

the farmington enterprise & observer

YOUR HOMETOWN NEWSPAPER

15¢ a Copy

Thursday, January 4, 1973

Volume 84 Number 4 • Four News Sections

Year In Schools

The school year is reviewed by Farmington School Board President Kenneth Perrin in a year-end statement in today's Enterprise & Observer.

Page 3A

Year In The City

Departing Mayor Wilbur Brotherton caps off his last year in city government with a summary of 1972, reviewing the progress and growth of the community.

Page 4A

Trashy View

People may not like to look at trash, but the truth is that it's piling up, up, up. Are local and regional officials doing anything about it? Some are, some aren't.

Page 14B

Who's Spending What

When the Michigan Supreme Court decided the method of school financing was unconstitutional, it focused everyone's attention on who is spending how much, and how much state aid local districts are getting. Here's an eye-opening report.

Page 4B

Women's Lib

Just what is its impact on suburban living. We've talked to a few people in Observerland about it, and come up with some interesting answers. You can read them in today's Woman's Section.

Page 1C

Amusements	8-9B
Classified Want Ads	Sec. D
Community Calendar	5C
Cooking, by Elly	11B
Deaths and Funerals	13B
Editorial Viewpoints	12B+
Home and Garden	5-6B
Readers' Forum	13B
Ski Heil	3B
Sports--Prep and Pro	1-3B
Spotlight on Women	1-4C
Turf Tips and Quips	2B

Little things
are
important

Ever try and diaper a baby without a safety pin? Little things are important — babies AND safety pins. Like Classified Ads. They do more things for more people at lower cost than any other form of advertising! Buying...selling...hiring...finding...renting or just telling...a small, low-cost OBSERVER WANT AD will do a big important job for you. It's easy to place your ad... just call 522-0900

5-Car Crash Blamed On Ice From Kenwood

By DAN McCOSH

Frozen water being pumped from chronically flooded Kenwood St. onto Eight Mile Rd. in Farmington Township is blamed for a five-car pileup which injured several people, none seriously, in a crash Monday evening.

The flooding condition, which has existed several years on Kenwood and has earned the area the nickname "Lake Kenwood," was being pumped dry in preparation for repairs to the clogged drain blamed for the six feet of water on the road, according to township officials.

The discharge from the pump was dumped onto Eight Mile Rd. to run into a catch basin. Freezing temperatures Monday iced the pavement.

AT 8 P.M. MONDAY a car driven by Sally Gregory, 38333 Grand River, apparently

skidded and collided with a car driven by her husband, David Gregory, starting a series of collisions eventually involving three more cars, according to township police reports.

Incomplete reports indicated two were injured, neither seriously.

The first patrolman at the scene also reportedly stepped onto the icy surface, slipped and injured his back against the squad car door.

The icing condition had been reported both the night before the accident and on at least one other occasion when pumping was being done in the area in freezing weather, the Enterprise and Observer has learned.

TOWNSHIP Supervisor Robert McConnell said he was not aware of the accident when contacted Tuesday, but

had ordered the pumping stopped "around 8 p.m." when the icing was reported.

"We have been trying to do something about the situation, down there — sometimes you can't win," he added. "Weather permitting, the drain should be open within 24 hours."

An obstruction in the drain on Kenwood was being removed, several manholes would be added, and selling traps constructed to insure it would remain open, McConnell said.

The pump had been running during warm weather, but was stopped, then apparently started again in the evening. That was when he ordered it stopped again because of the reported ice.

He added pumping water on Eight Mile was the "only way" to drain the area, because of the low level of Kenwood.

Fred W. Warner

Jr. High Is Named

The fifth junior high school, 36300 14 Mile, has been named the Fred W. Warner Junior High after months of consideration by the Farmington School Board.

The Farmington resident, and first three-term governor in Michigan was given the nod at the Tuesday meeting of the board.

WARNER was governor from 1904 to 1910 and also served as secretary of state, state senator and member of the Farmington board of education.

Aldo Vagnozzi, board vice president, said consideration of the name was always at the top of the list because it was a name unique to Farmington.

"Usually a school is named after a national celebrity, and

soon many schools around it have the same name. They become difficult to distinguish," Vagnozzi said.

"The name of Warner will be unique to Farmington," Vagnozzi said naming of the school was in recognition of the entire family who have been long-time residents of Farmington.

Warner's house still stands at Grand River near Shiawassee.

Kenneth Perrin, board president, thanked residents of the community for the name suggestions sent to the board and said a letter would be sent to the Warner family telling them of the board decision.

AMONG THE suggested names under consideration

were Neil Armstrong, first man on the moon; J. Edgar Hoover, former director of the FBI; George Romney, former governor of Michigan; John F. Kennedy; and Gov. William Milliken.

Local celebrities also made the list of favorites up for consideration. Among those were Earl Teeples, former supervisor of Farmington Township and Wilbur Brotherton, former mayor of Farmington and presently an Oakland County Commissioner.

Arthur Lamb, recently deceased long-time resident of Farmington who once served as mayor, made the list, along with Rex Cawley, a Farmington resident who at one time was on the United States Olympic team.



MARGARET LACHANCE, winner of \$50,000 in the Michigan State Lottery, is a resident of Farmington and a teacher at Edgewood School in Clarenceville. (Evert photo).

A Local Teacher Is A Big Winner

By STEVE BARNABY

A once a week trip to the cleaners to buy two state lottery tickets paid off for Margaret LaChance of Farmington when she won \$50,000 at last week's lottery drawing at Okemos.

Miss LaChance, 30, a teacher at Edgewood School in the Clarenceville School District, says she is still a bit taken back by the whole thing and really doesn't know what she is going to do with her recently acquired windfall.

"MY LAST name means 'the luck,' but it never said good or bad, just luck," she said.

Relating her experience, she explained she almost overlooked checking out her ticket numbers after they had been publicly posted.

Her sister finally reminded her. "I couldn't believe it. After I called the cleaners and asked him to repeat

the winning numbers, I really got excited."

Not one to give up, Miss LaChance still wanders down to the cleaners once a week and buys two lottery tickets to see what her luck will bring her.

SHE RELATES one odd experience she has already had since winning, when she went to the bank to deposit her first \$10,000 allotment.

"The banker couldn't believe it. He just kept counting the number of zeros over and over again like it was a mistake," she said.

Even though she will receive a \$10,000 check from the state once a year for four more years, she has no intention of retiring.

Miss LaChance was one of 12 winners in last week's super drawing who share \$680,000 in prizes. The \$200,000 winner was Donald Lewis of Detroit. Nine contestants received \$50,000 and three walked away with \$10,000.

What Were Top 1972 Stories?



PLANE CRASH -- When this plane crashed through the roof of a Farmington supermarket, Enterprise & Observer photographer Ralph Evert

caught this picture at the scene of the top news story of 1972.

By DAN McCOSH

David Dalpian, a Livonia pilot, was taking multi-engine instruction in a twin-engine Beechcraft Baron June 6, when the plane bobbed at low altitude, then plunged through the roof of the Farmer Jack supermarket in downtown Farmington.

When Dalpian crawled out of the gasoline-soaked wreckage, seven people were injured, including three in the supermarket and four in the plane. Miraculously, none was killed.

Enterprise and Observer reporter Sandra Armbruster, on her way to cover a meeting of the Farmington School Board, stopped when she noticed the crowd gathered just minutes after the crash. The phone began jangling with eye-witness accounts.

Free lance photographer Nick Merrick and regular Enterprise and Observer photographer Ralph Evert arrived minutes later, and one of the biggest news stories of 1972 in Farmington was being covered.

WHILE DISASTER dropping out of the sky was the biggest story, more subtle pervasive changes were taking place in the community.

The community was abraded by a rough and tumble, unsuccessful, millage

election, and the firing of Dr. Roderick Smith capped several years of divisiveness among local school groups.

Twelve thousand voters April 24 turned down a school board millage request by a bare 230 vote margin.

That defeat, which was supposed to reduce a proposed \$17 million budget by \$1.2 million, was followed by a fund-raising effort to save athletics by a citizens group. The election of William Corliss hardened a growing split on the school board between "liberal" and "conservative" factions, which came to a head when the board split on the firing of Dr. Smith.

FARMINGTON TOWNSHIP may be moving towards cityhood, as years of elections and court battles ended with the State Boundary Commission ruling in favor of an all-inclusive City of Farmington. Hills in January, followed by the election of a charter commission in April.

The significance of that election, when cityhood promoter Robert McConnell, drew more than Supervisor Earl Teeples, wasn't lost on Republicans seeking Teeples defeat.

Teeples remained non-committal on cityhood, and McConnell, drafted for a primary fight, defeated him.

Continued on Page 3A