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YOUR HOMEOWN NEWSPAPER

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today's
hot line

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what's inside

New Synagogue?

A zoning appeals decision on a new synagogue has generated some resistance from surrounding homeowners. The story on the proposal and the civic association is on

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New Education?

The changes in vocational education provoked some memories of high school shop class in 'McCosh's Column' in today's Enterprise and Observer.

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Bible Schools

They are getting started in area churches, and some have the first activities scheduled this week. Our Church Section has the information.

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More To Life

Is creativity important? A group in Farmington thinks it is, and as a result, a lot of pre-schoolers are finding there's more to life than sitting in front of a TV set.

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Recapturing Past

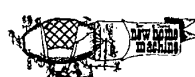
Two concerts which set out to recapture the past are scheduled for Observersland this coming week. One (in Farmington) goes back to the band concerts in the town square and the other (in Garden City), to the big bands of the 1930s and 1940s.

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FOCUS:
Suburbia

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Our magical new home machine will take you to all the places you need to know about when looking for a place to live. Today's issue of FOCUS: Suburbia will guide you to new and exciting quarters... don't miss it.

Storm Water Plan Will Aid Growth

By DAN McCOSH

The answer to some of the growing pains of Farmington Township are outlined in a plan for storm drains delivered to the township board recently.

The 15-page text outlines \$25.5 million worth of new drain construction, aimed at draining storm water from a fully-developed city in a metropolitan area.

While the full report was presented to the township board Monday, the board has already acted on two priority items included in the study.

- Plans for drainage of the expanded Northwestern expressway were changed to accommodate the water draining from the far northeast section of the township.
- Plans are being drawn up for an \$800,000 drain in the southeast section.

Pate, Hirm and Bogue, Inc., the engineers who prepared the report, indicated in the cover letter they began work on it in 1969, as part of the master plan study in the township.

The report outlines the main reasons why the storm drainage system has to be improved where it exists, and built in areas where it does not.

Locally, new construction has increased the volume of water running off after every rainstorm.

Since the general slope of the land in the township is from northwest to southeast, this has made the historically low-lying, marshy southeast corner even soggy in recent years.

Road repairs and construction have also been stalled because outlets for the road drains don't exist.

Also, water doesn't recognize political boundaries.

The development of surrounding areas is the second main concern of the drainage plan.

West Bloomfield water tends to drain to Farmington, and Farmington water in turn flows mainly into Southfield and Livonia.

This is mentioned frequently in the report, and it strongly recommends some

kind of cooperative effort with the county.

The plan recommends establishing drainage districts, working with inter-county agencies to plan outlets for the water, then building the drains.

"Until construction appears imminent, general estimates of cost for these improvements will only be an indication of the magnitude of the problem confronting the people of Farmington Township," the report says.

Financing the drains could be different from past practice for improvements like paving, water and sanitary sewer.

The board indicated when planning the drain for the southeast section they would probably pay for construction by a township-wide assessment.

The reasoning for this is since the whole system will eventually serve the whole township, spreading the cost would be fairer.

Another advantage is the assessment would gradually

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ARSON SUSPECTED — Mr. and Mrs. Charles Spooner escaped out the back window of an apartment in Topps Motel, 28744 Grand River, early Friday morning when flames engulfed the front of the building, scorching the door and damaging the roof. Township police suspect a fire bombing or arson. They called in the state fire marshal after arresting a suspect at the scene, whose name was withheld pending arraignment. (Photo by Ralph Evert)

Farmington To Enter Busing Case

By MARTHA MAHAN

Farmington School District will probably be ordered to enter the case before U.S. District Judge Stephen Roth on metropolitan school desegregation as a result of the latest appeals court ruling, according to School Attorney Robert Kelly.

Farmington has been staying out of the suit on Kelly's advice while contributing to the legal fees of John Saxton, representing those suburban districts who testified in court.

One part of the decision apparently forces the remaining 18 districts who have not been heard to be included. Kelly said that although there is a possibility the remaining districts will attempt to re-open the case, he expects the real test to be before the U.S. Supreme Court.

Other legal opinion indicated the decision caused no tremors in Observersland, except, possibly, a quiver of satisfaction.

In the first place, it was expected. Secondly, attorneys for suburban schools fighting cross-district busing got what they really were after in filing their appeal.

They wanted, and got, strong dissenting opinions to use as bulwarks in an ultimate U.S. Supreme Court appeal.

This week's 6-3 decision by the full nine member U.S. Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals left unchanged an order by an earlier three man panel that all suburbs involved in any metropolitan desegregation plan should be given a chance to be heard in court.

But it left them with little to talk about when their day in court comes.

It ruled out testimony on whether Detroit is segregated and on the propriety of a metropolitan plan. It also held there was no necessity to prove a district guilty of segregation in order to include it in a desegregation unit.

However, Saxton said he plans an immediate appeal to the U.S. Supreme Court. "If it appears the court will act quickly," he will seek postponement of the Detroit court hearings until the high court rules.

It would be purposeless, he feels, to conduct lengthy hearings only to have the original case overturned.

One new "ringer" in this week's decision has caused Saxton "a little concern."

That is the court's declaration that the Michigan Legislature has the power and responsibility to "provide a complete remedy for the unconstitutional segregation disclosed in this record."

The court added: "If, however, the Legislature fails to act, the District Court shall proceed to fashion such a remedy including an interim remedy if found to be necessary."

"Does that mean the court is going to wait and give the Legislature a chance to act, and for how long a period will it wait?" Saxton asked. "The court doesn't give a hint."

"As a matter of political practicality, I think the Legislature will decline the invitation," Saxton said, but the question is: Will it be given a period of time in which to do so? It's kind of a mystery.

Saxton reiterated his conviction that the Roth decision ultimately will be overruled by the U.S. Supreme Court. "There were errors by Roth and by the Court of Appeals," he maintained.

Reaction among Observersland school officials was cautiously optimistic.

Garden City Supt. Bracken Snow said Saxton and the school boards he represented "got what they wanted."

from the federal appeals court.

"Saxton felt that dissenting views offered by appeals judges would give him a better chance in arguing the case before the U.S. Supreme Court," Snow said.

Harry Howard, superintendent of Wayne-Westland Community Schools, said suburban superintendents will meet with Saxton next week after the appeals court's 131-page ruling is reviewed.

Garden City and Wayne-Westland schools were the first to retain an attorney to fight Roth's busing plan.

Plymouth school Supt. John M. Hoben, whose district was not among the 52 involved in the Roth decision, said he "just doesn't know" whether it will be included now in view of the possibility of a three-county, 66-district hearing.

Courthouse Changes Are Being Studied

By DAN McCOSH

Farmington city councilmen will have to make a decision sometime soon on whether they want to have Judge Michael Hand's district court in their town.

Hand's district court on a schedule split between the City of Farmington and Farmington Township.

The judge recently announced he favored consolidating his courtroom at a single location, as well as working for an additional judge.

But he admitted being taken by surprise by a concrete proposal of Township Supervisor Robert McConnell to expand Township Hall, adding a courtroom big enough for two judges.

McConnell's idea is to build

an addition nearly doubling the present size of the ground floor behind the present building at 11 Mile and Orchard Lake Roads.

Included in the proposal, estimated at \$160,000, are two courtrooms, an expanded building department and other offices, and more court office space.

McConnell sees it as compatible with his position there eventually should be consolidation of the two cities. Monday, the township board told him to keep working on plans for the addition.

Robert Deadman, Farmington city manager admits a consolidated courtroom would help record keeping, and the parking situation is "terrible" at city hall when court is in session.

"But it is also a question of what is best for the community,"

State law makes it mandatory for a district judge to sit in a city the size of Farmington if the city requests it. The final decision on the courtroom, and indirectly the expansion of Township Hall, therefore lies with the Farmington council.

1,500 Turn Up For Rock Party

The reaction to invitations circulated at Farmington High announcing a party in Meadowbrook subdivision near Eight Mile and Haggerty proved overwhelming to the party planners.

About 1,500 teenagers showed up at a baseball diamond where the flyers promised two rock bands, according to Farmington Township police.

The resulting noise, drink

ing and parking complaints brought a patrol car to the scene about 10:30 p.m.

Which was hit by several rocks.

Eventually five cars from the township, an extra shift, along with aid from the city and state police ended the "party" by midnight.

No arrests were made, and one complaint was lodged because of someone driving across a resident's lawn.



GREG BRIOLET concentrates to steer his bike through the obstacle course at the "road-a-o" sponsored recently by the Farmington Jaycees and the police departments. (Photo by Fran Evert)