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what's inside

First Fatality

The City of Farmington experienced its first traffic fatality of the year when an automobile turned in front of a motorcycle on Farmington Rd. north of 8 Mile.

Page 3A

Burglars Foiled

The techniques of professional burglars have become so sophisticated that millions are being spent annually in security equipment. The "security race" has now been entered by Omni Spectra, a Farmington-based firm which serves our nation's outer space program.

Page 6A

Celebration

Five generations were on hand to mark a golden wedding anniversary in Farmington recently. The story is in the Women's section.

Page 1D

Special Parents

Some of them are forming their own organization and getting together on a big project. You can find out why they're special in our Women's Section.

Page 2D

Rehabilitation

An eminent Catholic leader urged a particular kind of rehabilitation when he spoke in this area last week. See what Bishop Fulton Sheen had in mind in our Women's Section.

Page 1D

Amusements	6-7D
Classified Want Ads	Sec. E, F
Cooking, by Ely	9D
Editorial Viewpoints	8B
Home and Garden	4, 6B
Grid Ratings	3B
Readers' Forum	9B
Regional Affairs	8D
Sports—Prep and Pro	1-3B
Ski Heil	2B
Spotlight on Women	1-5D

City Develops Parking Plan For North Grand River Area

The City of Farmington is preparing to enter the first two phases of a plan to provide parking to promote business growth downtown on the north side of Grand River.

The planning commission has approved a four-phase plan and asked the city council to immediately begin implementation of the first two steps.

The area affected is the north side of Grand River about 400 feet east of Farmington Rd. to the Medallion Pool building.

THE FIRST step is to acquire and pave four lots with asphalt to produce 29 off-street parking spaces.

Second step is purchase of the rear portion of the Cooke Building and the small building adjacent to Farmington Bakery, which was once used as a barbershop and now is being used for bookkeeping services.

Acquisition of the two buildings, explains City Manager John Dinan, would not only provide nine more parking spaces but give a better entrance and exit for the newly-created parking lots.

THE COUNCIL authorized Dinan to get cost estimates on acquiring the four lots and two buildings and on the expense of installing the new parking areas.

Motion was made by Ralph Yoder, supported by Fred Siebert, and passed 4-0 with John Richardson absent.

Study on the plan started when the planning commission began developing a downtown redevelopment scheme. Tapan Datta, parking consultant, was retained to help develop the plan for the north side of Grand River.

Dinan said that once costs are known, a special assessment district will be drawn up, and participating merchants will then be asked whether they are willing to pick up the tab for the parking.

Commercial growth on the north side of Grand River has been stymied for many years because of the lack of parking and the hazards for pedestrians parking elsewhere and having to cross Grand River.

Once costs estimates are gathered, a public

hearing will be held for property owners who would be assessed.

THE THIRD phase involves acquiring two more lots to add parking area, entrance-exits and limited turning movement on to Oakland.

Fourth phase would involve the acquisition of the existing factory and three houses at Warner and Thomas streets for further parking improvements.

Phase four, however, has been referred back to Datta by the planning commission for further study.

THE COUNCIL appointed Mrs. Jack Gordon and Harry Robinson to two year terms to the City of Farmington Beautification Committee.

Council also passed a resolution urging the State Department of Agriculture to develop better control methods in combating the Dutch Elm disease.

Dinan noted the city has lost 50 per cent of its elm trees over the past 10 years, even though it has had a continuous spraying program until recently when the use of DDT has been eliminated for environmental reasons.



SAFETY CHECKS—City of Farmington police have been conducting periodic mandatory safety checks looking for operating defects in autos and faulty operating licenses and registration cards on drivers. On Oct. 11, 105 cars were run through and 15 received safety stickers with 90 cars rejected. Of the 90 rejects: six per cent were for defective equipment; 14 per cent were registration violations; 32 per cent were persons trying to avoid the check (mandatory court appearance resulting); and 46 per cent were license violations, driving on an expired, revoked or denied license. The above check is on Farmington Rd. between Grand River and Shiawassee.



WOODDALE CLEANERS—As an ecology project, children attending Wooddale Elementary School of Farmington Schools spent Saturday, Oct. 16, cleaning up the school grounds. Parents joined their youngsters in the all-day clean up. Workers above, assigned to the small trash detail, are Steve Daleiden (left) and Kevin Daleiden. (Evert photo)

City Sidesteps Bussing Hassle

Faced with requests to adopt an anti-bussing resolution, the Farmington city council Monday night decided such action was premature and voted to "receive and file" the letters.

The council also ratified labor contracts with employees in two departments. Copies of anti-bussing resolutions had been forwarded to the council by Farmington Township and Hazel Park with requests that a similar stance be taken by the city.

"I am not in favor of bussing but think that this subject is far too big to be made a political factor," commented John Allen. "Too many people are becoming emotionally involved now on this issue."

ALLEN STATED that Federal District Judge Stephen Roth has not yet ordered bussing and there "is much information to be gathered yet" before Roth or the State Board of Education can come up with a plan to integrate Detroit and suburban public schools.

There are presently no plans to change district boundary lines, Allen continued, and it could take many months or years for this to be done. Allen complimented the Farmington Board of Education for "maturely" accepting the fact that it is too early to oppose bussing because there does not yet exist any plan to bus students across district lines.

"It would behoove the council not to become involved in this type of an emotional reaction," concluded Allen. "Since we are not in any immediate jeopardy, we should receive and file this request in the best interest of the community."

Allen cited editorial comments in the Farmington Enterprise & Observer and in his parish newsletter urging calmness in reacting to the integration order.

Ralph Yoder added he agreed with Allen's comments and supported the "receive and file" motion which passed 4-0 with John Richardson absent.

IN OTHER action, the council ratified a labor contract with Department of Public Works and Water and Sewer Department employees. The contract calls for a wage increase of slightly more than seven per cent over a three-year period.

The pact is to be effective Nov. 14, the day after the wage-price freeze expires, and made retroactive to July 1, 1971. Implementation was made subject to approval of the wage hike by the federal wage board.

The contract also calls for formation of a safety committee which will meet once a month in an effort to prevent on-the-job accidents. The contract contains a wage-freeze clause which says employees are entitled to the full value of the contract provisions. Dinan explained that if the federal wage board decides the wage hike can only be six per cent, the city will increase fringe benefits to give employees the full value of the contract negotiated.

"Since the hourly rates of our employees are quite a bit below what is being paid in other municipalities for similar type work," Dinan explained, "we believe that we should have no problem in having these wages approved by the federal government."

The contract was negotiated over a six-month period and involved use of a mediator and fact-finder before agreement was reached. Ratification was delayed somewhat by the wage-price freeze.

THE COUNCIL also voted to raise the price of lots in the city cemetery from \$50 to \$100 per lot and the grave opening charge from \$65 to \$125. Motion passed 3-1 with Fred Siebert dissenting.

Council passed a resolution asking for a pedestrian signal at Colfax and Farmington Rds. with the city, township and Farmington Schools each

Continued on Page 6A



RAIDER QUEEN — A proud uncle, Bud Kasch, affectionately hugs Dottie Spencer shortly after she was crowned North Farmington High homecoming queen Saturday. Uncle Bud escorted Queen Dottie to the football game to watch the North Raiders defeat John Glenn 17-7. Check inside sport pages for game details. (Observer photo)

TOUCH-DOWN for the HOME TEAM

For exciting accounts of on the field action and behind the scenes reporting, read the **OBSERVER SPORTS** PAGES. Discover the newest high school football stars and the latest college contenders as they vie for state championships.

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