

# Action On Senior Housing Due Monday

The first major step toward providing low-rent senior citizen housing in Farmington Township may be taken next Monday night.

This will be the adoption of an ordinance that will be presented by Township Attorney Joseph T. Brennan calling for creation of a Housing Commission.

Action on the ordinance, after a month of preparation, will be the main topic of the regular meeting which is scheduled for 8 p.m. in the Township Hall at 11 Mile and Orchard Lake Road.

Brennan was instructed to write the ordinance at the last meeting and he stated early this week that it would be ready for presentation.

"In order to expedite matters," Township Supervisor Curtis Hall stated, "we are planning to have the entire Township Board act as the

Housing Commission. This will save a great deal of time in getting matters rolling."

Supervisor Hall also stated that there was a surprising number of persons in the township with experience in senior citizens housing, either in supervisory capacities or as residents.

"We won't want for advice and help," he stated, "and we'll be anxious to get going."

The ordinance was drafted at the request of Trustee Tom Nolan, who has been serving as chairman of the planning commission's Senior Citizens Housing Commission.

Once established, the five-member Housing Commission will apply to the federal government for a planning grant.

Once planning funds are received, the commission will sit down with the township's

planning consultants and draw up a housing program.

After setting a unit cost and obtaining bids, application would then be made for federal financing. If the unit cost is in line with federal standards, the government will pick up the tab for planning expenses and construction costs.

THE GOVERNMENT recoups its investment from rental fees. Maintenance and other expenses are deducted from the rent each month with the balance paid to the government on the principal.

The Township Housing Commission, as landlords, would set the rent and determine the amount paid on the principal, for maintenance and other expenses each month.

Even before the ordinance was written, the

project was greeted with enthusiasm in the township.

After Nolan made his first report, the Farmington Township Road Association held a special meeting on senior citizen housing and invited the director of the Livonia Housing Commission to explain that city's program.

THE PROJECT is especially advantageous to a township government which, by structure, is limited in its ability to raise funds.

Under the "turnkey" program, the township would not have to spend any cash at all since the federal government picks up the entire tab and is reimbursed for rentals.

A similar project is now under study in neighboring Redford.



SOMETHING NEW HAS BEEN ADDED -- In a desire to promote Americanism, the members of the Farmington Township Police Department asked permission to display the flag on their uniforms and police cars. The request was granted and Cpl. Rick Krueger is shown here with the new decorations.

(Everett photo)

## Assessors Plan Help For Seniors

In order to aid the senior citizens and all others who may want to appeal their assessments for the year, City of Farmington assessors -- George Clement and William Brinkman -- have arranged for a special adjustment period, starting Feb. 9 and running for four days.

"We have set these four days aside," Brinkman explained, "in order to eliminate, where possible, arguments before the Board of Review."

The review board meets for three days, starting March 3 and winding up on March 9-10. Oftentimes these sessions are long and tiresome. So we have set up this preliminary period with the hope of easing any tension that might exist.

## Correction

An article in the Farmington Enterprise & Observer last week incorrectly stated that a campaign was held last year to raise funds to "purchase" the Farmington Community Center.

The Center was not purchased but donated by heirs of the Goodenough estate. The volunteer drive was to raise funds to renovate and redecorate the Center, not purchase.

## Debbie Blaul On Dean's List

Debbie Blaul, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Don Blaul of 3177 Nottingham, Farmington, has been named to the dean's list for the fall semester at the University of Detroit.

She is a freshman majoring in social work and a graduate of Our Lady of Mercy High School in Farmington.

## Businessmen Criticize Zoning

Continued from Page 1

gives no standards by which the planning commission is to judge zoning applications," Brennan said. The only requirement is that the plans be easily accessible to emergency traffic.

The lack of standards would make the planning commission "an independent judge on each and every property," he added.

A prospective businessman, under the proposal, wouldn't have the "logistic notion" of what he can do in downtown Farmington, Brennan continued.

BRENNAN, also the Farmington Township attorney, urged the council to aim toward a master plan for the central business district.

The planning commission hasn't come to grips with this and could do a much better job," he said. Bob Matlen supported the proposed ordinance saying the council needs a tool to fight the decay of the central business district. He pointed to the Federal's department store in the downtown center, which he said cuts off development southeast along Grand River. The problem could have been prevented with a central business district ordinance, he said.

ANOTHER Farmington businessman, Lawrence Mayer who is a florist with offices at 3318 Grand River, said the council should work to stimulate civic pride in Farmington.

Mayer commented parking has been overemphasized in planning in Farmington. Shopers would walk a couple of blocks to stores if they were really interested, he said.

He said Farmington is one of the few communities which retains some "Old World

charm" and that tearing down buildings for unnecessary parking won't preserve the charm.

Another subject discussed by many speakers from the audience was the non-conforming use sections of the proposed ordinance.

AT THE beginning of the hearing, Brotherton said any building being used in a way prohibited by the ordinance when it went into effect would be allowed to continue without limitations. Any improvements or change in the use of the building would be considered by the planning commission, the mayor added.

Dick Habicht, owner of the White House Valet in the downtown center, said the non-conforming use section would effect the value of his property by \$20,000-\$30,000. He called the provisions "arbitrary," pointing out that a bowling alley is prohibited but a pool hall is not.

Harley Warner, a property owner in the downtown area, said the proposed ordinance is unduly harsh on the people who have spent their life blood on downtown Farmington.

Conrad Sullivan of Farmington Lumber Co., agreed, saying the ordinance would restrict the businesses of men who have lived in the community for many years.

BROTHERTON said the non-conforming use section of the ordinance would have the effect of limiting competition to those non-conforming businesses already in the district.

No new business in the same field could move into the area under the proposed ordinance, he said.

The mayor also assured the businessmen that the council's purpose is to protect the investment in the downtown area.

## City Halts Bond Plates For Year

The City of Farmington will issue no new bond plates for tax bills for at least one year.

After granting three additional cab permits recently, the City Council decided Monday to see how the new arrangement works before adding to the number allowed to operate in the city.

THE DECISION came as the council rejected the application of a Novi man for the bond plates.

Thomas F. Macaluso who operates cabs in Novi, Walled Lake, Wixom and Northville applied for bond plates last July but wasn't considered in December when the council reviewed taxi service in December.

The three permits granted last month brought the city's total to 14, which Macaluso said wasn't enough to serve the population.

City Manager John Dinan said he could not see any advantage of more bond plates at this time. Councilman John Allen added that the city should stick with the 14 cabs for a year to see if more service is needed.

IN OTHER action concerning taxi cabs, the Council passed three ordinances informally agreed upon at a previous meeting.

One increased the cabs' required public liability insurance to \$50,000 for each person and \$100,000 for each accident and the property damage insurance required to \$10,000.

Another ordinance reduced the age limit of taxi drivers from 21 to 19, subject to the approval of the Department of Public Safety.

A third ordinance approved a 20 per cent increase in cab fares.

## New Decade Theme For Meeting

A "New Look for a New Decade" will be the opening theme of the first meeting of the year for the Northwest and Suburban Detroit Christian Women's Club on Jan. 13 in the Pagoda in Clawson at 12:30 p.m.

With the focal point at mid-lady's head, Demery's of Birmingham will present a special feature on wigs and hairpieces. Mrs. Ralph Salansky, soprano of Southfield will be the soloist.

Emphasizing the inner woman will be a talk by Carolyn Lunn of Farmington. Mrs. Lunn has a B.S. degree from Olivet Nazarene College and has done graduate work at the University of Oregon. She has written devotionals for books, done religious curriculum writing and general article writing.

Reservations may be made by calling Mrs. J.R. French in Huntington Woods or Mrs. Ralph Ellsworth in Birmingham.

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## Ceramics, Jewelry Among New Classes

Classes proposed for the winter term of Farmington Schools' adult education program will include a new one on ceramics to be taught in East Junior High School Wednesdays from 7 to 10 p.m.

Emphasis will be on "exploring clay" and learning creative handling of the medium as well as its glazing and decoration.

Registration was held on Jan. 3 and 6. Fees for most classes were set at \$15 per 10 weeks of three-hour meetings.

BASIC JEWELRY design and construction has been added to the curriculum, all work to be done in sterling silver. This is a Wednesday class at Farmington High.

Floral arrangements, another new offering, will outline methods of using fresh dried,

and artificial flowers plus corsage making. This course will be taught at the high school on Mondays.

A credit class in chemistry will consist of an introduction to basic concepts and principles with opportunities for laboratory experiences. This is a Thursday class also at the high school.

Most of the other tried and true favorites are still on the calendar and were described in a brochure mailed to Farmington residents.

Business courses include English, business machines, shorthand, typing, stenography, and a five-week series on the stock market.

FINE ARTS WILL offer work with the Community Concert Band (no charge for this), Decoupage I and II,

drawing, sketching, painting in all media, as well as the ceramics and jewelry previously mentioned.

Homemaking courses will consist of advanced cake decorating, drapery making, Bishop sewing, fitting, and tailoring; other sewing methods, wood finishing, hospitality, and upholstery.

Language arts will spotlight French, German, Spanish, plus "Let's Learn to Speak English." The latter is designed to be of particular benefit to those meeting the language as comparative strangers. Beginning French has been switched to Wednesdays, advanced lessons to be taught on Tuesdays.

Recreation, now including swimming, will also present beginning guitar, American or

Latin dance, square dancing, gymnastics, bridge, volleyball, and Women's Health Organization which is primarily concerned with the problem of overweight. Swimming registration is at both high school pool sites on Jan. 10 from 9 a.m. to 12 noon.

Those who are avocation-minded may enroll in such subjects as amateur radios, electronics, or ground school for private pilot rating.

Classes co-sponsored by area universities include supervision of student teaching and Education 550 (teacher-learning strategies for reading and related language arts instruction).

Additional information is available at the office of Don Howell, adult education director, 474-0810.

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