



**TREASURES** -- All this month, antiques, trash and trinkets are being collected at the Farmington Community Center for the Founders Festival flea market. If you have items to contribute, take them to the center if possible or call 474-6873 for a pickup. Among the Farmington senior citizens arranging donations for the flea market are Clinton Beattie and Ann Curtis, pictured here. (Event photo)

### Reader Writes

## Shocked By Passage

#### EDITOR:

May I offer my applause and say "well said" to A.L. Higgins, (Basilian Fathers Missions) whose letter appeared in the Farmington Enterprise and Observer June 27.

My husband and I were among the parents at the Farmington Board of Education meeting June 22 and we also were shocked to see the members of the board disregard parent concern and unanimously pass the resolution to put sex education in our public schools.

WE HAVE endeavored to keep ourselves informed and

maintain an open mind in this regard but too many questions continue to go unanswered to just accept this program being integrated into the school curriculum.

While we commend the committee (FLE) and the board for their efforts to study this matter, it is increasingly apparent that they are overlooking many things involved in the matter.

Why, indeed, isn't a voluntary program being studied for our schools? Why should all children be forced into this type of education when an increasing number of parents do not approve?

Without moral guidelines, and the public schools can not give these, sex education could be disastrous. The Board of Education has a great responsibility to all our children and to the parents whose wishes must be respected.

IF THIS program is finalized by the board for introduction in our schools, it is our right as parents to expect that we will be personally informed about every aspect of this education from the schools.

Anything less than this can be considered as infringing on religious beliefs and an invasion of privacy.

Yes, we are very concerned about what will be taught in the classroom when the door is closed.

It is our hope that the people in authority will move even more slowly before making a final decision on this delicate subject.

MRS. GLADYS CREIGHTON  
Farmington

### GOP Invites Gov. Milliken

FARMINGTON  
Gov. William Milliken will speak at a July 14 meeting of Oakland County Republicans.

Ron Rice, executive director of the Oakland County GOP, says all Republicans are invited to hear the governor July 14 at 8 p.m. in Groves High School at 13 Mile and Evergreen in Birmingham.

Rice said Milliken will speak on the importance of the 1970 election.

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#### Continued from Page 1A

they are less than half-ton and have no advertising identifying a company painted on.

No tool or other equipment can be stored in sight in the vehicles.

The ordinance grew out of complaints by Bruce Habermehl, owner of Center Tire in the downtown center. Habermehl received several parking tickets for parking his El Camino, which carries commercial license plates, in his driveway.

He said vehicles such as his are as attractive as cars and should not be included in the city's ordinance prohibiting parking of commercial vehicles in residential areas.

IN OTHER BUSINESS, the council allowed erection of signs at the Standard service station at Farmington and Nine Mile and on the porch at 33436 Oakland for an antique clock and watch repair service to be operated by William Ashdown.

The council also voted \$100

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# Board Given Fair Warning

## Daniels Den

By EMORY DANIELS

An editor naive enough to be idealistic about how legislators ought to behave, had to be a bit disturbed after sitting through last Monday's "meeting" of the Farmington Board of Education.

I am referring, of course, to the board's "dumpling" of Gary Lichtman and Aldo Vagnozzi as officers for the next year.

There's no doubt in my mind that Gary was not only qualified but should have been selected president of the board. Aldo, also, was logical choice for VP and seems to have enough qualifications to handle that job.

BUT IT'S NOT really crucial that neither was picked. John Washburn will do a fine job as president and Ken Perrin, with some assistance, should be able to tackle the VP job.

The board will be adequately run without Gary and Aldo as leaders. The fact these two individuals did not get offices doesn't really matter because they'll contribute without titles.

Gary and Aldo may still be disturbed over the ruthless treatment received from their peers ("Et tu Brute"). But they should let the abuse roll off their backs and be consoled that majority rules, right or wrong, ruthless or gentle, efficient or otherwise.

OUR READERS must remember Monday's meeting was an organizational one with internal business being conducted. The board elects its own officers and is not bound by either the wishes of the people or precedent.

Although I am disappointed in the board's actions, and disappointed by the conduct of individual members, the results of the meeting itself does not disturb me.

As the opening of this column suggests, however, it is both disturbing and frightening to view the efficiency of a railroad job.

The fearless five, who held the power Monday night, elected themselves using only correct parliamentary procedure. The public had a right to know why each officer was qualified to serve. At least for show, a couple sentences about each would have been a sufficient facade.

BUT THE fearless five purposely and strategically kept their mouths sealed. They had the power and were not about to waste time explaining their actions.

Explanations must have been given in the private meeting. And debate probably occurred there also. But in public, they whipped through their business with too much efficiency.

It's forgivable if the performance of the fearless five

was a one-night act. The railroad job can be overlooked if they were just getting careless. For a single night and are ready to behave now like responsive legislators elected as watchdogs of a child's education.

But let fair warning be given. This newspaper, and this editor, will not stand by patiently and allow a light-tipped political machine to penetrate the school system. Political machines have absolutely no place in a school system which must provide a climate of learning for young people.

THE FARMINGTON Board of Education has enjoyed good relations with this newspaper. But a good press is an earned, not contractual, thing.

Let notice be given today that the school board will soon have trouble if it has any intention of building a machine to perpetuate individuals in office.

A political machine is dangerous on a school board because community issues end up being discussed in secret behind closed doors with public meetings being simply a drab exercise in parliamentary procedure.

The danger here is the community cannot be informed about educational issues and will soon become very complacent about what's happening in the classrooms.

EDUCATION is such an important product that the community must be encouraged to become involved in

Democracy may be inefficient. Citizens may be nasty at times and abuse public officials. Issues may sometimes be clouded by personality clashes. But each of the fearless five had better think twice before considering conducting school business in any other than open fashion.

CERTAINLY, it's been a rough year for the school board. Some elements in the community have singled them out for abuse for their positions on sex education, minority understanding and substance abuse. The moderates and liberals in Farmington have staved home roasting hot

dogs and have done little to support the school board. But let's not open the windows just because there's heat in the kitchen. You better get some tough skin and learn to take it. If you blister easy, get out.

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