

the farmington enterprise & observer

YOUR HOMETOWN NEWSPAPER

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today's
hot line

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what's inside

Industry Expands

Last year saw announcements from three industries in Farmington to relocate elsewhere. The impact of those closings may have been softened a bit with news of an industrial expansion in Farmington of an existing firm.

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Walks & Roads

Monday night, a discussion was held at the Farmington Board of Education meeting about safety problems for students walking along a major thoroughfare. As could be predicted, the need for sidewalks was also discussed.

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Murder-Mystery

The lights are burning late in the Farmington Players Barn these days as the players prepare for another show set to open this weekend. It promises to be an exciting one, a murder-mystery with a supernatural twist.

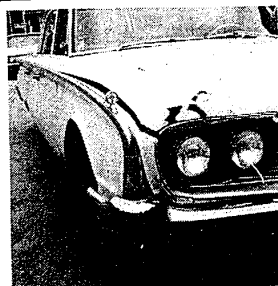
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And 'Frendz'

A. A. Milne's delightful Winnie the Pooh and "frendz" will come alive in Clarendonville High School this month. Scout leaders and the like will want to get their tickets early.

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If you're sick to death of looking at that dull finish and those little dents and rust spots, then end it all once and for all... the easy way. Check today's Observer Want Ads for a new or used car and then place an ad for your auto — CALL 522-0900 TODAY.

observer
want
ads

Board To Use Money-Saver On A New 5th Junior High

By EMORY DANIELS

The fifth junior high school slated for Farmington School District may be developed using a construction management agreement in an effort to reduce building costs. The Farmington Board of Education voted 7-0 Monday night to obtain bids from five contractors who have expressed interest in becoming a construction manager for the new junior high project.

If the bids are within the building and site budget, the board is expected to proceed with this method.

UNDER THIS METHOD, contractors desiring to be construction manager will bid on the cost of the contract plus a fee to cover services, overhead and profit.

The manager signs a contract

guaranteeing the project's cost will remain within the ceiling of his bid. The profit is included in the fee quoted so that any savings revert back to the school district.

The construction manager will solicit all bids from subcontractors and, with the assistance from the architect and schools building supervisor, will award contracts providing the bids are within budgeted amounts.

IT IS THE construction manager's responsibility to insure building plans are followed and to schedule all work so the building is finished on time.

Richard Peters, board president, explains this technique is popular with subcontractors because they are paid when completing

their jobs instead of having to wait months until the general contractor is released from his obligations by the board.

Thus, subcontractors are apt to submit lower bids because they expect to get paid sooner.

After authorizing the administration to get bids from five potential construction managers, the board voted to approve plans and specifications for the junior high.

THE NEW junior high is to be built on a 24-acre site between 14 Mile, Northwestern Highway, Middle Belt and Orchard Lake Rds. in Section 2 of Farmington Township. It is hoped the school will open in September 1973.

The one-story school is expected to cost \$2.3 million

and will house 800 students. Construction funds will come from a bond issue approved by voters in November 1967. This will be the last school to be constructed from funds voted in that bond issue.

Among the innovations proposed for the new school are operable walls which can open and close to provide larger and smaller teaching areas.

It will be possible to convert three rooms into one large complex for group presentation of lectures or films. Adjacent to the complex will be seminar rooms which can be divided in half for small group instruction.

The school will have one gym which can be divided into two sections plus an auxiliary gym and will feature a "cafetorium" which will be

used as both a cafeteria and auditorium.

The building will also contain a special center for the orthopedically handicapped and a room for adjusted study. Such a center has been provided in the new Harrison High but is unavailable in the present four junior highs.

THE DISTRICT used the construction management method for the addition to Shiawassee Elementary School completed last year. At the time, Farmington was the first district in Michigan to use the construction management system.

By using this method, the district saved at least \$40,000 in construction costs for the Shiawassee addition. That contract was awarded to

Matthew Lalewicz of Center Line.

Trustees stressed Monday night that the fifth junior high will be built from existing building and site funds and will not require any additional funds.

THE BOARD also approved final working drawings and specifications for media centers at Middlebelt, Wooddale and Gill elementary schools.

It is expected these media centers will be available for use in September 1972. The three combined will cost about \$341,000, money which also comes from the building and site accounts.

At the end of the meeting, Peters announced he was appointing Trustee Mervyn Ross as his replacement on the Farmington Area Advisory Council (FAAC).

Drake Road Landowners Must Share Paving Costs

By SANDRA ARMBRUSTER

With objections already on record to cluster rezoning along Drake Road, homeowners with property directly fronting or siding on Drake will have another opportunity to voice their opinions on the Drake paving at the next Farmington City Council meeting.

Councilmen learned Monday night that a proposal which would have removed homeowners from the assessment roll would not be bondable, according to the city's bonding attorneys.

Consequently, homeowners attending the meeting were advised to check with City Manager Robert Deadman today for a preview of how the new assessment would affect those persons with property fronting or siding on Drake Road.

UNDER THE former assessment roll, major users including Boron Oil, Drakeshire Apartments, Drake Park, Standard Construction and the Michigan Children's Aid Society would be assessed for \$20,000, with the city supplying the remaining \$20,000 from the general fund.

The council also received a report from Deadman outlining the opinions of three engineering firms who interpreted the soil borings taken from Drake Road.

Because two of the firms found the sub-base of Drake Road to be adequate, Deadman recommended that the council pave Drake with seven inches of deep strength asphalt, with adequate drainage ditches and a five-year guarantee from the contractor.

In an informal discussion with homeowners present, Deadman gave assurances that the pine trees along Drake would remain. He added that the pavement would be 22 feet wide, including the shoulders.

Councilman John Richardson further explained that the council was interested in seeing all of Drake paved and the township has been requested to pave from Drake Park to Freedom Road.

engineer requesting a zoning change for 22 acres fronting Drake Road.

The acreage would be rezoned from R 1 (single-family residential) to R 6 (single-family cluster).

Residents living in Drake Heights, a subdivision fronting on Drake Road, on Drake Road itself immediately voiced objections.

Polozoker's development calls for 90 two- and three-bedroom cluster housing units to be built over the 22 acres. It also provided for 253 parking spaces.

recreation area which would serve as a buffer.

"We feel this is the best and the only way to develop the land," said Polozoker. He added that this type of housing would allow for drainage and for a 15 per cent grade.

AN ATTORNEY for Robert Tilley, whose property fronts Drake Road, cited opinions from three architectural and contracting firms that the acreage owned by Standard Construction would be well suited to single-family detached dwellings in spite of the topography of the land.

Mayor Wilbur Brotherton questioned Polozoker about the differences between apartments and cluster housing. Polozoker replied that cluster units are individually owned, with separate utilities and private areas.

Tilley's attorney countered: "What he proposes is still apartments." He charged that property will be devalued on all surrounding areas, and that the proposal violates the city ordinance which states that "R6 housing should be used as a buffer between other kinds of zoning and R 1. Here it is used as a buffer between R 1 and R 1."

"Not one of the requirements are met as R 6 housing. What the petitioner is asking to do is enrich Standard Construction at the expense of everyone else, and I submit that is not the purpose of zoning," he added.

POLZOKER SAID that the unit designs called for one-half to two-thirds brick exteriors on all buildings, and for 2,100 to 2,500 square feet of living space.

He added that the units would sell from \$40,000 to \$50,000, with an additional

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SELLING FLICKERS — A candle sale will begin this week to raise funds to finance the Farmington Schools millage election campaign for the April 24 vote. The first candles were sold recently to the local heads of government. From left: Mrs. William Makinen, president of

the Farmington Council of PTAs; Holly Orr, Farmington High student; Earl Teeples, Farmington Township supervisor; Gay Norwalk, North Farmington High student; Wilbur Brotherton, City of Farmington mayor; and Pam Chapman, Harrison High student. (Evert photo)

Citizens Hope To Shed Light On School Millage Campaign

In the last millage attempt of Farmington School District, critics correctly predicted there was not a flicker of hope the tax would pass. Now there's a flicker.

The district is asking for additional operating funds in an April 24 election and will finance the educational campaign by selling flickers.

THE CANDLE sale will begin this week and all proceeds will be used to finance the type of campaign the district feels is needed to get a "yes" vote on the millage.

The district is asking for 3.5 mills (\$3.50 per \$1,000 equalized valuation) for one year. This proposal was decided on after the school board had received from the Citizens Advisory Council (CAC) finance committee a recommendation to seek 3.5 mills for three years.

The district is presently using the services of Ned S. Hubbell and Associates with headquarters in East Lansing and Port Huron. Hubbell is a public relations firm which specializes in educational service. One of its basic efforts is to establish a

planned, systematic communication program aimed at realizing community support based on mutual trust.

THE CANDLE sale will be an area wide effort coordinated through the elementary PTA groups initially and later through the secondary schools.

The candles are hand-made in six different shapes and in several colors and scents by Monroe Allen of the Soft Light Candle Co. They are the same candles which have been sold by the Harrison High Band Boosters Club.

The candles sell for \$2, \$3, \$5 and \$14 for a nine-pound candle which will burn for one hour per day for a year.

The varieties include red with strawberry scent, green with pine scent, blue with bayberry scent, and brown and gold with bayberry scent.

The candles, which look like pieces of marble, will be displayed in the local banks and in the Farmington Board of Education office on Shiawassee just west of Power Rd.

Now there is a flicker of hope and "if everyone lit just one little candle..."