

# Farmington Observer & Eccentric

Volume 86 Number 76

Thursday, July 10, 1975

Farmington, Michigan

60 Pages

Fifteen Cents



The Pauline house has been added to the City of Farmington's historic district. (Staff photo by Harry Mauthe)

## Teacher collects Civil War pictures

By CORINNE ABATT

The photographs in Dave Finney's collection are worth many thousand words. They are small—most about two inches square, a few slightly larger.

A North Farmington High School history teacher, Finney has been collecting photographs and information about his favorite subject, the Civil War, for many years. His interest started when he was 12 and bought his first books on the war.

When Finney brings his collection to class, pictures of the soldiers from high ranking officers to privates, photos taken to send to relatives and friends, the war becomes a struggle between people rather than faceless armies.

He removes a photo of a handsome, dignified officer from the square, carved leather album.

"See what's written on the back," he says. In fine-penned handwriting it reads: "Lt. Col. O.J. Crane, 7th Ohio Vol. Killed Nov. 27, 1863, at Ringold while leading his Reg. in the scaling of Taylor's Ridge—no braver officer ever made a sword leap from its scabbard."

NOT ALL are so well documented or with such dramatic impact. But because of the processes used and either the reverse stamps or the photographer's name on the back, most can be dated.

Photography started in the U.S. when Samuel Morse, inventor of the telegraph, brought the daguerrotype process from France in 1839. Daguerrotypes are copper plates dipped in a silver iodide emulsion and held over mercury vapor fumes.

Exposure was anywhere from 30 seconds to three or four minutes for portraits, explaining why so many of the subjects have a frozen look. They had to sit immobile without blinking or twitching while the camera shutter was open.

"You can always tell a daguerrotype," says Finney. "It is a shifty, mirror image."

One famous daguerrotype of President Abraham Lincoln, his wife, Mary, and his son, Robert, has yet to be found.

When the photographer finished it, Lincoln challenged, "That's not a picture of me," of the pictures produced from these ventures.

Several Brady photographers—Jim Gibson, Timothy O'Sullivan and Alexander Gardner—achieved recognition on their own. Gardner, upset with the

Brady stamp on his work, left his personal signature mark (two shoes in a far corner) as often as possible.

PHOTOGRAPHS of Union soldiers are far more prevalent than Confederates. It is a simple matter of economics. It is a simple matter of economics.

Continued on Page 2A



Teacher-lecturer, Dave Finney is a Civil War buff and member of Michigan Civil War Roundtable which recently moved to Farmington. (Staff photo by Craig Newman)

## Pauline house added to historical district

FARMINGTON—A house owned by Mr. and Mrs. David H. Smith of Farmington will be included in the city's historical district.

Called the "Pauline House," it was built in 1891 on what is now Oakland Street.

The historical commission recently voted to include the house in the historical district.

Councilman John Allen, an architect, inspected the house at the request of its owners. He said it was representative of early Victorian architecture, in contrast to the neoclassic style of most of the rest of the district's homes.

The home was built for Percival

Pauline, who lived in it after its construction. It was partially remodelled in the early 1930s.

THE HOUSE is one of many still being considered by the commission for inclusion in the historical district. Commissioners are studying homes and sites to determine boundaries and features which they will present to the state and national register.

The present historic district includes houses north of Grand River and adjacent to Shawnee on Warner Street in the east, westward to the Grand River-Shawnee intersection.

Other boundaries include residential

properties along Warner and Oakland streets, with the exception of the Heene-Sundquist Funeral Home, and lot four of the Ebenezer Stewart plat.

Several individual sites throughout the district are also included in the commission's description of the historical district.

Commission Chairman Paul Schreiber said he was presently writing texts for permanent markers commemorating Oakwood Cemetery, the fire of 1872, the first post office, Quaker cemetery, the oldest house, the village center and two early rail-sites.

Howard Aldrich of Farmington was named a new member of the commission.

## Farmington backs new drain in Chatham Hills subdivision

FARMINGTON—Ice-damaged pavement and water damaged roads in Chatham Hills subdivision have caused city councilmen to propose the installation of edge drains at no cost to homeowners.

A hearing on the proposal will be 8:30 p.m. July 21 in the city hall. Total cost of the project would be \$4,500, part of which would be paid from Comprehensive Employment and Training Act (CETA) money. The city would pay the remaining \$2,500.

Householders in the subdivision were caught in the middle of an Oak-

land County regulation change on sump pumps which said pumps could not empty into the county sewer system.

"THE PROBLEM was created when Oakland County passed a regulation prohibiting the connection of water gathered by the weeping tile system around the basements directly to the sanitary sewer system," said City Manager Robert Deadman.

The regulation was passed at approximately the same time the subdivision began construction. At that time, the city required the installation

of sump pumps to pump the water from the weeping tile system. The water could be discharged either behind or in front of the home.

"Many of the residents have extended the discharge lines so the water runs either on top or underneath the roadway in front of their homes."

"The water has caused damage to the roadway by undermining the road with ground water. Those homes which have extended the discharge so it spills onto the road surface are creating an icing condition during the winter season, thereby creating a safety hazard for persons traversing the road system," Deadman said.

The city instructed city engineer Frank Papke to study the problem and suggest solutions.

Papke's plan is to connect the sump pump hoses to a small drain which

would run along the curbs in the subdivision.

The drains would be installed on parts of Lansburg Lane, Houghton Road, Victory Lane and Saxony Street. Homeowners would be required to join the system.

DEADMAN SAID four-inch open joint plastic pipe would be filled with float stone, which would allow surface water to be picked up by the drain.

Each house would be connected to the drain to prevent water from spilling onto the street.

Councilmen originally discussed assessing homeowners for their share of the bill, but all except Councilman John Allen decided against it.

Deadman said the city would spend less by paying for the project now.

## Farmington hikes water bills 45%

FARMINGTON—Residents will receive a 45 per cent increase in their water bills in August as the city passes along an increase recently announced by the Detroit Metro Water Department and the Oakland County Department of Public Works (DPW).

The city will charge \$5.35 per quarter for the first 7,000 gallons of water. This will be the minimum charge, regardless of use.

"This charge offsets the cost of maintaining meters, line connections and other services," said City Manager Robert Deadman.

After the charge for the initial 7,000 gallons, the cost will decrease to 41 cents per 1,000 gallons for the next 10,000 gallons used.

In additional revenue. About \$30,000 of the increase would be used to offset the increased sewer charges of the Detroit water department and the Oakland DPW.

Any remainder will be used to meet increased expenses in labor and additional supplies, he said.

This is the second time in a year that the Oakland County DPW has raised sewer disposal rates on the Evergreen-Farmington Sewer Disposal System.

The first increase in June 1974 was absorbed by the city and last passed on to Farmington customers. That rate increase was 18 cents per cubic foot. The most recently announced increase in disposal rates was an additional 25 cents per cubic foot.

This will increase the sewer rate for the Evergreen-Farmington sewer disposal system from the present \$1.05 to \$1.34 per 1,000 cubic feet of sewer water consumption, Deadman said.

## inside

News	Section A
Bridge	16
Columns	28
Editorials	29
Letters	29
Obituaries	13
Farmington Life	Section B
Community Calendar	3
Classifieds	Section C
Sports	Section D
Business	5

## ALWAYS SATISFIED

When Beverly Devyak of Dearborn Heights decided to sell her wedding dress she called The Observer & Eccentric. Why? Because, Beverly said, she is always satisfied with the good response she receives from the Observer & Eccentric Classified Section. It does not compare to other newspapers she has used.

WEDDING Dress now 14 years old from beaded neck and cuff trim. \$75

Turn those no longer needed items into handy spending money by calling 644-1079 today



A long day and a rough fire take its toll on Lt. Robert Boyd. Boyd and the rest of the Farmington Hills fire department fought a three alarm fire Monday night. There were no injuries. For a story and photographs, turn to page 3. (Photo by Craig Newman)