

the farmington enterprise & observer

YOUR HOMETOWN NEWSPAPER

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Weekend of September 23, 1972

today's
hot line

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what's inside

Schools And Labor

The school negotiator resigned, there are three contracts unsettled, and the school board wants new lines of communications with the negotiating teams. It was all dropped on the school board recently, and the story is on:

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Round Table

The student round table, formed to bring the school board and the students closer together, is getting a lesson in divinesness from the adults.

Page 3A

Arts Course

A new "Exposure to the Arts" program opens Tuesday evening in Farmington. It's an easy and pleasant way to hear about all the arts, including fencing.

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Busy Fall

A chicken barbecue, an adult education class, the start of a youth program mark some of the Observerland church activities this week. The church section today reports them all.

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New Beginnings

They come with dedications of two Livonia churches this weekend. Read the stories in our Church Section.

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Unpredicted Enrollment Drop Could Cost Money

By MARY PADEN

Farmington residents' fear of busing may cost the school district \$370,000 in state aid.

A head count last week showed 574 fewer students than expected in Farmington schools. The administration had projected an enrollment increase of 110 students and prepared the budget using an enrollment figure of 16,910.

The district receives \$644 in state aid for each student enrolled on the fourth Friday of the school year.

"I DON'T think there is any

question that the threat of busing had an effect on the enrollment," said Supt. R.J. Smith.

He said school principals were contacting parents whose children were not re-enrolled.

"They are finding that the parents either moved or are sending their children to private schools," he said.

"It's hard for me to believe that the private schools have had that great an increase," he said. "Our Lady of Sorrows (grades one-nine) and St. Fabian (grades one-six) said they had a combined increase of 112 students," he said.

"The districts directly to the west of us seem to be hitting their anticipated enrollment. But there is a lot of construction going on out there, and they probably counted on those houses being filled," Smith said.

"ARE YOU looking for your students?" asked Supt. Robert Lone of the Brighton School District when a reporter inquired about enrollment figures. "I wouldn't be surprised if we've got some of them out here."

He said the enrollment in Brighton, 25 miles out 1-995 from Farmington, has in-

"Principals are finding that the parents either moved or are sending their children to private schools."

--Supt. Roderick Smith

creased by 200 students to 3,980. "It's been going up about the same every year," he said. "Most of them seem to move out from the east, around Detroit."

Lone said Brighton's high school and middle school were on double sessions because of overcrowding and the district was planning to add to the

high school and build and additional elementary school. Novi school officials said their enrollment increased 179 students to 2,100, up nine per cent; Northville's enrollment climbed eight per cent, gaining about 300 students for total of 3,750.

SMITH SAID Farmington had picked up about 50

students the first week of school and may gain more before the fourth Friday "But at that rate, we won't close in on the 574."

"Enrollment does very strange things," he said. The district lost students in the third, ninth, 11th and 12th grades but gained students at other grade levels.

Open Study Sessions Scheduled

By MARY PADEN

The Farmington Board of Education decided Tuesday to open all its study sessions.

It will continue to meet privately after the study sessions to discuss "sensitive matters" such as salary negotiations, contract grievances, personnel matters and land acquisition.

The board had agreed in July to open its study sessions, which are usually held twice a month on the second and fourth Tuesdays, alternating with regular board meetings. But since July, only one of the study sessions has been open.

BOARD PRESIDENT Kenneth Perrin said he had been trying to batch together items which were not of "a sensitive nature" for the open sessions.

"Often we had three items, two of which were fine for an open meeting but one of which was too sensitive to discuss in public. In that case we would hold a closed meeting," he said.

Last week he suggested holding regular open study sessions every second and fourth Tuesday of the month beginning at 7 p.m. and ending about 9:30 p.m. with time limits set on each agenda item. The board will then go into a closed study meeting if necessary.

Aldo Vagnozzi, who has been pushing for open study sessions for the past two years, said he didn't think most of the matters discussed in study sessions were "all that sensitive," and that statements made by some board members in private session have been "misinterpreted to the public."

"I'd rather say what I have to say in the open," Vagnozzi said.

Mervyn Ross suggested that a list of subjects to be discussed in the sessions be distributed to the public.

BOARD MEMBERS agreed unanimously with the idea of holding regular open studies, but Roland Emmitt warned fellow board members against playing to the public.

"I think the board has abused some of the privileges it has asked for," Emmitt said. "I was disappointed that some of the board members did not talk to the rest of the board (at the single open study session) but directed their discussion to the public, which is here to listen and to contribute."

The next open study session will be held Tuesday, Sept. 26 following a special meeting at 9 p.m. At the special meeting, the board will consider paving at Wooddale Elementary School and outdoor lighting for the fifth junior high school, now under construction.



LEGION AWARD -- Glenn Griffin (left) gave the award to Clarence Barber. (Evert photo)

Legion Honors Barber

World War I veteran Clarence Barber returned to Farmington Thursday to accept a lifetime membership in his home post, which both he and his two sons have served as commanders.

The citation was a rare honor, and Barber acknowledged it.

But he was itching to get away again to the peace of the northern Michigan woods and

waters he quit Farmington for 20 years ago.

"TRAFFIC LIGHTS, supermarkets, apartment houses. There's not much room left any more," the 74-year-old former plumbing contractor said testily. "You have to keep moving all the time."

Barber and his wife have just finished building a new

home on Higgins Lake, moving there from Houghton Lake where they've spent the last two decades. In their new home they will be closer to their son, Tom, a plumber in Higgins Lake.

Their other son, Frank, also a plumber, lives at 32342 Loomis Rd. in Farmington. During their stay here they visited at the Hawthorne Rd. home of their daughter, Mrs. Shirley Mynatt.

But the visit was brief. They arrived Wednesday for the Thursday night ceremony and headed back north Monday morning.

Barber, who served on the battleship Delaware in World War I, joined the Legion in 1937. He served as post commander in 1946. He retired in 1954 after 14 years in Farmington as a plumbing contractor and moved to Houghton Lake.

'Walk' Organizers Look For Walkers

The Farmington "walk for mankind" organizers are soliciting funds and walkers for the "walk" around Farmington Oct. 7.

The Farmington Jaycees, who are coordinating the project, have held assemblies in the local high schools to explain the program to the students.

The students are looking for sponsors who will be asked to donate money for each mile walked. Three fourths of the money will go to "Project Concern," an international

medical aid program. One fourth of the money will go to local projects.

The Jaycees have selected the Farmington Area Advisory Council, the Farmington Community Center "Rap Line," and the Youth Employment Service at the local charities.

Caught

A man was caught in the act of burglarizing Raupp Campfires Co., 2859 Orchard Lake Rd., and pleaded guilty on arraignment before Judge Michael Hand to a charge of breaking and entering.

Farmington Township police answered an open alarm at the camping supply store and found Thomas H. Rogers, 20, Troy, crawling on the floor, according to Director of Public Safety Ronald Holko.

Car Port Bids Asked

The Farmington City Council has asked the city manager to get bids on a six-bay carport to house police cars near the city hall.

Federal Money Sought For Quakertown Sewer

A sewer project to serve Quakertown and the northwest portion of Farmington Township has been officially designated a "pollution control project," and application has been made for federal and state assistance for the expensive pipe.

The township board, at a special meeting with Quakertown officials, designated the area to be served by the project a "pollution control area," a step necessary to qualify for some federal aid.

Township Clerk Floyd Cairns said it is possible to get up to 75 per cent of the project's \$3 million plus estimated cost paid by state and federal grants.

THE MONEY the township is aiming at has not yet been appropriated by Congress, but Cairns says about \$7 billion might be available for sewer construction under a proposed pollution control bill.

Application has been made to the State Water Resources Commission, water pollution division, for approximately 25 per cent of the funding, Cairns said.

The project, called the "10 Mile Rd. arm," is a proposed pipe which will probably be built from a point near Orchard Lake and 10 Mile, up Farmington Rd. to about 11 Mile Rd. where it takes off across country along the route of the Rouge River.

Township and Quakertown Officials heard the results of an engineering study that presented this route, which would involve pumping stations, along with an earlier proposed route through the "Quakertown valley," which has been objected to on the grounds it would ruin the valley.

The township did not act on the route, but designated the area to be served by the sewer a "pollution control area."