

# the farmington enterprise & observer

Wednesday, March 17, 1971

YOUR HOMETOWN NEWSPAPER

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## Propose Second City Site For Post Office Expansion

Vol. 83, No. 46 44 pages, 4 sections

A roving band of about 80 black youths, traveling in a dozen cars, made the rounds of Oakland Community College's three campuses Tuesday in a continuing demonstration to publicize demands served on the administration Monday.

There were unconfirmed reports that a brick was tossed through a window at the Auburn Hills campus and that the group briefly took possession of Orchard Ridge's J-building which houses student activities.

There were no arrests, no personal injuries, no confrontation, according to Lt. William Kelly of the Farmington Township police.

Early fragmentary reports said the group first convened Tuesday morning at Auburn Hills, near Pontiac.

They moved on to Highland Lake campus where police prevented their entry, these reports said, then went on to Orchard Ridge, in Farmington.

A few of the youths were spotted carrying tire irons, Kelly said, and Provost S. James Manilla said he had unconfirmed reports that others were seen with wrenches and one carried a crowbar.

A meeting had been scheduled with the Association of Black Students for an unspecified hour Wednesday, he said.

See Earlier story.

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FIFTH FATALITY—Mrs. Beatrice A. Moats, 58, of 15596 Hidden Lane, Livonia, became Farmington Township's fifth traffic fatality of 1971 when killed in a two-car crash Sunday at 12:33 p.m. at 12 Mile and Middle Belt Rds. Police report a witness says Mrs. Moats was driving a Volkswagen south on Middle Belt and disregarded the traffic signal at the intersection. Mrs. Moats died at the scene and her husband, Morris, 70, was taken to Botsford General Hos-

pital with a skull fracture and is expected to live. The driver of the second vehicle was Steven J. Wistie, 20, of 26685 Wilhelm, Southfield. Passengers in Wistie's Ford were Mary C. Blodgett, 18, of 31450 Hull, Farmington, and Dr. Laurence Ribiat, 31, of 25129 Appleton, Farmington. Wistie and Miss Blodgett were treated at Botsford Hospital and released. Police are still investigating the accident. (Ralph Evert photos)

Postal authorities have selected a site in the City of Farmington for construction of a new post office which will be more than three times the size of the present facility on Slocum.

Picked as the site is a parcel of about three acres on the north side of Grand River just east of School Street.

THE SITE IS the old Farmington Lumber property and runs from Grand River back to the valley where the playground for Farmington Junior High is located.

The proposed building would be 37,000 square feet and valued at about \$11 million. The parking lot behind the building would hold 170 cars and the plans show a service drive, turning area in front of the building.

Postal officials must get site

plan approval from the city planning commission and a waiver on the parking requirement from the city council. City ordinances require 240 parking spaces.

THE PLANNING commission will hold a public hearing on site plan approval on Monday, March 22, at 8 p.m. in city hall.

City Manager John Dinan says the postal officials will work with the city on architectural planning for the building to determine what decor will best blend in with the downtown area.

Postal authorities earlier had wanted to build on Farmington Rd. near Freedom Dr. but the city council rejected that site after organized opposition from the Alta Loma Homeowners Association.

## Save \$25,000 On Drainage

The City of Farmington expects to save about \$25,000 on the storm drainage project along Freedom Dr. and on the west side of Farmington from Freedom to Alta Loma.

The city council Monday night accepted separate bids for installation and materials with costs totaling about \$175,000 compared to the engineer's estimate of \$200,000, according to City Manager John Dinan.

The savings was realized by an unusually low bid on installation, \$16,000 below the second lowest bid, plus a decision to use "seconds" for drainage pipes.

The "seconds," according to Dinan, are pipes which are chipped on the outside but will not result in any seepage.

The installation job was awarded to D & L Construction Co. which submitted the lowest of 13 offers and will do the job for \$115,000. Price Brothers Co., also low bidder, will supply sewer pipes and materials for \$36,275.

Payments on both jobs will not be due from the city until after July 1, 1971.

IN OTHER action, the council set April 5 at 8 p.m. for a necessity hearing on covering an open storm ditch running between Kensington Manor Apartments and Farmington Oaks subdivision.

Dinan says engineers estimate the work will cost \$9,000 with the city, apartments and subdivision each sharing one-third of the costs. The council also set April 5 at 8 p.m. as its public hearing on a request from the U.S. Post Office to grant a parking variance for the post office proposed for the north side of Grand River east of School St.

In other action, the council: Granted a license for Bel-Aire Lanes to serve liquor in the concourse area behind the lanes.

Approved transfer of the liquor license of the Huron River Hunting & Fishing Club to the club's new building, on Farmington Rd. north of Freedom Dr., which is scheduled to open in July.

Voted to donate \$100 to the

Farmington Community Center as a token of support; and.

Approved a schedule for ball teams to use the lighted fields at City Park and Drake Park.

## 5-Year-Old Is Sixth Fatality

A five-year-old Farmington girl became Farmington Township's sixth traffic fatality of 1971 Monday night when she was thrown from a car involved in a collision at 12 Mile and Farmington Rds.

Jane Coleman, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Robert P. Coleman of 3710 Wendy Lee, Farmington, was pronounced dead on arrival at Botsford General Hospital Monday night.

She was a passenger in the car driven by her older sister, Miss Patricia Ann Coleman, 20, of the same address.

ANOTHER sister, Beth, age 11, was badly injured in the crash and operated on Monday night in Botsford where she is listed in serious condition. A third sister, Katie, age 14, is also being treated in Botsford.

The eldest Miss Coleman, who was released and then readmitted Tuesday for a knee injury, was driving east on 12 Mile, according to Sgt. Arlo Newell of the Farmington Township traffic safety division.

Witnesses report Miss Coleman's car crashed into a second car heading south on Farmington Rd.

The second car was driven by Arthur S. Lennox, 55, of 2585 Ridgewood, Farmington. He was treated in Botsford and released.

The Coleman girl's death was the sixth township fatality in 1971 and the second within 24 hours.

## Club Selling Fertilizer

Orders for fertilizer are being solicited by members of the North Farmington High School Varsity Club. Profits will be used to pay off the universal gym purchased a year ago and to complete the concession stand under construction.

Price per bag (enough to cover 10,000 square feet) is \$5.95 or \$6.95 for fertilizer

plus weed killer. Deliveries will be made March 20 or purchases may be picked up at the school between 9 a.m. and 1 p.m. on that date.

Since it is "that time of year" for winter-damaged lawns, Varsity members urge the community to order their lawn medicine through them by calling 626-2540.

## What's Inside

### Recruiting Minorities

The natural process of hiring teachers has resulted in but one Negro and one oriental on the 800-member faculty of Farmington public schools. The Family Life Education committee has suggested an active recruiting program to hire teachers from minority groups.

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## Police Quell Outbreak At Orchard Ridge

Several students were injured and a number of small fires set in a 30-minute rampage Monday at Oakland Community College's Orchard Ridge branch in Farmington.

The disruption ended with the arrival of Farmington city and township police and Oakland County Sheriff's officers on the modern campus at 1496 and Orchard Lake roads.

As of late Monday, no arrests had been made.

The disruption occurred in the student activities building following an unsuccessful attempt by the Association of Black Students to win 15 "demands" from administrators at all three of OCC's branches.

SIX STUDENTS were injured and taken to Botsford General Hospital in Farmington.

Five students who were treated for minor injuries and released are Maureen McDonald, 21; Glenn Meek, 19; Kenneth Switz, 19; Bonnie Macey, 20; and James Aro, 19. Thomas Pickens, 20,

was hospitalized and listed in satisfactory condition Tuesday morning.

In the disruption, an estimated 10 to 15 black students broke two windows, overturned cafeteria tables, topped a magazine rack and upset chairs and ashtrays.

Orchard Ridge Provost S. James Manilla said two fires were set in trashcans but were extinguished before any damage was done to the building.

FARMINGTON Township Police Chief Irving Yakes said an investigation was in process. Police withdrew from the campus about 1:30 p.m. Monday, leaving a couple of squad cars to patrol.

No classes were interrupted, either during the day or evening.

Yakes said that as soon as he received word of the disruption, he contacted the South Oakland Mutual Aid Assn., which responded with police from neighboring communities. They were not needed, however, and remained outside the campus, the chief said.

No black students were available for interviews.

Their association reportedly had a political upheaval about a week ago, and a new set of officers was elected. College officials and even while student leaders were still unsure of their names. The black leaders could not be reached for their version of the happenings.

HERE IS the sequence of events, as pieced together from interviews with the Orchard Ridge provost and some students:

Representatives of the ABS and OCC's three campuses were scheduled to meet at 10 a.m., but administrators from the Auburn Hills and Highland Lakes campuses failed to appear on time, and the black students became disgruntled.

Manilla said the OCC administration had been meeting weekly since last October with black students to discuss the demands. He added that last week's change in ABS leadership may have precipitated Monday's trouble.

Among the demands:

• Review of textbooks between ABS representatives and departmental representatives, the ABS charging that some texts are "irrelevant" to blacks.

• Replacement of black faculty and administrators who leave by other blacks, and more black faculty members.

• Reopening of a catering service contract. The ABS termed the "restriction of one catering service" as "monopolistic" and "does not benefit us."

• A larger operating budget for the ABS, including more typewriters and telephones.

• More extension courses and services in black-populated areas of Pontiac and Royal Oak Township.

• Transportation for black students and the giving of on-campus jobs to black OCC students instead of to high school students.

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INSIDE YOUR HOMETOWN NEWSPAPER...

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