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# The Observer

## OF FARMINGTON

THE OBSERVER NEWSPAPER GROUP, founded by Paul M. Chandler, publishing newspapers in the cities of Livonia, Plymouth, Farmington, Garden City and Westland and Townships of Plymouth, Redford and Farmington

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Philip H. Power, Publisher

This Week's Press Run

89,250

The six Observer Newspapers are Michigan's largest weekly newspapers. Combined circulation of the six papers is over 100,000 copies a week. The Observer is published in Farmington, Michigan.

This Edition Contains

40 PAGES

# Township Gets \$14,328 for Land Study



Scenes such as this in and around the shopping centers helped to create furor when called to attention of City Council.

## Shopping Center Trash Stirs Ire of City Council

Litter and the compiling of rubbish at the various shopping centers has again raised the ire of the City Council.

Declaring that conditions are deplorable and that they seem to be getting worse instead of better, Councilman Ralph Yoder asked that some action be taken to remedy the situation.

He was especially piqued at conditions that prevail in the alley behind the Bel-Aire Shopping Center at Ten Mile and Orchard Lake Road and furnished a set of pictures showing the piles of rubbish to bolster his argument.

Councilman Yoder's complaint raised the question as to which city department had jurisdiction in such matters. City Manager John Dinan pointed out that the DPW had certain responsibilities, but that a warning from the Police and the Department of Public Safety would possibly have more effect.

The City Manager, in an effort to satisfy the members of Council and help clear up the conditions, suggested that a warning notice be sent by the Police to the offenders as the first step. Then, if the condition does not im-

prove the violation tickets should be issued and the offenders prosecuted. Subsequently, this warning was sent.

It was pointed out during the discussion that the Bel-Aire Shopping Center was not alone in violating the regulations on litter and rubbish and that all Shopping Centers in the city were guilty.

This trouble is not a new problem, according to the veteran members of Council, who are deeply concerned with the garbage pick-up.

The City of Farmington provides a once-a-week pick-up, but this is not sufficient in the shopping center areas. As a result they contract with private collectors, who often times are remiss in their collections.

When this condition comes about the problem is even worse—especially over a holiday week-end, such as the recent Labor Day period.

Mayor Wilbur Brotherton informed the Council members that the drugstore in the Bel-Aire Center had to furnish his own garbage pick-up and that possibly, some improvement could be made if other merchants were asked to co-operate in the same fashion.

In an off-the-record discussion of the problem it was pointed out that there have been cases where folks, living in the outlying districts, brought their litter back to the shopping center on the theory that "We bought our merchandise here, so why shouldn't we bring the litter and rubbish back to where it was purchased?"

Later on, during the Council meeting Councilman John Allen suggested that some sort of a loader be placed on the city's regular DPW trucks and the drivers be instructed to pick up rubbish.

"I think we could offer a little more service to the taxpayers," he said, "and I certainly would be in favor of such a move."

When it was pointed out that in many areas persons were attempting to get rid of such things as old hot water tanks and that it would not be feasible to have the regular DPW trucks gather them, Councilman Allen agreed to wait until the next purchase of trucks to ask that some provision be made for a loader.

In the meantime a keen eye will be kept on the litter and rubbish problem and violators will be brought to task.

## Three-Year Limit Placed on Program

Farmington Township has been given a grant of \$14,328 as the first of three yearly payments by the Federal Government to conduct a comprehensive study of land use in the township.

The grant is one of six given to Michigan communities according to Robert C. Webb, Secretary of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

Other areas include: Grand Haven Township (Wayne County) \$12,751; Harrison Township (Macomb County) \$13,800; Kingston (Village) (Tuscola County) \$2,298; Mid County Region (Shiawassee County) \$20,185; and Ypsilanti Township (Washtenaw County) \$14,958.

The grants were based on the 1960 population figures which show Farmington Township with an official population of 24,632 at that time.

Filed over the grant Curt Hays, Township Supervisor, let it be known that the request for the grant was made last fall and now that the grant has been made no time will be lost in starting the study.

"We have a comprehensive plan worked out by the Planning Commission," he stated, "but the construction of present highways and other things will be a hindrance to what we have planned."

"With the grant we now will make a complete study of the land use for the entire township and that will in-

clude residential, commercial and industrial property.

"It is to be a three year study," Supervisor Hall continued, "and with these annual payments the Planning Commission can arrive at some fine plans."

The grant, just approved, is the first ever given in the Township and it marks another step forward in the development of the area.

Under the government procedure, the money contained in the grant is payable to the Michigan Department of Commerce and will be disposed by that body.

## New Skating Rink Planned — But Where?

The City of Farmington is going to have another skating rink this winter — but where?

The City Council tabled a suggestion from W. Allen Nelson, of the planning Commission, to use the city property north of Freedom Road, until a more comprehensive study could be made of the various locations.

"In analyzing the situation on this property," City Manager Dinan informed the Council, "the only area that could be utilized for skating would be adjacent to the Swim Club property as the balance of the city-owned property either has trees or the terrain is not adaptable to skating."

He also pointed out that the proposed area is isolated from the source of water, and that permission would have to be asked from property owners over a distance of 400 to 500 feet for permission to cross their property with hose to supply the needed water. He also explained that the city does not have hose in that quantity for such a purpose.

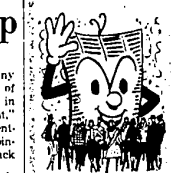
Meanwhile the City Manager suggested that, if an ice skating rink is required, some thought be given to the Magic Square at Cloverdale school.

"This location is not so isolated," he explained, "and we would have a flat surface with which to start."

On hearing these suggestions, the Council agreed to table the matter for further study.

## Weeds Are Costly

Weeds can be a costly item. This was proven Monday evening at the Township Board meeting when the Trustees approved the placing of \$1,215 on the tax rolls of those who are delinquent in paying for the weed-cutting done by the Township. The average cost per lot was announced at \$15.



FOR B-I-G

VALUES

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NOW . . .

## Trash Also Is Problem In Township

Trash has caused headaches in many places, but it brought about nightmares in Farmington Township during the past week.

It all started when the Wilbur Sanitation Co. cancelled its pact to make the collections.

In haste the Munn Company was employed to do the job—but several unexpected barriers upset the plans. First, the equipment sent in was too large to turn around. Next, the smaller equipment wasn't enough to do the job.

All the while, the phones rang and rang in the Township offices, registering complaints.

Finally, Supervisor Hall explained, "We just about gave up when it was called to our attention that a lady was driving one of the trash pickup trucks and that an elderly man was doing the loading."

This was no way to treat Senior Citizens, the Trustees explained, so another effort is now being made with two husky guys who claim they can do the job.

## What's Inside

## FARMINGTON

Amusements ..... 47B

A &amp; P Food News 12D

Business Directory . 2D

Church Directory 44C

Editorial Page ..... 6A

Food Fair News ..... 7C

Home

Improvements 45B

Kroger Food News 5C

Sports Pages ..... 23B

Want Ads ..... Sec. D

Women's News . Sec. C

## Who Feels Old at 98? It Isn't Our Minnie

"I may be 98 years old, but I don't feel that old."

What's the saying about being as old as you feel?

It's that's true then Miss Minnie Smith, 98 in calendar years, must be at the oldest, a young 50.

A resident of Farmington all of her life, Miss Smith currently resides at the Pine Convalescent Home on Gill Rd. in the City of Farmington.

The oldest of the five Smith children, "Aunt Minnie" as she is known at the home was born in a house which still stands on Nine Mile Rd. back of the old Power family house.

When she was five her family moved to a farm at Halstead and Howards Rds. (11 1/2 Mile Rd.) where she lived for "at least 75 years." The house and barn are still standing and up until Aunt Minnie's brother died "about 20 years ago" the farm was still owned and cultivated by the family.

Last week she celebrated her 98th birthday complete with a visit from her niece and her husband, George and Jane Welbon of Commerce Lake, a flock of cards and presents and ice cream and cake.

Over the weekend the entire clan gathered to mark the event. Her sister, Mrs. Elizabeth Vorchert of Plymouth; the Eltons, and two great-nieces, Mrs. James Miller of Howell and Mrs. Robert Spicer of Linden, all present.

Miss Smith says that she has seen many changes in Farmington during her life, but that she likes to see the "growth of the community over the past 19 or 15 years."

Known as "The Dress-

maker" during her younger days, Miss Smith was a travelling dressmaker. She not only made dresses, but designed them as well as there were no patterns available in those days.

She usually travelled from home to home—including the 100-year-old Green farm at 14 Mile and Halstead Rd.

A few years ago she was still looking good for "enjoyment."

The "oldest" resident at (Continued on Page 6-B)



FOUR GENERATIONS gather around 98-year-old Minnie Smith, of Farmington, who recently celebrated another birthday. Miss Smith is shown with niece, Mrs. George Welbon (right), great, great nephew Mark Miller (left) and great niece, Mrs. Barbara Miller holding great, great nephew David Miller.

## School Aides Get Raise

Several groups of teaching and non-teaching personnel, not covered under master contracts, will receive raises for the 1966-67 school year as a result of action taken by the Farmington Board of Education at its Monday evening meeting.

Salary improvements will go to all Special Education Aides, Non Aides, Parking Lot attendants and seven groups of individuals who, in addition to their teaching responsibilities, work in various sport programs.

The four Special Education Aides employed by the District will receive salaries from the minimum of \$2,852.83 to the maximum level of \$3,555. Their previous salary range was from \$2,452 to \$3,055. An increase of 20 cents per hour went to Non Aides bringing their hourly pay to \$2.40. Two Parking Lot Attendants employed by the District received the same increase.

The Board Salary Committee also recommended expanding teachers' salary

## Bud Guest On Program At CC Dinner

Bud Guest, conductor of the Sunny Side of the Street program on Station WFLM and considered one of the leading radio personalities in the Midwest, will be featured at the 11th annual meeting of the Farmington Chamber of Commerce on Tuesday evening, October 18.

The meeting will be held in the Masonic Temple and will be open to all members of the Farmington Chamber of Commerce and their guests.

In addition to the entertainment program there will be a short business meeting when reports will be given on the recent Founders Festival that was sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce.

City Manager John Dinan will be present to give the general public to study.

Additional Reserve Football Coach (North Farmington)—\$557.

Assistant Gymnastic Coach (North Farmington)—\$557.

Wrestling coaches for each Junior High School—\$557.

Cheerleading Advisor for each Junior High—\$37.

Girls' Intramural Gymnastics to reach Senior High School—20%.

Girls' Interscholastic Volleyball for each Senior High—45%.

All Sports Trainers for each Senior High—65%.

In other business Robert Clarke presented the Annual Audit Report for the year July 1, 1965, to June 30, 1966.

From this report, required by state law, an annual report will be compiled and will be available at the Board of Education offices for the general public to study.

## The People Speak

## Resume Night Garbage Pick-Up

Night pick-up of garbage and trash is going to be resumed in Farmington Township.

Because of the many complaints received following the adoption of an ordinance to limit the pick-up to the day light hours,

the Township officials conducted a poll through the newspapers to get the opinion of the people—and they got it.

Curt Hall, Township Supervisor, announced at the Board meeting on Monday evening that out of approximately 1600 re-

turns, the vote was about 5 to 1 in favor of returning to the night pick-up.

In view of this, the members of the Township Board voted to rescind the daytime ordinance and adopt another, permitting the collection through the

night.

"Now, if we have any complaints of the noise of rattling cans and bottles in the middle of the night," Supervisor Hall commented, "we will have the opinion of the voters to back us up."

There was no answer.

## This Week's \$64,000 Question?

During the discussion of the litter and rubbish problem at last week's Council meeting it was suggested that each merchant be responsible for the refuse either at the front or the back of his place of business.

City Manager John Dinan asked: "Who is responsible for it when the wind blows?"