

# the farmington enterprise & observer

YOUR HOMETOWN NEWSPAPER

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## Money Comes In To Reward Fund

Nearly \$1,000 has already been received by the newly-formed "Susan Jaeger reward fund," according to backers of the latest attempt to discover the whereabouts of the seven-year-old missing since last June.

The Jaegers said they believe their daughter is still alive.

A ransom call a week later was the strongest evidence their daughter is still alive.

She was kidnapped from their tent while they were in Montana camping last summer. A massive search following the abduction was unfruitful.

according to the Jaegers, since a description of a birthmark was given which was unknown even to the FBI.

A non-profit corporation was formed by several neighbors of the Jaegers.



"We believe  
Susie is still  
alive,"  
--Mrs. Jaeger

SUSAN JAEGER

## School Opening Problems Troubling Neighborhood

By DAN MCCOSH

The birth pangs of Farmington's newest school, Fred M. Warner Junior High, on 14 Mile Road at North-western, have become headaches for surrounding residents.

The new junior high opened its doors for the first time this fall, but residents in the area are beginning to notice some problems:

• There is no sidewalk or entrance from the school to

Briarcrest, the street serving the subdivision behind the school.

• A retention basin designed to catch storm runoff water is an unfenced pond, now surrounded by ungraded piles of mud.

• Screening between the school parking lot and neighbors' homes is inadequate, some residents claim.

All the problems are being worked on, according to school officials.

The stickiest is the side-

walk. An easement is being negotiated, either along the highway to Briarcrest, or a walkway cutting between the houses facing the street.

Business Manager William Prisk said there has been some problem getting the easement.

The pond, which is located south of 14 Mile along North-western, will be graded as soon as a current equipment operators strike ends, school officials said.

It currently collects about

six to eight inches of water over most of its area, and in rains gets over a foot deep.

"We are worried about the children playing there," a resident said. There was some evidence small children were already being attracted to the pond.

Grading the bottom will prevent most of the water from collecting when it is completed according to the design. Completion of a major drain along North-western, several years away,

will also help, Prisk added.

The neighbors who face the school, used to having their homes back up to a vacant field, will have to wait, however, since a lawsuit concerning required screening is still in court, Prisk added.

Many of the houses backing up to the school property have extended their rear yards well over the property line.

"We try to make good neighbors, we don't have too many problems," Prisk said.



KIDS GOING HOME from Warner Junior High mingle with the traffic along 14 Mile Road, demonstrating the need for a sidewalk in the area. (Photo by Ralph Evert)



A POND attractive to small children is the result of an unfinished retention basin behind the school. (Evert photo)

## Citizens Advisory Group Is Dissolved

The Farmington Board of Education has disbanded a resource committee organized more than two years ago to study and report on special subjects.

The Farmington Schools Citizens Advisory Council (FSCAC), since its origin in March, 1971, provided the board with information including reports on school census, maintenance and improvements, millage issues,

extended year program, media center construction, curriculum and community relations.

"The committee was disbanded because there didn't appear to be a sufficient number of important tasks that could be worked on in a formal situation," explained Richard Justice, former chairman of FSCAC.

Justice added that both the board and committee agreed

it was time to end the standing committee status of FSCAC.

"The board will appoint independent study groups to report on current problems on an informal basis as needed," continued Justice.

FSCAC was composed of an average of 45 parents and 10 students. General meetings were held three times a year with special groups meeting as often as needed.

## VFW Honors Car Crash Samaritan

Robert Falls, a 1970 graduate of North Farmington High, was presented with a heroism citation by the Farmington VFW at its 28th anniversary dinner recently.

Falls was credited with saving the life of two-year-old Nicholas Smart, whom he rescued from a burning car.

Falls rescued the child after a crash which killed the child's mother.

He pulled him from the car and revived him using mouth-to-mouth resuscitation and chest massage, then continued in a police car on the way to the hospital.

He received the award at a ceremony which also honored the past commanders of Post 4033.

## Busing Suit Lawyers Named

Farmington School District, its superintendent and the board of education will be represented by the firm of Butzel, Long, Gust, Klein and VanZile in the Bradley vs. Milliken and the Farmington Board of Education suit.

The board approved the representation following a summons which was served Sept. 25, adding Farmington to the list of districts already involved in the desegregation case.

## Area Camporee Is Scheduled

Scouts from troops in the Farmington area will be attending their annual Fall Camporee Oct. 12-14. Along with them will be about 300 scouts from the southwest Oakland County area.

This year's Camporee is being held on land behind and belonging to Centaur Farms on Drake Road just north of Maple Road.

The main activities will be held during the day on Saturday, starting with first aid and ending with the campfire that night.



GROWING GRASS on a corn cob is the latest method used by the Hill and Dale Garden Club to sow seeds of knowledge in the

minds of youngsters. Here Mrs. Phyllis Borst, one of the officers, describes planting and development. (Photo by Fran Evert)

## Garden Club Is Sowing Seeds Of The Future

By W.W. EDGAR

Most garden clubs devote the major portion of their time to the study of flowers and their arrangement to produce colorful gardens.

But the Hill and Dale Club of Farmington, goes much further than that. This group of women, now numbering more than 100, is planting the seeds of knowledge in the minds of the area's retarded children with a program that has won state and national acclaim.

The program, started in 1961, has been labeled "garden therapy" and classes are now conducted for 185 students in nine school buildings.

"These children engage in little activity other than traveling from home to school

and back again," stated Mrs. Albert Borst, one of the volunteer instructors, during a class at Fairview School. "And they never get a chance to see wild flowers. So, we try to make up for this shortcoming."

During the classes, which are held bi-monthly, the children, who range in all ages up to the teens, are taught planting and growing floral arrangements.

"It is a continuing program," Mrs. Borst explained, "and we move with the seasons. We now are working with autumn material and shortly will go in to the holiday series which will include Christmas mobile arrangements of dry materials for a balanced display."

One of the major undertakings this fall is the devel-

opment of a greenhouse program. Through donations and volunteer help, 20 miniature greenhouses have been acquired and the children put to work in planting seeds.

The next step is what is termed a terrarium, or bottle garden, in which the children plant seeds and then watch the plants develop.

During a visit to Fairview school the children were seen drilling holes in corn cobs and were busily engaged in filling the holes with soil and planting seeds. They do the same with sweet potatoes and gleefully enjoy the results when the seeds sprout and plants develop.

"Our members are always collecting items that can be used by the children," Mrs. Shirley Kieley remarked. "I have a 'savers' list in my

own kitchen. Many are the things I save for the children that I used to throw away."

Thus far the program has produced results far beyond expectations and the club has been given the Michigan Award of Merit for six continuous years. Aside from these the club also has won the National Council Award and state and national honors for distinguished service.

The students, who refer to the volunteer teachers as "garden ladies," include those who are suffering from mental retardation, emotional disturbance or are otherwise physically handicapped.

The volunteer teachers give of their time and effort aside from donating materials used in the various projects. The activity is fi-

Continued on Page 3A

## what's inside

Benefit for Center .....	7A
'The Hamp' returns .....	9B
North Raiders explode again .....	2C

Amusements .....	8-10B	Home and Garden .....	11-13B
Classified Ads .....	Sec. D	Observing Life .....	1-6B
Sec. D .....		Readers' Forum .....	4A
Community Calendar .....	6A	Sports .....	1-5C
Court Jester .....	2C	Turt Tips .....	5C
Deaths .....	14B		
Editorial .....	4A		