intent of the POA and its members to approve a contract with last year's longevity provisions, he added.

Thus, a meeting of the minds had been reached on Aug. 9 and only the clerical error prevented final, official ratification by trustees.

"It was the board's intent to ratify subject to the longevity provisions and, since these provisions will remain the same as last year, it appears there was a meeting of the minds on Aug. 9," says Brennan.

The board also voted to approve and put into effect an informal agreement with the police department's command officers.

Trustee David Stader commented the board should implement the contract and leave it to the POA to defend, if necessary, what its actual



SCHOLARSHIP — Alan Boring, president of the Kiwanis Club of Farmington, presents the club's James Hunt Memorial Scholarship to Mike Shelly, Farmington Senior High graduate who will be attending Michigan State University to major in physics. The \$250 award is given from money collected from gum ball machines placed around town by the club and is given annually to an outstanding student. (Evert photo)

intent was when voting to ratify on July 9.

"When I first looked at the longevity percentages, they were soinine I figured it must have been a mistake," added Trustee Earl Opperthauser, "so I'm willing to accept their interpretation that it was a mistake."

IN OTHER action, the board authorized Brennan to defend the township and Cpl. Thomas Godwin in a civil suit filed by Mrs. Ruth Kephart seeking \$500,000 damages because of her husband, Edson, being killed last year. Godwin was charged with first degree murder, but the charge was dismissed at pre-trial examination level.

The township's insurance firm, Continental Casualty, has refused to defend Godwin because he is being charged with committing a willful act and not one of negligence.

Brennan says he disagrees with the insurance firm's stance and will bill them for his legal services when the trial ends.

Teepley commented later in the meeting that a settlement for \$30,000 was made by an insurance company with township resident Walter Vetrowsich, who had claimed he had been assaulted by Hedrick. Criminal charges were also dropped against Hedrick.

THE BOARD also voted to have the roof and heating system of the township hall repaired and authorized Brennan to begin a lawsuit against either the general contractor or architect, whoever was responsible for the defects, to collect the expense of repairs.

Brennan also informed trustees that the township's cityhood request would be taken up by the State Board of Commissioners on Wednesday, Sept. 22, at 3:30 p.m. in Lansing.