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The Farmington

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REDFORD — A proposed Redford Township zoning amendment to create a high rise classification (R4) will go to a public hearing April 18. The amendment provides for apartment, retail and service uses, and bonuses are offered if the development maintains more than a minimum of open land on the cite.

REDFORD — Wayne County 19th District Republicans will hold their convention at Thurston High School Wednesday at 8 p.m. The 92 precincts in Redford, Livonia and Northville will meet there, separate from Oakland County 19th District Republicans. Purpose is to elect delegates to the GOP state convention.

PLYMOUTH — DPW employees unanimously ratified a new three-year agreement between the City of Plymouth and the Teamsters Union calling for an average increase of 25 cents an hour for first year men.

PLYMOUTH — Assessed valuation of the Plymouth area — city and township — jumped more than \$8 million during the past year, according to the assessment rolls filed with the Bureau of Taxation.

PLYMOUTH — Because of the mush-rooming of apartment houses during the past year, Plymouth officials have agreed to slow down the building and take "a second look" before any further approvals are voted.

LIVONIA — The proposed new city charter, to go on the ballot for the second time on April 1 after defeat last November, is still opposed by the Civil Service Commission, which contends that revisions made by the Charter Commission leave the merit provisions undesirable. Mayoral Candidate Peter A. Ventura, however, approves the revised form, while Mayor Harvey W. Moelke; supporting it last fall, now opposes its adoption as not meeting the city's needs.

LIVONIA — The City Council approved a liquor license by the narrowest of margins—4 to 3 — for the new Holiday Inn being built. Opposing councilmen contended that of the Holiday Inn application. One unused license issued in the area in 1851 will be invalidated by the action.

What's Inside

TALUS — the Southeastern Michigan Transportation and Land Use Study — is at about the half-way point, and so far no one is mad at the "data-gatherer." Special feature and pictures on Page 1B.

The only Observerland team to make the high school basketball quarterfinals was defeated by 19 points last week. Page 7B,

Nixon's stock soars as Rockefeller sur-prisingly announces he won't seek the Repub-lican presidential nomination; national news roundup. Page 13A. Amusements, dining 12A

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Music To Your Ears... You're Hired!"

The place to find an employer sing that sweet music to you is in today's Observer Classified Section, Turn ack to the "Help Wanted" back to the "Help Wanted" pages right now and shop
the largest job marketplace in
Observerland.
If you're a shorthanded employer
dial GA 2-0900 to ask for help in
where home



Philip H. Power, Publisher

Muddy Roads Play Havoc With Mail, School Bus Service

By FRED DELAND
Mud proved its mastery over
machines in greater Farmington this week as an early spring
haw brought an unprecedented
breakup of unpaved roads, causing a disruption of mail deliveries, school bus schedules and
even the closing of one school
for three days.
Automobiles, trucks and
buses were trapped in the mire
at the rate of more than 100 a
day, according to CA. Spencer,
manager of the Farmington office of the Automobile Club.

Zoning Hearings Are Set

Two of five rezoning requests submitted to the Farmington Township Planning Commission Thursday night were advanced to public bearings on April 25, as two others were denied and the fifth was delayed for further-

the fifth was delayed for further-study.

The latter, provoking an hour's discussion by the board, asked reclassification from RA-1 (single family) to RC-2 (multiple dwellings) of a 43-acre parcel to permitextension of the Hunter's Ridge subdi-vision at 14 Mile and Orchard Lake Rds.

ke Rds. Currently 17 acres, including 158 living units, are under de-velopment, and the ultimate project calls for final expan-sion of Hunter's Ridge to 100

one possess scheduled for public hearing asks rezoning of 10 lots at the southwest corner of Shawassee and Middle Belt Rds, from RA-4 (one family residential) to B-3 (general business) for construction of an automatic car wash.

The other which gained public hearing sanction proposes professional offices to be built on the east side of Orchard Lake between Bond and Fairfield, The zoning change requested is

The zoning change requested is from RA-1 to O-1 (office dis-

from norther trict).

The board rejected a suggested business development for the area at 13 Mile Rd, and Middle Belt as well as another on Middle Belt between Owenwood and 10 Mile Rd.

On Wednesday afternoon, a tendent of mails at the U.S. this loaded with homeward bound but be pulled by a wrecker from a middle on Firwood, east of Orchard Lake Rd. and north of 13 Mile Rd.

* * Westrook Elementary Westrook Elementary School on Osmus Ave., north of 13 Mile Rd. between Orchard Lake Rd. and north of 13 Mile Rd.

* * Westrook Elementary School on Osmus Ave., north of 12 Mile Rd. between Orchard Lake and Farmington wall deliveries only every time on the present of the impassibility of roads leading to the facility. It will repose Monday only it will repose Monday only the mire to make their the roads are in good enough the roads are in good enough the roads.

through, Westbrook is part of the Clarenceville Sch

enceville School District and an outpouring of more than 50 parents in protest against the horrible road conditions were pacified only when Clarence-ville Superintendent David Mc-Dowell personally salved their bowell personally salved their tempers.
Pupils from kindergarten through the second grade were transferred the last three days of the week to available class-

of the week to available classrooms in Grandview School. Those of the tirry drough sixting grades were shirted to Clarend to continue classes in
face of the problem, 'commented McDowell of the parental blockade which had prevented buses from leaving the
intersection of Eight Mille and
Parker for an hour Wednesday

JOHN GRESEHOVER, superintendent of 'transportation in
the Farmington School District
said that in mid-week it was

the work of the county-wice "Why Have
such the county-wice "White Poperaries the such the premented to Carwice Have a such the such the premented with had prewere the pr

Drake Rd., between 13 and 14 Mile Rds.; Gill Rd., north from Eleth Mile Rd., and said several other route adjustments had been necessitated by impassable spots.
"The mule Is worse than in either of the last two years," said Greschover.
Coincidentally, the Farming-roup organized as an offshood of the county-wide "Why Havb Awful Roads? organization, has another protest meeting sched-nother protest meeting sched-nother protest meeting sched-



Restriction manners — were trial to mounters of pupils according restrictions. Elementary School in the south end of Farmington Township became so angry with road conditions this week that they formed a blockade Wednesday morning, refusing to let pass a bus seeking to transport students to another school. This was the to the pass a job seeking to manaport students to another school. This was the scene at Parker and Eight Mile Rds., before Clarenceville Supt. David McDowell pacified the parents.

City Valuation Up 17%

The total assessed valuation of all real estate and personal property in the City of Farmington stands at \$30,315,520 for 1805, an increase of 17.35 per cen over hast year's figures of 323,024,1230 in 1967, and the city of Farmington stands at \$30,315,520 for 180,500 fo



ONLY MUD STOPS THE U.S. MAIL - Norma Young, driver of a mail delivery truck operating from the Farmington Post Office, views her stranded vehicle

Joint Confab Termed As

"Cordial" and "delighted" are the two adjectives used to describe this week's joint meeting of the Farmington City Council and the Farmington Township.

Township.

The closed door session, the first in the history of the area, was held Wednesday night in the Farmington City Hall.

Other than a prepared statement issued by City Manager John Dinan's office Thursday, not much was forthcoming.

TOWNSHIP Supervisor Cur-tis H, Hall described the two and a half hour meeting as "an exploratory discussion session rather than getting down to the specifics."

City Mayor Wilbur V, Broth-erton agreed with this analysis when he told The Farmington Enterprise & Observer that those present "sort of agreed that the purpose of the group was to sit down and discuss some of our mutual problems without having any precon-ceived notions about solving them."

Brotherton added that he thought the meeting "paves the way for more fruitful sessions."

An organizational structure was established with the chairmanship of the group rotating between Brotherton and Hall, alternatives studies currently underway, According to the prechairman for the session, along An organizational structure

The group will meet again on July 29, Approximately four meetings a year are scheduled on the fifth Mondays of the mouth, On these nights neither group has a regularly scheduled

A joint meeting of the two A joint meeting of the two governmental units and the Farmington District Library Board has been scheduled for Saturday, March 30, to review the proposed Library Building Program and operation.

City officials had met with
.tts representatives on the Library Board to discuss the possibility of reducing the library
tax levy in light of the increased assessments in the

Both groups agreed to present a united front to the Oakland County Road Commission on the widening of Orchard Lake Rd, between Grand River and 12 Mile Rd,

The county agency says that the project is in the future. Brotherton added that bought the meeting "pawes the say for more fruitful sessons."

ACTUAL decisions made in he meeting boiled down to foun hese are:

mutual understanding that the two reports -- Michigan State would be released simulative reports -- Michigan State would be released simulative released standard and procedure scalar standard. And procedure scalar increased part of their releases,"

Hall said that the group prepared statement noted that



ALL TOGETHER -- The first joint session ALL TOGETHER — The first joint session between the Farmington City Council and the Farmington Township trustees was held Wednesday night. From left are Trustee Peter Kloper Trustee Thomas Nolan, township Deputy Clerk Gladys Thomas, Township Supervisor Curtis H. Hall. City Mayor Wilbur V. Brotherton, City Manager John Dinan, Councilman Ralph Yoder and Councilman Hugo Peterson. Councilman

chair and out of the picture just as the circked. Not pictured, are Trustees Earl Opper-thauser and James Skillman, Township Treasurer Elise Avery and Councilman Howard Thayer. Opperthauser and Skillman were late for the session, while Thayer is on vacation. Mrs. Avery is-ill. clicked. Not pictured, are Trustees Earl Opper-