

Farmington Enterprise & Observer

YOUR HOMETOWN NEWSPAPER

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44 pages, 4 sections

15c a Copy Philip H. Power, Publisher

today's
hot line

what's inside

Breakdown Delays Paper

Because of a breakdown of the presses, your copy of the Observer was delayed this week.

Observer Newspapers Inc. apologizes for the delay and is making adjustments to assure that it will not recur.

We are proud of the young businessmen who deliver your Observer and it is our wish that he not be blamed for this inconvenience.

Hall Answers

Township Supervisor Curtis Hall gives a report on his investigation on complaints by homeowners against the building department and the code it enforces. His findings and remarks of others are duly recorded.

Page 4A

Grades Gone

The Farmington Board of Education has decided to go ahead with a one-year trial for an ungraded marking system in elementary schools. After taking this action, trustees sat back to listen to the angry tones of parents unhappy with Gill Rd.

Pages 3-A, 5A

When You Write

You, the readers, write some of the best-read pages in the Observer Newspapers. Sometimes you're thoughtful, other times you're angry, sometimes you like us, other times you think we're boobs. But the Readers' Forum is never, never dull.

Pages 11-12A

The Lady VP

The lady vice president... that's the subject of this week's Women On The Go feature by Women's Editor Margaret Miller. She talked to Livonian Barbara Loren, who has just been named a vice president for Federal Department Stores. To find out how she became involved in merchandising and what her views are on the current fashions, turn to

Page 2C

Got A Moosehead?

Poets, a new movie, come to the cabaret, the search for an authentic moosehead and how much of your tax funds help support the arts... all are considered in today's paper. Turn to the Amusements Pages for ideas on how to spend that leisure time.

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HE'S IN BUSINESS ON YOUR STREET



Your neighborhood boy is gaining valuable business training through his Observer route. The \$95 you pay him each month for our new Carrier Subscription Plan assures his success in his first business venture. Be sure to ask for a receipt, which will guarantee delivery of the Farmington Enterprise & Observer.

Planned Residential District Gets Board's Green Light

Farmington Township Trustees Monday night unanimously adopted an amendment to the zoning ordinance providing for a Planned Residential District (PRD).

A PRD is a new concept in planning which establishes a mixture of single-family, two-family, apartments and townhouses on a large tract of land.

THE AMENDMENT has been studied for over a year by the township planning commission. Two weeks ago a public hearing was held to explain to residents the purpose and benefits of the amendment.

Some homeowners voiced strong objections about the PRD and have threatened to petition for a referendum on the board approved the plan.

After the dissenters were heard two weeks ago, the board Monday night adopted the amendment. It had previously been given the green light by Oakland County planners.

land County planners.

Trustee Tom Nolan defended the planning commission against what he felt were disparaging remarks made during the public hearing.

He said it was absolutely wrong to believe the commission approved the plan because they "had an axe to grind" or for their own benefits.

Nolan stressed the ordinance was not for any particular section of land in the township and was not being approved for the benefit of any particular developer.

NOLAN DESCRIBED the PRD amendment as a plan to develop the community under modern standards, an opportunity for another zone in the community which still held density to present levels, and a plan to provide housing for senior citizens and young married couples.

"Just because it is a change doesn't make it wrong," said Nolan.

Mrs. Margaret Schaeffer described the PRD as "an interesting new concept" and said she approved of the legislation because of the safeguards written into it.

In other action, the board accepted a bid of \$11,630 from Pontiac retail for five new Pontiacs for the police force.

Supervisor Curtis Hall reported the Township Beautification Committee sold 275 trees to residents. The trees will be delivered the first week in November.

The board gave permission to the Farmington Elks to hold its third annual Turkey Shoot Nov. 2 at the northwest corner of 8 Mile and Sunnydale.

The board adopted a resolution urging that the tax exempt status not be eliminated for municipal bonds.

Policeman's Trial Continues In Southfield District Court

BY WYLIE GERDES

The jury trial of Farmington Township Patrolman John Hedrick on a charge of assault and battery was scheduled to resume Tuesday at 9 a.m. after a day of testimony by prosecution witnesses Friday.

A jury of six women is hearing the Hedrick case in the Southfield District Court of Judge Clarence Reid, Jr. Hedrick is charged with striking 28-year-old John Von Sauers of Plymouth on Sept. 9, 1968.

Assault and battery is a misdemeanor with a maximum penalty of 90 days in jail and a \$100 fine.

HEDRICK allegedly hit Von Sauers on the head with a blackjack after Von Sauers was arrested for stealing a car. Von Sauers subsequently pleaded guilty to unlawfully taking and using an automobile and is serving

two years on probation. About half of the township police force attended the trial Friday at which Von Sauers, two Farmington City policemen and a township policeman testified.

Farmington City policemen testifying were Det. Murray Switzer and Sgt. Daniel Brynes, both of whom were on the scene of Von Sauers' arrest.

Patrolman Peter Larson of the township department, Hedrick's partner the night of the incident, also appeared on the witness stand a short time before the first day of the trial ended at 5 p.m.

Hedrick, president of the Farmington Township Police Officers' Association, was charged after the Oakland County Prosecutor's office investigated six complaints of brutality against Hedrick.

OAKLAND COUNTY Prosecutor Thomas Plunkett recommended the charge relating to Von Sauers be filed but said his department found "no provable criminality" in the other incidents.

The complaints against Hedrick were made public during a trial board hearing for Farmington Township Det. Sgt. Earl Teeples, who was demoted and suspended for talking to the Oakland County Prosecutor's staff about the brutality charges. Teeples was reinstated at his former rank after the trial board hearing.

Although Hedrick has been cleared of criminal charges in connection with the other brutality complaints, he and the township have been sued for

\$750,000 by a man who alleges Hedrick violated his civil rights. John Vetovich of 28735 10 Mile Rd. in Farmington Township has charged illegal arrest, excessive force, physical abuse and illegal seizure of person among other things.

The lawsuit was filed in U.S. District Court with the claim the actions violate the Federal Civil Rights Act. Township Supervisor Curtis Hall and Police Chief Irving Yakes are included in Vetovich's lawsuit apparently because they took no action to control the allegedly unwarranted police activity.

Hedrick arrested Vetovich on July 28, 1968, and Vetovich later pleaded guilty to careless driving.



JOHN HEDRICK (right), speaks with an assistant defense attorney in the lobby of Southfield District Court. (Evert photo)

Vagnozzi Objects

Earl's Back On Board

By EMORY DANIELS

Earl Oppertthausser was appointed Monday night to fill the vacancy on the Farmington Township Board left by the resignation of Charles Williams.

Williams resigned at the last township meeting following his purchase of a residence in the City of Farmington.

OPPERTTHAUSSER was named to fill that seat by a 5-0 vote of the board. He was nominated by Tom Nolan and supported by Mrs. Elise Avery.

Mrs. Margaret Schaeffer asked that a nomination not be made until the next meeting because of Fred Lichtman's absence Monday night.

Mrs. Schaeffer felt the full board should be present to vote on the appointment.

But she relented when Supervisor Curtis Hall said he had talked with Lichtman on the phone and Lichtman said he endorsed Oppertthausser's appointment.

Motion to make the appointment unanimous was made by Township Clerk Floyd Cairns. Oppertthausser will now fill the unexpired term of Williams. His term will be a little over a year until the November 1970 elections.

Oppertthausser was a trustee for the township until last year when he resigned his post to run for District Judge.

He was defeated in that election and has not held a public position until a few weeks ago when he was appointed to the

Citizens Review Board, established to hear complaints against the township police department.

THE NEW trustee is a former member of the township planning commission and once served on the train commission for Redford Township.

Oppertthausser is a general claims attorney for the Grand Trunk Western Railroad and has practiced law since 1950. He is a graduate of Wayne State University Law School.

Nolan said Oppertthausser had "served well on this board over a long period of time and can more than adequately fill the vacancy. I hold Earl in very high esteem."

THE APPOINTMENT was made without reference to a request from Aldo Vagnozzi to have the vacancy filled with

voters deciding on the Nov. 4 ballot.

Vagnozzi sent a letter to the township board, dated Sept. 19 asking that his letter be read at the meeting but it was not.

Vagnozzi asked that the post be filled by an election of the township voters. "Such an election could be held at the same time the township voters go to the polls on Nov. 4 to decide the issue of consolidation.

"I believe this would result in a much more representative decision than having the vacancy filled by appointment of the remaining six members of the township board."

Vagnozzi gave the Farmington Enterprise & Observer the following reasons why he suggested an election:

1 - "Four of the six township board members (supervisor,

clerk, treasurer and one trustee) have not faced the voters since 1966. The voters in 1968 decided emphatically that they wanted a new direction in township government, defeating trustees previously appointed by these four.

2 - "Charles Williams has been an outspoken member of the board. He should not be replaced by a hand-picked trustee who will merely rubberstamp decisions of the four older officials.

3 - "Recent events have indicated substantial opposition to the handling of police matters by the township administration. An election to fill the vacant trustee post would give the voters an opportunity to pass judgment on those policies.

4 - "There is still more than half of Williams' two-year term remaining. It is not good policy for an appointee to serve more than half the term of an elected official."

Vagnozzi's letter had no effect, however, as no mention was made of its existence or of his views.



4 H WINNER — Joanna Paul of Farmington and her dog Poopse won first place honors last week in the sub novice A competition in a dog show held during the annual 4 H state show on the MSU campus in East Lansing.

9 Days Left To Register

Only nine days remain for Farmington area residents to register for the Nov. 4 consolidation election.

Deadline for registration is 8 p.m., Oct. 3. Special registration hours will be from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday,

Sept. 27, and from 8-8 on Oct. 3.

Places of registration are as follows: city residents in city hall at 23600 Liberty at Grand River, one block west of Farmington Rd; township residents in

township hall at 11 Mile and Orchard Lake Rds; Quartertown residents at 34027 Cotswold; and Wood Creek Farms residents at 29251 Spring Rd.

Voters must register in the vicinity in which they reside.



CHARLES WILLIAMS



EARL OPPERTTHAUSSER