

# the farmington enterprise & observer

YOUR HOMETOWN NEWSPAPER

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today's  
hot line

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what's inside

## Retirees Organize

The retired teachers who have taught or are living in the area have formed a new organization. You'll learn of this latest group on Page 13B

## What's Going On?

If you are looking for some place to go or learning what is happening in and around the city you'll find out in the Farmington calendar on Page 14A

## Summer Jobs

Oakland County is offering jobs for youth during the summer months. All the details can be found on Page 3A

## For Families

A new kind of conference—designed for the whole family—is coming to the Michigan State University campus next week. You can read about it in Observing Life. Page 5C

## Going FISHing

Four Observersland groups with the single name FISH are dedicated to helping people. If you want to learn more about them, see Observing Life today. Page 1C

## For A Barn

A Livonia artist is putting a lot of effort into saving a sturdy old barn to be part of the city's heritage. She's today's Woman On The Go, and you can meet her in Observing Life. Page 2C

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## Death Trap I-696 Claims Another

Highway I-696 rapidly is becoming one of the worst death traps in the state.

It claimed its eighth victim of the year last Friday afternoon when Rev. Father James V. McGlynn, former dean at the University of Detroit, was killed when his car overturned after passing a truck.

The accident occurred on the eastbound lane about three-fifths of a mile west of Farmington Road shortly after 2 p.m. as he was returning from a conference in Grand Rapids.

This death brings to 14 the number of fatalities in the Farmington area this year and contributes to one of the heaviest local highway tolls in years.

According to the Farmington Hills police, Fr. McGlynn, driving a Maverick, was speeding well over the highway limit when he passed a truck.

Then, swinging back to the lane he misjudged his speed and the car swerved sharply. At this point Fr. McGlynn seemingly completely lost control and the car left the roadway.

The police reported that the car sped toward a ditch, went end over end, leaped about 50 feet, and rolled over, taking the life of the driver.

Father McGlynn, 64, was well known in college circles. He joined the University of Detroit in 1956 as assistant professor of philosophy and

became a full professor in 1966. He was named vice-president and dean of faculties in 1970 and held that position for two years.

A native of Cleveland, Father McGlynn was ordained in 1951 and received his doctorate in philosophy from Louvain University, Belgium. He was the author of four books.

His affiliations included the American Academy of Transportation, the Detroit Center of Christian Studies, the Detroit Women's Symphony and Georgetown University.

Funeral services were held Tuesday morning at Gesù Church, with burial in Colomiere College in Clarkston.



DEATH IN AFTERNOON—Eager hands work feverishly over Rev. McGlynn, but their efforts are in vain as he becomes eighth fatality on I-696. (Ever photo)

Previous to Friday's crash for two other crashes that one accident and five in an highway I-696 was the setting claimed seven lives—two in other.

## Lawsuit Takes Twist In Zoning Of Searle Plat

By W. W. EDGAR

A lawsuit involving the City of Farmington and the Searle Estate over the zoning of the property at Grand River and Gill Road took a new twist Monday night.

It came when the city council, now being sued for denying the Searle estate the commercial zoning it asked, introduced an ordinance for an amendment to the city's master plan calling for the plot to be given office zoning.

"We will just have to ask for an injunction to halt action on the ordinance," warned Earl Demel, the Searle Estate attorney, "and we'll do it right away."

This twist is the latest in a zoning battle that has been going on since last March when the Planning Commission denied a request for a change from R-1 (residential) to C2 (commercial).

A month later the request was brought before council and denied again. Following this denial, the Searle estate, through Attorney Demel, went to court for a decision.

"We expected a verdict before now," said Demel, former attorney for Plymouth Township, "but we agreed to a postponement of the case until Sept. 10 because of the illness of the Farmington city attorney."

"Now, they're taking this move and we'll just have to move with them."

Under terms of the ordinance, the change to office zoning would be made in the master plan and would be difficult to change.

While the ordinance was introduced Monday night, it cannot be passed officially until the next meeting. If adopted, it would become law on publication or early in September.

Accompanying Demel at the meeting was Farrand L. Holmes, owner of the seven

acres adjacent to the Searle property.

Holmes explained that he was agreeable to join with the heirs of the Searle estate in creating a commercial area.

"My property is in Farmington Hills," he said, "and I'd have to get a zoning change, too. But I am hopeful that would be granted."

Demel charged the City Council with a last ditch maneuver Monday night when he called attention to the fact that the proposed amendment to the master plan was not on the printed agenda for the meeting.

"When the action started, he complained that no action could be taken. Members of council countered that the item was placed on the agenda after the regular order of business items was typed."

"We won't overlook that, either, when we get into

court with our request for the injunction," said Demel.

The city is confident that its original denial of the request for commercial zoning will be upheld in court.

"There are several flaws in the Searle case," City Manager Robert Deadman explained, "and when they are brought out, there should be no trouble."

When the council action was concluded on the amendment Monday night, Demel, an old hand at such cases, smiled and remarked: "I'm on the other side of the table now. I handled plenty when I was attorney for Plymouth Township, and now it seems strange for me to be on the other side."

So, the controversy that started with a simple request last March may drag through the courts until the snow flies unless Demel is granted the injunction.

## Portus Case Delayed Again

Arraignment of Charles Portus, 17, charged in the slaying of seven-year-old Keith Minelli of Farmington Hills, has been postponed until Sept. 3 pending a psychiatric report on his competency to stand trial.

Oakland County Circuit Judge Farrell Roberts ordered the delay Monday, the date originally set for arraignment.

Portus has been confined to the forensic center for psychiatric evaluation since his arrest July 21 shortly after the boy's body was found.

He is lying in a field behind the Clairview Court subdivision where he lived. The medical examiner said Keith had been strangled with his shoelace, Farmington Hills police reported.

Portus was staying with his father at 32636 Clairview Drive, one street away from the Minelli home.

Only thing to be considered.

He explained that a move of the court to Farmington Hills would mean that police officers would have to travel out there for all proceedings and that it would be an extra burden on the department. All of which caused Councilman John Richardson to remark:

"Why not build our own court facilities and then ask Farmington Hills to pay rent to us?"

In view of the reaction of the Farmington city council, the one unit court proposal appears to be a long way from reality.



BARBARA BELLEFUEILLE chooses odd summer job

## She Shuns Her Desk To Run Earth Mover

By STEVE BARNABY

While thousands of college co-eds are working as clerks and secretaries to make a girl to go to school as a guy.

With suntanned, braided hair piled on top of her head and a determined look on her face, she ably pilots the mammoth machine, jamming it into gear, forcing it to grasp tons of soil.

"It's not really hard to drive. The hardest thing is getting to know what the whole thing is sort of funny."

Barbara Bellefeuille, a student in Columbia Bible College in South Carolina, has forsaken the traditional women's summer job to work for Warrens and Sons.

The company is presently working on road construction on Drake Rd. between Grand River and Freedom Road in Farmington.

An obviously shy girl with quiet blue eyes that would win over the heart of the toughest construction worker, she forsakes the role of the woman liberationist.

"This really is a man's

job, but it's all right for a summer of work," she says. "Besides the pay is better and it costs just as much for a girl to go to school as a guy."

With suntanned, braided hair piled on top of her head and a determined look on her face, she ably pilots the mammoth machine, jamming it into gear, forcing it to grasp tons of soil.

"It's not really hard to drive. The hardest thing is getting to know what the whole thing is sort of funny."

Barbara's true ambition is to major in physical education after graduating from Bible college and later becoming a missionary.

"I want people overseas to have as nice a life as we do. I see pictures of poor children."

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Working most days from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m., she says lunch hours are devoid of the usual men's jokes and is restricted to "shop" talk.

Her parents, Clarence and Arbutus Bellefeuille, take in stride their daughter's unusual summer employment.

"I work with Dad every day. Mr. Warren and he are the ones who taught me all about the big construction machines," says Barbara.

"Mom just thinks of the whole thing is sort of funny."

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## Farmington Balks At One Unit Court

Whether the 47th District Court will be housed in a new single unit or continue to operate in both the cities of Farmington and Farmington Hills depends on the cost of the proposed combine.

This was the consensus of the City Council in Farmington on Monday night when the court affair was discussed in an unofficial manner.

When asked by several councilmen about the proposal, City Manager Robert Deadman stated that the entire project depended on the cost.

Earlier in the week, Farmington Hills announced that plans were being readied for an addition to their city hall that would house a new courtroom and office space, along with space for new city departments.

At the time, it also was learned that District Judge Michael Hand had asked for a second judge to ease the heavy caseload as part of a plan that would enable him to keep court records in one place.

"It all depends on how much rent Farmington Hills will charge for the use of the facilities," Deadman stated, "and then it will be up to Council to make the decision."

Deadman also informed council that rent was not the only thing to be considered.

He explained that a move of the court to Farmington Hills would mean that police officers would have to travel out there for all proceedings and that it would be an extra burden on the department. All of which caused Councilman John Richardson to remark:

"Why not build our own court facilities and then ask Farmington Hills to pay rent to us?"

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