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today's hot line Bulletin

Mrs. Ida Ventura, mother of Livonia City Council President, Peter Ventura, is in critical condition following a stroke suffered Tuesday in Pompano Beach, Fla. Mrs. Ventura, who lives in Livonia with her son, was visiting her daughter, Mrs. Kenneth Hays. The councilman left immediately by plane.

observerland

REDFORD — Prominent Redford businessman, playwright and civic leader Anthony J. Sansone suffered fatal injuries in a Florida auto accident Monday. His wife, Jean, is reportedly recovering after surgery at Miami Baptist hospital for critical injuries. Their car jumped a highway divider and became involved in a three-car crash. Mrs. Sansone is believed to be the only survivor. Mrs. Sansone was owner and president of Trim Zit Co., 28424 Grand River, Farmington. Requiem Mass is scheduled Friday morning at St. Valentine Catholic Church, 25800 Dow, Redford.

DETROIT — Electrical failure at the printing plant caused a delay in the delivery of this newspaper Saturday. Repairs are being made, and it is anticipated that prompt deliveries will be made in the future. The Observer Newspapers regret any inconvenience to its carrier boys and to its readership.

PLYMOUTH — Voters in the city will go to the polls on April 29 for an election on the Open Housing Ordinance that was passed by the City Commission Dec. 4.

LIVONIA — Livonia's runoff election April 1 will see Mayor Harvey W. Moeke opposed by Council President Peter A. Ventura, who ran more than 3,000 votes behind Moeke in Monday's primary. City Clerk Addison Bacon led all candidates for nomination, swamping his own opposition and second runner Robert L. Allison almost 5 to 1. Three incumbent councilmen led the eight nominees for four council seats, with a woman among the first five. About one-third of the 37,959 registered voters cast ballots.

WESTLAND — The City Council received a report that while it should continue to hire privately contractors to collect garbage and rubbish, companies "are pricing themselves out of business" and cities will be forced to go into the rubbish pickup business themselves.

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up coming

Girls don't have many competitive sports open to them in high school, but one of the most exciting — though rarely seen by the public — is feminine basketball. You'll see it in a picture story in Sunday's edition.



HE'S IN BUSINESS ON YOUR STREET

Your neighborhood boy is gaining valuable business training through his Observer route. The 40¢ you pay him each month for his carrier Subscription Plan assures his success in his first business ventures. Be sure to ask for a receipt, which will guarantee delivery of The Farmington Enterprise & Observer.



TOP OF THE HEAP — John Van Dusen, Jr., 28470 Rollcrest, Farmington, a senior at Our Lady of Sorrows, has been named a finalist in the National Merit Scholarship competition.

Sorrows Senior Is Scholarship Finalist

John Van Dusen Jr., son of Mr. and Mrs. John Van Dusen, 28470 Rollcrest, Farmington, has been named a National Merit Scholarship finalist. Notification of the honor was sent to Sister Laurentia, principal of Van Dusen's school, Our Lady of Sorrows. He is now eligible for college scholarships which will be announced nationally on May 2.

COMMENTING on this second national merit finalist in the history of her school, Sister Laurentia said, "I feel John has an excellent mind. He is a very intelligent boy and has far to go."

School Board Briefed On Parochial Aid Issue

By FRED DELANO

A fast-expanding state-wide controversy over the question of providing state financial aid to parochial schools caught up with the Farmington Board of Education last week when a committee representing proponents of the measure met with the board in an "informational" executive session.

Richard Abowd, chairman of the political action committee of Our Lady of Sorrows school district, said his group asked for the audience with the board "to let them know what's going on and to provide information as to our movement's desires."

From other sources has come information that under the banner of an organization called Citizens for Educational Freedom legislation is being asked which would authorize an annual allocation of at least \$21 million for parochial school assistance.

"Farmington's board of education took no stand on what is rapidly becoming one of the state's hottest political issues of the year, nor did Abowd's committee ask the board to take sides."

WHEN DR. RODERICK J. SMITH, superintendent of schools, was asked to define the administration's attitude toward the proposed legislation, he made this statement: "I have discussed ramifications of this proposed bill with a number of people."

"There's a legal and philosophical question involved of whether such an appropriation would be constitutional, but beyond that is the fact that as of today we don't have even enough money with which to operate the public schools, so where is the other \$21 million to be raised?"

That such an appropriation would be asked of the 1968 legislature burst upon Michigan last week when it was revealed that nearly 100,000 letters had poured into the State Capitol urging passage of the measure.

The well-organized campaign by the CEF was tipped off in Flint Jan. 31 when 300 members of various Catholic parish committees were told by a past president of the Genesee County Catholic school board: "We would like each of you to write five letters (to state officials) by Feb. 15." Similar meetings have since been held throughout Michigan.

Actually, the specific bill asking for the appropriation was not due for introduction in the legislature until this week.

Scheduled as sponsors were Reps. Thomas L. Brown, Lansing, and J. Bob Trazier, D-East City.

Rather than directly underwrite part of the cost of operating non-public schools, the bill would grant parents who have children enrolled in parochial schools \$100 for each such

New City Park Gets Go-Ahead On U.S. Funds

The City of Farmington has received a \$30,000 grant from the federal government to assist in the purchase of 10 acres of land on Drake Rd. for the establishment of a neighborhood park.

Announcement of the Interior Department grant was made Monday by U.S. Senator Phillip A. Hart (D).

Acquisition of the land, which is adjacent to the Longacre School, was called for under the city's 1967 capital improvement program. At that time, the city pegged the cost of the property at \$24,000.

City Manager John Dinan told the council Monday night that the grant made it possible for the city to acquire the parcel "either by negotiation or by condemnation."

When developed, the property would include a ball diamond, tennis courts, a play area and picnic grounds.

The capital improvement program is prepared each year by the members of the City Planning Commission and sent to the council.

While the council does not take official action on approving or rejecting the planner's recommendations it does use

the program as a guideline in preparing the budget for the next fiscal year.

Monday night the council received the 1968 program from the planners.

Included in this year's program are:

- Widening of Farmington Rd. from Eight to Nine Mile;
- Installation of a 12 inch water main from the station on Nine Mile to the reservoir at Grand River and Gill Rd.;
- Improvements in the city park facilities; and
- Construction of a storage building in the Department of Public Works yard.

Council Chooses 13th For Township Confab

Farmington's City Council has chosen Wednesday, March 13, as its first choice of a meeting date with the Farmington Township Board.

The choice was made during Monday night's council session after City Manager John Dinan reported that he had been in contact with Township Supervisor Curtis H. Hall and that two dates—March 13 and March 20—had been proposed.

March 13 was chosen as Councilman and Mayor Pro Tem Howard Thayer said that he would be out of town on March 20.

council one of the trustees told Oppenheimer that "at least it will give you an opportunity to meet Howard."

Thayer asserted that one of the items which might be discussed would be to stop kicking the "cold dog" about city annexation attempts.

He stated that he was "somewhat disturbed" to read in the Farmington Enterprise & Observer that the township again refused to vote funds for the MSU study until it saw a contract written with the stipulation that the study make no case for further annexation attempts.

"This is getting to be a pain in the necky Thayer concluded. Councilman Ralph Yoder told Thayer that he could sit next to Township Trustee Earl Oppenheimer at the session and tell him his thoughts. Thayer retorted "I'll be happy to tell him."

(Thayer once observed that he didn't know and had never met Oppenheimer. Last week when the township board discussed the idea of a meeting with the

ONE OF THE other possible topics for discussion at the joint meeting was suggested by Councilman John Allen.

Allen pointed to the fact that Orchard Lake Rd. was carrying increased traffic and suggested that this might be a good project for the city and township to join forces to deal with the Oak and County Road Commission has had this work done.

When Dinan told Allen that the project would undoubtedly be on a matching fund basis with the city and the city would not be able to afford the work until 1971, Allen replied that if we start now the work might be completed by 1972.

Hall Says Average Hike 18%

Farmington Township Supervisor Curtis H. Hall predicted this week that the average tax increase for township property owners in 1968 will amount to approximately 18 per cent.

Stressing the word "average" as applied to the sector's 18,000 separate parcels of land, Hall conceded that many property owners will find their tax bills showing a considerably greater boost than that. Others will fall short of the 18 per cent hike.

Auto Plate Sales Run Ahead Of '67

One of the advantages of a leap year is the extra day the procrastinators have to put off buying their license plates.

In case you've forgotten state law requires that each motor vehicle display a set of 1968 plates beginning March 1.

That leaves just 10 days to purchase your plates.

JERRY GRACE, manager of the Farmington Branch of the Secretary of State's Office, reports that his office seems to be ahead in its sales over 1967 figures.

"It's hard to get an accurate count," Grace continued, "because of the growth of the area."

Grace noted that at the end of January, license plate sales throughout the state had been made for 60 per cent of the vehicles.



A SHORT LINE — That's the situation in the Farmington Branch of the Secretary of State's office as the deadline nears for purchase of the 1968 auto license plates. Branch Manager Jerry Grace says that sales of the 1968 plates have been off for the past few weeks, but that he thinks Farmington is ahead of last year in making the purchase. Last day to buy the plates is Feb. 29.

Richard L. Lorenz, son of Mr. and Mrs. Leo Lorenz, 25528 Quakeron, Farmington, has been elected a scribe of Delta Gamma Tau fraternity at Alma College. He is a 1966 graduate of North Farmington High School.