

today's
hot line

Vol. 83, No. 23 36 pages, 4 sections

hot's inside

Mail Fewer Gifts

Farmington residents are sending 25% fewer gifts through the U.S. mail compared to last Christmas. Although parcel post shipments are down, the volume of Christmas cards has kept Farmington postal workers hopping.

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Our Boys' Band

Farmington has a Boy Scout Band, sponsored by Nardin Park Methodist Church, and the band is now being opened for membership to any boy scout from the city or township. Here's the history of the band's unusual success and information on how to join.

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Road Work

There'll be more of it than ever, and drivers in every Observerland community will be affected. Here's the roundup of the work that will be done and what it'll cost.

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Bird-Watching

When a crew of bird-watchers gathers at Cranbrook Sunday to take a bird census, won't they disturb our feathered friends? No, the Audubon told our outdoors writer, Lem Mese. And there's another story about the mixed feelings local shoppers have about throw-away bottles.

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Holidays Coming

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year! Not only you but the staff of the Observer Newspapers will take a day off on two Fridays, Dec. 25 and Jan. 1, and all offices will be closed. Deadlines for those two weeks:

- News — 5 p.m. Wednesday.
- Classified want ads — 5 p.m. Wednesday.
- Display advertising — 5:30 p.m. Tuesday.

DON'T BE LEFT "IN" IN THE WARM!

Get out in the cold with the rest of your group. And if you need the extra cash that means a change from "Grumpy" to "Snow White", place an OBSERVER WANT AD



522-0900

City May Postpone April Election Until November

The City of Farmington election scheduled for April will be postponed until November if Gov. William Milliken signs the enabling legislation within the next two weeks.

The State Legislature has passed and sent to the governor House Bill 4232, which provides that city elections will be held throughout the state on odd years in the fall.

THE BILL, supported by the City of Farmington, was urged by the Michigan Municipal League. City Manager John Dinan says the MML is confident Milliken will sign HB 4232 because it has an option for cities wanting to retain their spring elections.

Dinan said the odd-year, fall election bill has many advantages for the City of Farmington. "We would receive more balance in budgeting for elections because we would then have a better spread by having elections each year. Previously, we had them all in one fiscal year and then none in the other."

If Milliken signs the bill, the city will eliminate its spring election, and councilmen will be elected, instead, in November.

"We believe this will create uniformity throughout the state, probably improve communications on the election issues and increase the number of voters at these general elections," added Dinan.

IF THE BILL becomes effective, the terms of existing city councilmen will be extended for about six months.

The city will have 30 days from the date Milliken signs the bill to make a decision on exercising the option to retain the spring election or automatically have a November vote.

Monday night, the city council voted to have Dinan send a letter to Gov. Milliken urging him to sign the bill. The letter will inform the governor that the City of Farmington takes a favorable position towards HB 4232.

JCs Are Planning 24th Show

The Farmington Area Jaycees announce that their 24th annual show will be held in March in the new auditorium in Farmington Senior High School.

It is a tradition for the names of the cast and story of the show to be kept secret until the annual kick-off party which will be held Saturday night, Jan. 9, in the Farmington Elks Lodge.

The 1971 Jaycee musical will be chaired by Ken Asselin, past vice president of the Farmington Jaycees. John Bailey past president, will be cast director, Gary Dotson production chairman and Walt McCoy publicity chairman. Craig Rockefeller will handle the business arrangements.

Larry Haver, who directed the last two JC shows, will again be the musical director. The JCs have been writing, producing and directing these musicals for 24 years, now and have established a tradition in Farmington.

Men between the ages of 21-35 wanting to learn more about the Jaycees or their musical productions should contact Asselin at 476-0064. Asselin may also be contacted for tickets for the kick-off party.

and prefers the fall elections on odd years.

A charter amendment won't be needed to have fall elections, explained Dinan, because this course will be automatic by the new state law.

Some minor charter amendments will be needed, however, because of the shift in election dates. These minor changes could be placed on the fall ballot for voter approval.

IN OTHER action, the council rejected a request, from Star Cab Co. of Northville for bond plates to operate taxi cabs in the City of Farmington.

The Department of Public Safety had investigated and reported Star's cabs were older and in poorer condition than the cars now operated in the city. Star's meters also did not meet city requirements, reported Robert Deadman, public safety director.

The council voted to issue 13 bond plates for 1971 as follows: six to Checker Suburban; five to Red & Yellow; and two to Empire Deluxe. This amounts to a reduction of one from last year.

One bond plate was taken away from Mrs. Elsie Newberry, owner of Empire Deluxe, because she only owns two of the three cars which were bonded last year by the city. Vern Foster of Livonia is the owner of Checker Suburban and Red & Yellow cab companies.

Dinan and Deadman both reported the city has not received any complaints over the past year about cab service in the city. The quota of 13 cabs per 11,000 city residents compares favorably with a national standard of one cab per 1,500 residents, Dinan added.

THE COUNCIL also approved rezoning from residential to office for four lots on the south side of State between Farmington Rd. and Liberty.

The engineers were authorized to get cost estimates for a storm drain to run between Farmington Oaks subdivision and Kensington Manor apartments from Farmington Rd. east to the city limits.

The city has lost a lawsuit asking that the owner of Kensington Manor pay 100% of the cost for the storm drain. It is now proposed the project's cost, estimated at about \$9,000, be split 30% each between the residential property owners, the apartment owner and the city.

In separate action, the council approved a moratorium preventing erection of commercial signs in the downtown area until the next meeting, when the city's sign ordinance will be amended. The sign ordinance covers only the old general commercial zone. After its adoption, the city created two new zones — community commercial and the Central Business District zone.

At the next meeting, the council will amend the existing sign ordinance so it will apply to all commercial zones in the city — the Community Commercial (C-3), General Commercial (C-2) and CBD.

A resolution was adopted proclaiming Jan. 14-30 as Junior Achievement Week in Farmington. Amendments to city ordinances Monday night accomplished the following: hiked building inspection fees and established special inspection fees for FHA and VA; required safe disposal of syringes and needles; and provided for a permanent fencing of bicycles instead of once a year.



HOLIDAY GREETINGS and good wishes are extended to all our readers by Ogi, the ONI gnome, in charge of spelling all names correctly for the Observer Gnewspapers—er, Newspapers. (Observer photo by Bob Wodding)

Sex Ed Guidelines Are Promised For Feb. 15

By VICTOR OMELCZENKO

Tentative dates for public hearings by the Farmington Board of Education on proposed substance abuse and human sexuality curriculum additions have been set for Jan. 25 and Feb. 15, respectively.

A report from the minority understanding study group will follow shortly after the other two, according to Supt. Roderick J. Smith.

TEMPORARY coordinators, to prepare the programs, recommended by subcommittees of the board's Family Life Education Committee, had been named previously but were made official Monday night.

Coordinator for substance abuse guidelines is Ted Cunio, director of special education. Lawrence Freedman, principal of Wood Creek Elementary School, is coordinator for the human sexuality instruction program. The minority understanding program is headed by Joseph Nicita, director of secondary education.

In an addition to the motion authorizing the coordinators, the board said "it is understood that these coordinators are named at this point for the development of the above mentioned programs."

IN OTHER action, the board approved 6-0 guidelines for the Farmington Schools Citizens Advisory Council, which will consist of not less than 23 nor more than 45 citizens.

Memberships will be for a one, two and three year term and the council will have subcommittees on curriculum, finance, public relations and building.

As one guideline puts it: "It is understood that this committee will function strictly in an advisory capacity and all decisions rest finally with the board of education."

In time set aside for citizens in the audience to comment, the board listened to William Hatton's request to outline the limits of political censorship in schools.

Hatton's daughter, a junior high student, had been reading in school "Do It," the book by Yippie leader Jerry Rubin. The principal took the book away and returned it to Hatton with a letter stating that this was not the type of material to be read in junior high.

"I didn't read it, but I read a review, and this is a projection of Jerry Rubin's public image," said Bruce E. Duke from the audience. "The book's inciting to revolution," he added.

"I have read the Bible and 'Do It,' and the Bible is sometimes thought of as revolutionary," countered Hatton.

"Please don't compare the Bible to that book," exclaimed Duke.

The board then suggested to Hatton the best step to take would be to first discuss the matter with the junior high school principal, an alternative Hatton said hadn't been offered to him in the principal's letter.