

the farmington

enterprise & observer

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YOUR HOMETOWN NEWSPAPER

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today's hot line

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what's inside

Kansas City Woman

The NIAI national basketball tournaments are under way in Kansas City and a North Farmington High graduate is on hand to talk with coaches and players for her radio show which is broadcast weekly in Hillsdale.

Page 3A

Odd But True

Mothers often volunteer to serve schools their children attend. But Longacre Elementary has volunteer mothers working on projects who do not have children enrolled in that school. The story inside is about volunteer spirit and an enterprising principal.

Page 4A

All Aboard

There are two study trips to France in the making for Farmington students. A report on each is given inside along with the names of persons students may contact to sign up for the trip.

Pages 5A, 6A

AAUW Busy

Two local branches of the American Association of University Women are in the news today. Read what they are up to in our Women's Section.

Pages 2,6D

Top Cagers Picked

Here it is, the All-Observer basketball team has been selected by Sports Editor Tom Donoghue and appears in today's sport section along with the cage wrap up and coach of the year. For the complete run-down, flip to the sport pages.

Pages 2, 3B

Amusements	7-9D
Classified Want Ads	Secs. E, F
Cooking, by Elly	118
Deaths and Funerals	138
Editorial Viewpoints	128
Home and Garden	7-8B
Readers' Forum	138
Regional Affairs	108
Sports—Prep and Pro	1-5B
Ski Hill	48
Spotlight on Women	1-6D

Can Township Get Serious About Major Road Paving?

A priority list of mile roads established, possibly followed by placing a road mileage proposal on the ballot. Farmington Township may be Trustees are cautious about

Goldman Is Winner

The former counselor of the Village of Wood Creek Farms is now a councilman.

David Goldman, who resigned as village attorney in January, led the field in the council race in Monday's election by gathering 227 votes.

The election results indicate that the rezoning of Outlot D was clearly an election issue and the number of persons opposed to that rezoning was far greater than those in favor.

ELECTED COUNCILMEN for two-year terms were Goldman and Alvin Albertsen who earned 208 votes to finish second in the race. Albertsen is an incumbent who voted against rezoning Outlot D to office.

The votes tallied Monday night after the polls closed are unofficial but the council race was not close enough to change any outcomes when votes are certified.

Two runners-up in the council race were former council president Norman Kreider with 96 votes and John Anbut with 92 votes. Incumbent William Ortmann trailed the candidates with only 33 votes.

Of all the council candidates, only Ortmann was outspoken in defending the council's 3-2 vote in January to rezone Outlot D.

ALSO ELECTED were village assessor, clerk and treasurer. All were incumbents and ran unopposed.

Mrs. Alice Toth led all candidates by being re-elected clerk with 325 votes. Her husband, William, had been an outspoken critic of the council's rezoning of Outlot D.

George E. Trout was re-elected assessor with 309 votes and Francis Kigar re-elected treasurer with 317 votes.

A total of 333 village residents went to the polls Monday to cast their votes in the Woodcreek Elementary School.

With the election over, villagers will not wait to see if the new council will attempt to vote to reverse the rezoning of Outlot D.

Board Will Keep Faith

A statement was issued Monday afternoon that the Farmington Board of Education has no intention of taking unfair advantage of the recent State Supreme Court ruling which struck down certain restrictions on taxing limitations.

Farmington School District will not use the recent Supreme Court decision as a method of solving its financial problems, stresses Supt. Roderick J. Smith.

THE COURT RULED that although the 1963 Constitution established a 15 mill limit on local taxes which may be levied at the discretion of county allocation boards without a vote of the people, it exempts taxes "for the payment of principal and interest on bonds or other evidences of indebtedness."

Smith said: "This could be interpreted to mean that a school district could borrow money to pay a deficit and then levy a tax to pay off the loan."

The intent of the constitutional restriction was to limit taxing authority of local governments, Smith explains, and an increase beyond that limit would be only by the voted authority of the citizens.

"IT IS THE INTENTION of the Farmington Board of Education to honor the obvious desire of the constitution."

The millage proposal scheduled for a special election on April 24 will continue.

"This is further evidence that the board doesn't intend to take unfair advantage of the court ruling and intends to recognize the right of the citizens in determining the tax for support of the schools."

a millage proposal at this point but are prepared to investigate more deeply which main roads should be paved and in what order.

Such a step has long been prompted by Trustee David Stader, who has been advocating creation of a road committee to make a detailed study and report priorities to the board.

STADER'S PRODDING received impetus when the board received plans and construction estimates for paving Drake and 9 Mile Rds. in the township.

The county estimates the total cost of paving Drake and the unpaved portions of Nine Mile as being \$330,000 with the township's share being \$165,000.

If Drake and the unpaved portion of Nine Mile west of Farmington Rd. are paved, the project cost would be about \$290,000 with the township's share being \$145,000.

Treasurer Thomas Nolan explained Monday night that it has been the township's policy to split the local costs 50-50 between the township and benefiting property owners along mile roads or major thoroughfares. The problem, however, is there are little funds left in the township's matching road funds.

Clerk Floyd Cairns explained that in years past the

Continued on Page 5A



MAN ON THE JOB -- Posed under the handsome sign given to the Farmington Community Center by LaVarway Sign Co., William H. Smith embodies the satisfaction of the constant growth of the Center as a force in Farmington's educational and cultural life. (Fran Evert photo)

Center Needs \$20,000

The declarations by Farmington Board of Education.

"Our goal for this year is \$20,000," Smith says, "and when you consider the tremendous role the center has assumed since its 1968 beginnings, this shouldn't be hard to reach."

Actually, two-thirds of operating expenses are already being met by the income from rentals and the 211 classes held during the past year. This is really phenomenal for such a young organization.

THESE CLASSES, ranging from art to yoga and containing a wide variety of subjects in between, attracted 2,531 members during 1971, and there are 1,000 presently enrolled.

"Persons are inclined to think that payment for their classes constitute a donation to the center," Smith remarks, "but unfortunately this isn't so."

He is also national treasurer of the Association of Cinema Laboratories, is a fellow of the Society of Motion Picture and Television Engineers, and has been deeply involved with the center since its inception.

The Smith family, which includes wife Patricia and three teenagers, lives in Kimberly subdivision. Mrs. Smith is a former trustee on

the Farmington Board of Education. "The class fees pay for the teachers' salaries and the daily upkeep of the meeting rooms, but there are many expenses not covered."

"This year, for instance, we really must expand the parking facilities." (This is required, in part, by the Oakland County Road Commission banning parking on both sides of Farmington Rd. near the center.)

ON A busy day when a number of classes and groups are meeting, the present lot does not begin to accommodate the cars.

A series of mailings will be made to past and prospective contributors during the current campaign. Anyone wishing to donate without such a written request may send a check payable to Farmington Community Center to 24105 Farmington Rd., Farmington 48021.

Originally donated to the

Goodenough family, the center has been in operation since 1968 at a constantly accelerating pace.

With Mrs. Alberta Taylor as executive director and Dennis Pheneas as president of a 21-member board of directors, there are 35 class subjects being offered in a spring term that begins next month.

There are a number of center-sponsored clubs and a constantly changing program of special events and activities for young and old.

Also, some 53 organizations use the center as a meeting place and it is the frequent scene of wedding receptions and family parties.

In summarizing his attitude about the present drive for funds, Smith says: "We hope that generous Farmington donors will continue to make these activities possible through what could be called our Family Participation Campaign."

Police Cars Replaced; Aerial Truck Added

Farmington Township police department will soon have five new police cars in its fleet and the fire department will have an aerial truck for the new fire station when it opens in the Farmington Freeway Industrial Park.

Those purchases were approved Monday night when township trustees met to conduct their regular meeting.

Other actions taken include reappointment of a member to the library board, appointment of a member to the sidewalk committee, agreement to pay for physical examinations for police officers, and approval for the U.S. Army Reserves to use the township park site.

Ronald Holko, director of public safety, said the township will eventually need two aerial trucks but it was

more economical to modify one now because a new aerial truck costs about \$185,000.

Treasurer Thomas Nolan said the \$25,000 will come from the contingency fund as recommended by the finance committee. Other funds were transferred from contingency to equipment-fire equipment

such as new hoses, a new cash register for the treasurer's department, a new general government vehicle, one voting machine and the five police cars.

The truck being modified is three years old and with the aerial equipment will be able to telescope 85-feet high compared to 30-feet now.

It will take about 30 days to modify the truck, Holko added, compared to a six months wait if a new truck were purchased.

Holko also voted to pay \$17 per man for physical examinations for police officers. That provision had been asked for by the Police Officers Association.

Holko reported the plans are completed for the new fire station and the board authorized him to take bids as soon as the plans are reviewed by the building department.

Trustees also voted to promote to sergeant Corporal Thomas Godwin and Patrolman Ernest Miller.

Holko was authorized to attend a four-day labor relations conference in Washington, D.C. at a cost not to exceed \$500.

NOLAN announced that his appointment to the sidewalk

Continued on Page 6A



Good home appliances you don't need anymore are needed by other families... and the cash you get for it will come in handy for things you need now.

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