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# The Observer

## OF FARMINGTON

This Week's Press Run  
**91,200**  
 The Observer News-  
 paper is a new Michigan  
 Largest Weekly News-  
 paper Group. Circulation  
 in the four-minute news of  
 the city is a record. The  
 coverage of 6 p.m. to 6  
 a.m. in Western Wayne County.  
 This Edition  
 Contains **44 PAGES**

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  
 VOL. 3—No. 26 WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 25, 1967 33425 Grand River, Farmington Philip H. Power, Publisher



**SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS Gerald Harrison** and **Jaycee President Norv Ken V. Harrison** received the outstanding citizen award from the Farmington Jaycees, Saturday night. At the presentation were, from left, Richard Tupper of the Jaycees;

## Jaycees Honor Three For Community Service

Farmington's Jaycees passed out community awards Saturday night at a dinner closing the observance of National Jaycee Week. The awards went to: Distinguished Service Award to Glen Dale Smith, executive director of the New Horizons Workshop; Outstanding Citizen Award to Farmington Superintendent of Schools Gerald V. Harrison; and Outstanding Young Educator to Frank Delewski, principal of the Flanders Elementary School.

## Group Votes Its OK Of Community Study

A permanent 14-man study committee to study the possible avenues of development open to the Farmington community will be formed early in February. Members of the committee will be two voting representatives from the City of Farmington, Farmington Township, the Village of Quaker Run and the Village of Wood Creek Farms, as well as representatives of the League of Women Voters, the Jaycees and the Board of Commerce. A representative of the Farmington Board of Education will meet with the committee and to serve as a liaison person, but will not vote. The decision to form the permanent committee came last week at a meeting of the various representatives with three staff members of the Michigan State University Institute for Community Development and Service. Members of the MSU faculty at the meeting were: Duane Gibson, director of the Institute; Ed Al-

## Township Sticks To One Man One Vote FARC Stand

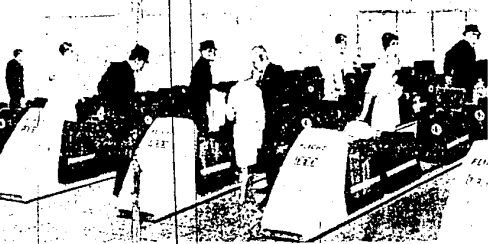
Farmington Township will hold to its philosophy of one-man-one vote in the reorganization of the Farmington Area Recreation Commission. The Board reaffirmed its stand Monday night. Trustee Earl Oppertbauer reported to the Board that under the reorganization plan approved by the Board some time ago he had suggested that the township have three members on the Commission, the Farmington Schools two, and the City of Farmington and the Clearcreek School District, one each. The four governmental units support the community wide recreational program which operates a summer program. Oppertbauer noted that the Township contributed \$8,300 during 1966 to the program and stated that this was the largest financial share. He added that the Farmington Schools provide most of the physical facilities for the program and the buses and that they should have the next largest representation. Reorganization of the committee began in October when M. H. Sitts, president of the commission, wrote to each one of the governmental

# Referendum Decision Expected on Feb. 13th

Farmington Township dumped the referendum petitions in Township Attorney Joseph T. Brennan's law Monday night with instructions to report back to the Board on their validity at the next Township Board meeting Feb. 13. The petitions were filed at the office of Township Clerk Floyd Cairns last Wednesday morning. Containing more than 3,500 signatures, the petition requests a referendum on the Township Board's Dec. 19 decision to rezone a 4.3-acre parcel at Northwest-Highway and Middlebell Rd. to a multiple classification. This corner has been termed a "problem area" by the Township Planners, which has refused to rezone the parcel over the past year. Each time the matter has come before the Planning Commission, residents from Franklin Fairways and Franklin Forrest have jammed the meeting and been vocal in their opposition to any change in the zoning from the existing residential, office and business classification. When the Township Board overturned the Planning Commission it broke a long-standing tradition of going along with the Commission's recommendations on zoning. A total of 219 petitions were filed. They were counted by 11 different persons. Farmington Township Supervisor Curt Hall said that 16 of the circulators did not live in Farmington Township and another five were not registered voters. Township Attorney Brennan stated, however, that he thought the petitions were legal even though the circulators did not live in the Township. He added that he would have to review the status in order to be certain. Brennan pointed out that under the state law, the petitions must be signed by property owners residing within the Township. He stated that it was not necessary for the signatures to be of registered voters in order to be valid. Under state law 15 percent of the total property owners in the Township must sign a petition in order to hold a referendum. A few weeks ago Brennan placed the required signatures at between 2,500 and 3,000. With more than 3,500 signatures filed it seems almost certain that the Township will hold the referendum.

## Township Rezones Corner

The corner of 13 Mile Rd. and Middlebell has been rezoned by the Farmington Township Board to allow for the construction of a real-estate office. The action by the Board came Monday night after Oakland County Circuit Court Judge Arthur J. Moore refused to intervene and set aside his previous judgement that the residential zoning for this corner was unfair. The action was expected as the Board had earlier stated that it would withhold action on the rezoning until Judge Moore handed down his decision, but that if he refused to intervene it would rezone the corner. One court case on the corner still pending in the Circuit Court, Attorney Wendell Brown has until next Monday to file an amended case asking that the Board be prohibited from rezoning the property. Last week Judge Moore refused to issue this order and gave Brown the time to file an amended complaint before deciding whether or not to dismiss the case. This particular piece has been before the Township Planning Commission at least twice during the past year. Each time a proposal came up to change the residential zoning on the corner the residents of Franklin Fairways and Franklin Forrest Subdivisions have objected. Each time the Planning Commission has refused to act. Chamberlain Real Estate, which wants to purchase the property and build a new office, finally took the case to court and won it.



A PROTOTYPE of the new system for port Association was held Tuesday to compare the new method and to decide on whether or not to invest \$100,000 in the Company in its Farmington Township plant. Construction of the 18,000 square foot facility is expected to begin in late March. A meeting of the Air Trans-

## Farmington A Leader In Sex Education Program Board Told

A progress report on the sex education program was given to the Farmington Board of Education Monday night. Dr. Armin Grams of Merrill Palmer Institute, who is spearheading the planning of the project along with educational leaders brought the Board up to date on the program. It originally was launched in the fall of 1964. At present two six-week classes of approximately 20 people each are being conducted. One is held at Middlebell under the direction of Larry Friedman, a principal in the Farmington school system. His back-up teacher is James Brush, a local layman. The other course is at Cloverdale. It is led by Dr. Jack Cleveland, assisted by Jean Ralph, both Farmington Elementary Principals. The classes meet two hours each week and at present have had two sessions. Teachers for the program were selected from a group of 17 interested community leaders who attended instructional classes taught this fall by Dr. Grams. Dr. Grams praised the Farmington Education system for being a leader in a community sex education program. He told how ideas along this line have mushroomed since the Farmington program was christened. He said the Farmington Board was "encouraged" by the program and was truly a "pioneer" in the area of sex education on a community basis. Merrill Palmer's function in the program is to assist and advise the teachers as well as train them. They also have written a syllabus now being used in the classes and plan to update it as the project progresses. Dr. Grams praised the Farmington Education system for being a leader in a community sex education program. He told how ideas along this line have mushroomed since the Farmington program was christened. He said the Farmington Board was "encouraged" by the program and was truly a "pioneer" in the area of sex education on a community basis.

Hall estimated that the cost of the special election would be \$3,000. In discussing the matter Monday night, Hall observed that even if the referendum overtook the zoning, "I assume that Judge Benjamin Burdick (owner of the property) would take the matter to court. I doubt that expert planners opinion could be obtained so that the Court would uphold the residential zoning in this case." Brennan observed that if the multiple zoning is overturned by a referendum and the court rules against the residential zoning, the only possible zoning left for the parcel would be office or business. "Both of these types of zoning create more traffic than multiple," he asserted, "and this seems to be a colossal case of those people up there cutting off their nose to spite their face."

## Schools Buy 9 Shiny New Buses

The Farmington Board of Education approved the purchase of nine school buses at their Monday night meeting. Each bus will cost \$5,642.09. Bids were taken jointly for several school districts, including Farmington, by Oakland County. Low bidder for the chassis was Stark Hickey Ford with a price of \$2,927.00 per unit. Ward was awarded the body bid at \$3,715 each. The classes meet two hours each week and at present have had two sessions. Teachers for the program were selected from a group of 17 interested community leaders who attended instructional classes taught this fall by Dr. Grams. Purpose of the course is to help parents as well as other members of the community better understand how to approach sex education of their children. It is hoped, according to Dr. Grams, that in spring the project can expand to four classes. The ultimate goal is to have one or two such sessions in every elementary school in the district sometime in the future. A grant of \$2,500 has been received from the McGregor Foundation in Detroit to help achieve this long range plan of community participation. The two teams of teachers for the program were selected from a group of 17 community leaders who attended instructional classes taught this fall by Dr. Grams.

## Township Racks Up First 1967 Fatality

A 2-year-old Novi boy has become Farmington Township's first traffic fatality for 1967. Dead is Richard E. Erwin, 4 of 401 W. 10 Mile Rd., Novi. He was a passenger in a car driven by his 17-year-old sister, Kathleen. According to the police reports, the pair were en route to the store to buy pop when the accident occurred on 10 Mile Rd. west of Grand River. The driver of the other car, Ruth A. Walton, 32, of 23845 Glen Ridge, Novi, was also injured. Two sons, Ronald, 9, and Raymond, 11, passengers in her car were not injured seriously. Miss Erwin and Mrs. Walton were both taken to St. Joseph General Hospital following the accident. The hospital declined to release their condition and even to state whether or not they were still patients. According to the police, Mrs. Walton said that she did not see the car until the last minute. Miss Erwin told police that she remembers very little about the accident, but that she was slowing down and getting ready to make a left hand turn into a store parking lot when the accident occurred. (According to the police, Mrs. Walton said that she did not see the car until the last minute.)

**What's Inside FARMINGTON**  
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FARMINGTON TOWNSHIP'S first traffic fatality for 1967 was a passenger in the car. Twelve-year-old Richard E. Erwin of Novi, died from injuries suffered Jan. 21 when the auto was struck in the rear on 10 Mile Rd. just west of Grand River. The seats were removed by Township police in order to get Richard and his sister, Kathleen, 17, from the car after the accident.

**Water Project Is LWV Topic**  
 Mrs. Carl Gilgallon will discuss the Lake Erie Water Basin study at the Jan. 31 meeting of the League of Women Voters of Farmington City and Township. The meeting will begin at 8 p.m. at the First Farmington Savings and Loan Association at 22725 Orchard Lake Rd. For further information contact Mrs. Frank Leblond at 476-3926.

**WE ARE No. 1**

**BECAUSE OF YOU!**  
 The Observer News-  
 paper is a new Michigan  
 Largest Weekly News-  
 paper Group. Circulation  
 in the four-minute news of  
 the city is a record. The  
 coverage of 6 p.m. to 6  
 a.m. in Western Wayne County.