

The Farmington

ENTERPRISE & OBSERVER

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YOUR HOMETOWN NEWSPAPER

4 sections, 56 pages

15c a Copy Philip H. Power, Publisher

today's hot line

Complainant Escapes

A Southfield man who has filed a brutality complaint against Patrolman John Hedrick of Farmington Township escaped from Southern Michigan Prison Wednesday while on a work detail. John Early, who claims Hedrick shot him in the back while making an arrest last year, was serving a three-to-ten year sentence for assault. He was still at large as The Enterprise & Observer went to press.

what's inside

'Interim Church'

A Baptist church has been meeting in a school for two years and now wants to erect a temporary church on a site on 14 Mile Rd. But code restrictions — and the neighboring subdivision — may force the church to change its plans.

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Moon Products

Farmington-made products landed on the moon with the crew of Apollo 11, and also helped in earth-to-moon communications. The story of the firm's space-age activities and their sales picture is on

Page 3A

Bird Breaking

Ever try to housebreak a bird? It's a tough wrangle, according to Farmington Editor Emory Daniels. He tells you where to begin in his column, Daniels Den.

Page 4A

Summer Afternoon

For a description of one possible way to spend a sunny summer afternoon, a critic's criticism of a new theatrical production, and some other ideas about what to take in during your free time, see today's Amusements Page.

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TALUS And Us

A regional agency called TALUS has come up with a 1969 plan for land use and public facilities. How does it affect your town? Will it really make a difference? Where will the transit routes go? Tim Richard waded through the three-volume study and got exclusive interviews to find answers to the local questions.

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Upcoming

OUR TWO-YEAR colleges were compared to those of Belgium by a visiting professor who spoke at Schoolcraft College. We'll have his interesting insight view in next Wednesday's edition.

"We sold almost everything"

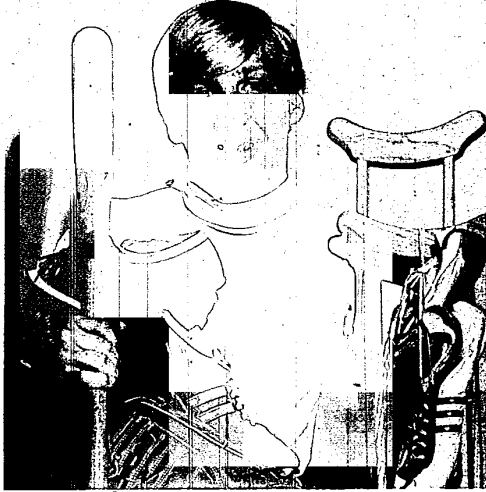
... we're very pleased with the response to our Observer want ad," said Mrs. John Morris. You can get the same pleasing results. Just use Observer Want Ads to buy, sell or trade.



COMPLETE Shoemilch, like new. Drop leaf exterior. 1000 table, buffet, drapes, misc. household items. Call 000-0000.

Classified WANT ADS

422-0900



CONTRAST — After using them for four years, Dan Burke of Farmington has shed those crutches and now spends most of his time wearing track and football shoes.

Track Star's Spirit Soars

Once Bound To Crutches-- Now A Healthy Athlete

By ELIZABETH WISSMAN.

Fetter a young boy, path him on crutches for four years, what happens to his spirit? If the boy is 14-year-old Dan Burke of 20940 Birchwood, Farmington, nothing. His spirit continues to soar within the untrammeled freedom of all young boys, venturing, daring, attempting all with happy abandon.

AT LEAST that's the way Dan Burke came through an illness that kept him shackled to crutches from the time he was six till four years ago. He was a victim of leg-

perthes, a disease of the bone. In Dan's case the disease attacked the ball and socket of his left hip. The disease is one of bone decay and the affected part of the body must be kept immobile to prevent absorption of calcium deposits, which in the case of a child could cause bone atrophy and do permanent damage.

DAN DIDN'T just use crutches. He had to wear a strap around his left shoulder that hooked to the back of his left shoe. The strap kept his left leg bent up in back of him. For four years this boy

couldn't so much as walk across a room without this contraption. Now, four years later, what's he doing?

He's playing football and baseball, he is running for his school track team, he is a normal and adjusted as any 14-year-old, perhaps more so.

DAN LEARNED to maneuver so well on his wooden legs that he fell, remembered when he first dislocated them. This was doubly true because for the first six months of the crutches he couldn't do anything but walk, not run, or bicycle, and then only at a slow level.

He says, "I thought I had gained something when I got off them, but I found I couldn't do much. With the crutches I could at least run. And we had a big hill in back of our house I couldn't ride up on my bicycle because I couldn't stand on the pedals."

DAN'S PARENTS, Mr. and Mrs. William Burke, believe that their son's illness instilled an awareness he had always had of other persons' needs.

"If something needed doing around the house and I was away," says his mother, "Dan was the one who usually did it before I got back."

But evidently Dan was no militant during his travels. His father laughs, "Of all our five kids, Dan was the one to get into fights. He's scrappy."

"SCRAPPY" Dan went through four to five pairs of crutches a year during his illness. He made his crutches expendable by doing such things as walking on barrels while wearing them. Or roller skating on one leg and one crutch, or using a crutch as a missile to knock things out of trees.

THE FACT that he played checkers for four years during school gym classes hasn't kept Dan from playing on the Power Junior High football team or running for the school track team. In fact, he was anchor man in the 440-relay which won the team title for Power in the last meet of the season.

During those four years he was on crutches, one thing above all others bothered this intrepid lad more than anything else — being started at.

"It was really terrible," he says with a grimace, "I don't

Continued on Page 4A

Housewife Says Twp. Inspector Neglecting Code

by HOWARD KOHN

Mrs. Norman Evans wants more aggressive building inspectors and stricter building codes for Farmington Township.

She has started collecting signatures in Old Franklin Towne on a petition calling for an investigation of the building department and a review of the building code.

The petition reads, in part: "The building department has proven itself tardy and neglectful in inspecting home construction and desirous in prosecuting code violations." Homeowners at 23769 Rock Lodge in Old Franklin since April, 1966, Mr. and Mrs. Evans have been irritated by a series of struggles to get repairs on their home.

"I FEEL the building department should be responsible when it inspects houses so we wouldn't have the aggravation of calling the builder 100 times," Mrs. Evans notes.

Much of her ire is directed at Paul Snover, building department supervisor.

Snover, 58, was appointed to his position in the fall of 1967 after a 36-year career as a mortician in Pontiac. He still lives in Pontiac and renews his mortician's license each year.

"Mr. Snover is always very sympathetic," she says. "But he apparently can't stand the wear and tear on his nerves so he just gives up."

Mrs. Evans cites a list of complaints against Town & Country Building Company, 22610 Rosewood, Oak Park—a main contractor in the \$30,000-\$50,000 price-range subdivision.

Included on the list are charges of a damaged ceiling, inadequate insulation, chipped kitchen counters and overall poor workmanship.

THE INSPECTION department found Town & Country guilty on several counts and the repairs have been subsequently made. But Mrs. Evans is still upset at the two-year wait on some repairs.

"We serviced the Evans house long past its one-year warranty," explains Stanley Zaleski, owner of Town & Country.

"All builders have a reputation of being slow. We set that we want to be but sometimes complications come up."

"We let the township handle the whole thing

with the Evans house. And we did exactly what they told us."

Mrs. Evans criticizes Town & Country for a history of missed appointments on repairs. "Once you sign the sale agreement you have an uphill battle to get a repairman out to see you," she claims.

Township inspectors are supposed to pass on new homes at three separate junctures in the construction phase.

VERY SELDOM, however, do inspectors stop builders in mid-construction. And often the final inspection is approved with a verbal proviso that the builder make certain repairs later to meet the code.

That is where friction begins. Short of denying a contractor further building permits or withholding bond money, the building department has no power to force quick attention to leftover repairs.

Snover's department recently came under fire from a group of homeowners in the subdivision between Grand River and Shawnessee. The group said its department was lax in enforcing the code against Cousins Construction Company, 15611 McNichols, Detroit.

"Cousins is currently under investigation by the Department of Housing and Urban Development."

Mrs. Evans is also circulating a petition asking for a similar probe into Town & Country.

She intends to send copies of both petitions to Frank Kelley, state attorney general, and Congressman Jack McDonald (R-9th District).

"I WOULD like to see building standards upgraded," she adds. "I think it would benefit the homeowner and the inspectors, and keep the builder on his toes."

Her first petition is addressed to the township board of trustees and demands a public hearing.

Snover has adopted a policy of "trying to get things straightened out with the builders rather than telling them to go to blazes."

He says citizenry complaints represent only a tiny minority who have personal grudges against builders.



FIRST CANDIDATE — John Bailey, a Farmington Township resident, was the first to file for the charter commission election. Here he hands petitions to township clerk Floyd Cairns. (Evert photo)

Township Resident Is First To File For Charter Vote

A candidate favoring consolidation, John J. Bailey, 31, of 30215 Stockton, was the first to file for the Nov. 4 charter commission election.

The Farmington Township man is a representative of Investors Diversified Services, and was a candidate for the charter commission in the 1967 incorporation vote.

The new charter commission will be elected to draw a charter for a single city combining the township, two villages and the city.

Filing deadline is 4 p.m. September 16. Bailey is an active Jaycee, serving as local club president last year and as state vice president of the Michigan Jaycees this year.

He is now serving a three year term as vice president of

the Farmington Community Center (Goodenough Center).

In 1967 Bailey campaigned on a "no vote for township incorporation" platform, "because I felt consolidation of the entire Farmington community held the best future for our community," Bailey said.

"I FAVOR consolidating the entire community," Bailey said, "I feel that Farmington now is actually one community, with school board, community center, even our Jaycee chapter, and other bodies and organizations, and even our history," Bailey said.

He said his review of the two community studies show that "taxes will not increase any more than they normally would,

with consolidation. That is, they are going to go up all across the country; they will go up in Farmington too, with or without consolidation."

Bailey predicted consolidation would bring more efficient management of services.

"I LOOK at it this way: our community is growing and they will continue to do so and at an increasing rate. We should meet this new population which will increasingly provide us with more tax money, with one community, which will grow with the population," Bailey said.

"It is growing, and if we expect to always live in a small community we must move to a smaller community than Farmington. Even there, it will eventually grow and force us out again," he added.

Files Complaint; Rock Throwers Not Reprimanded

by DOUG JOHNSON

A rock thrown through a windshield prompted an unhappy mother to call the police recently, but she only received an in-attentive response.

Mrs. Robert D. Button, 22152 Ontario Court, had five young children in her car when a rock hurled through her windshield spreading broken glass over the car.

She immediately called the Farmington Township police department, then called to a nearby group of boys and girls to stay put until the officer arrived. One of the youngsters had thrown the rock.

According to Mrs. Button, and her husband, and a neighbor Mrs. Richard Mazurek, of 22047 Ontario who wrote a letter to THE ENTERPRISE AND OBSERVER, it took over an hour for a patrolman to respond.

In her letter Mrs. Mazurek wrote: "The cop, remaining in his car, inquired about her insurance coverage. Then after a long lull, she asked him if he was going to look at her windshield. His reply, 'I can see it is broken from here.'"

He continued to sit saying nothing, and that the patrolman had not taken time to talk to the youngsters and give them a reprimand," Robert Button said.

He noted he was not informing the entire department and that after the incident he and his wife had complained to the department by phone and an investigation of the incident was undertaken.

"The officer at township hall did express concern over how

it was handled," Button said. When she called the police they told her the shirt was changing and it might take 15 minutes before an officer arrived, he said.

However, it was more than an hour, he stated. In her letter, Mrs. Mazurek related that after the policeman left the scene of the rock-throwing incident, the boys and girls mocked Mr. Button.

"Ha! Ha! We knew the cops wouldn't do anything." Now I ask you, how many of these boys will try something else in the near future? Granted, only one of them threw the rock. However, all of them learned one quick lesson that day, Don't respect cops."

Both Mrs. Mazurek and the Buttons report that children throwing rocks in the area was not uncommon.

Farmington Township Police Chief Irving Yakes said that the patrolman should have talked with the boys, but that no warrants for arrest could be issued if the youth could be identified.

Monday the ENTERPRISE AND OBSERVER asked Yakes to investigate the incident, as of Thursday afternoon, he had not replied to the questions.

Yakes did say that Lt. William Kelly, who is now on vacation, was to investigate the matter when he returns Monday.

Yakes declined to discuss the case further.

To Act On Appointment

Farmington Board of Education is expected to appoint a replacement Monday night for Dr. Sanford Bloomberg who recently resigned his trustee position. The board will also receive reports from the principals of both public high schools on dress codes and student conduct. Although the issue of student rules will be on the agenda, the board has not scheduled a public hearing on the subject. Only if time permits will members of the audience be permitted to speak.