

# the farmington enterprise & observer

YOUR HOMETOWN NEWSPAPER

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## The Band Plays On

### Pottery Show

A local artist is helping the Farmington Community Center raise funds. The story of the artist and his work is on:

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### Something New

Looking for something to do? The most complete list of happenings around Farmington is in the Community Calendar, on:

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### Bizarre in Religion

That's the topic of today's contribution from our religion columnist, the Rev. Lester Kinsolving. It's in today's Church Section.

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### Join A Band?

If you are just out of high school or college and don't feel like "hanging it up musically," a Garden City band is looking for you.

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### Pins Are Falling

Bowlers in Observerland are starting to find the mark as the season reaches the mid-way point. For the latest "In the Pocket" news, flip to

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## FOCUS: Suburbia

### NEWCOMERS GUIDE

This  
Week!

READ WHERE  
YOU CAN  
FIND THOSE  
SERVICES OF  
YOUR NEW  
COMMUNITY.



"Farmington is a community that is wealthy in the kind of background you need for a band."

--Paul Barber

By DAN McCOSH

In October 1968, six persons showed up in the Harrison High band room for the first rehearsal of the Farmington Civic Band.

Tuesday, Jan. 30, the 65-piece Farmington Community Concert Band will play the first concert of the season at North Farmington High.

Between these two dates, an institution has matured to provide entertainment, recreation and a kind of identity to the Farmington area.

"I WANTED to have a good-sized band," Conroy said. "My forte is the large en-

semble, and I didn't want it too small-limiting the kind of music you can play."

And I think Farmington is a community that is wealthy in the kind of background you need for a band--a lot of people have played before.

"Actually, I would like an orchestra, but a band is a more mobile group, and we have more wind players. Maybe some day..."

WILLIAM CONROY, an exchange band trumpeter whose working disguise is mild-mannered insurance agent, was one of the local residents lured back to the world of bang, banjo and harp.

"The exchange club was looking for a project in 1969,"

he said. "A board of directors, with representatives from the city, township, schools and the club was formed then."

Backing from the Exchange Club, which provided both the organization and later some cash for uniforms, made a big difference to the group.

There followed a period of building up the group's reputation. Concerts at Oakland Community College, the Michigan State Fair and a National Music Week program gave them exposure.

The music, too, became more complex, as serious concert works were added to the program.

The band began a regular summer series at the community center and began

playing regular concerts in the high school.

Conroy, who joined to play the trumpet, found his talents as executive director and announcer cut into his practice time, and now he only sits in once in a while.

BAND MEMBERS are doctors, engineers, teachers, you name it," Conroy said.

About half the members are adults, the other half advanced students.

"You can just come to a Tuesday night rehearsal and sit in," Barber said. "Of course, some find they have to go home and work up to it, but



TRUMPETERS William E. Harrison, Raymond Bologna, and Byron Suszek warm up

for the concert. (Photo by Fran Evert)

we don't turn any adults away."

"At least part of our purpose is recreation. Some parents play with their kids--they seem to enjoy that."

Students must "try out" to earn a seat with the group. "There isn't any generation gap," Conroy said.

"Paul treats the adults and the kids just the same--he doesn't hold back."

CONCERTS ARE free, but they print tickets anyway, since it turned out to be a useful "gimmick" to remind patrons of the concert date.

On top of the Exchange club backing, a system of "boosters," who get their

name on the program, in exchange for contributions, finances some of the program.

One popular performance is the "Pop Concert," scheduled March 31 this year, where cabaret tables are set up for a special performance.

There the "stage band," which performs dance-band classics, gets a chance to play.

TUESDAY'S concert is a typical winter program, including the finale from Shostakovich's fifth symphony and the overture from "The King and I." The concerts last about 1½ hours, and refreshments are served afterwards.

## Chamber Holds Annual Dinner

The annual meeting of the Farmington Chamber of Commerce, naming the new directors and the "citizen of the year" is Tuesday, Jan. 30, at

the Boisford Inn, 28000 Grand River.

Robert McConnell, Farmington Township supervisor, will be guest speaker.

The dinner begins with a social hour at 6:30 p.m., followed by a 7:30 p.m. dinner. Tickets are available from the chamber office.

### Final Hearing On Charter In FHS

The final public hearing on the proposed charter for the City of Farmington Hills will be in Farmington High School on Jan. 31 at 8 p.m.

The hearing is expected to test public sentiment for the proposed charter, which will be put to a vote May 8.

### Farmington MD Plans Program

Lee Stevenson, a Farmington medical doctor, is helping to plan the 1973 conference on maternal and perinatal health to be in the Olds Plaza Hotel in Lansing, March 21 and 22.



TEACHER Bobbi Adams is one of the adult members. Ken Notestine and Tom Boston are the other percussionists. (Evert photo)



JEFF STOUPPE is the community band tuba player. (Evert photo)



FATAL CRASH -- Seymour Glassman, a local businessman who lives in Southfield, was

killed in this car following a head-on collision on 12 Mile Rd. (Photo by Ralph Evert)

## Fatal Crash Is The First This Year

Farmington Township Police are investigating the cause of a two-car crash that claimed the life of Seymour Glassman, 19629 W. 12 Mile, Southfield, Thursday evening.

Glassman was leaving his accounting office at 31700 W. 12 Mile, Farmington, when a car driven by James Hunter, 26, of Troy, allegedly crossed the center line and collided head-on with Glassman's car, according to police reports.

Hunter and his passenger, Lisa H. Marshik, 20, of 32210 Farmersville, Farmington, were taken to Botsford General Hospital where Hunter was treated and released.

Miss Marshik was transferred to Providence Hospital. No tickets were issued at the scene.

The crash was the first fatality in the township this year. There were seven fatalities in the township last year, in five accidents, according to township police.