

## today's hot line

Volume 83 Number 67

## what's inside

### Keep Bond Open

Parents of children attending Bond Elementary of Farmington Public Schools have organized a petition drive and are presenting their views to the board and public on why Bond should remain open, at least for one more year.

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### Political Sprinter

The Oakland County portion of the 19th Republican Congressional District met this week and elected delegates to attend the state convention. Among the 15 state delegates from the Farmington area is a Farmington High School senior, Mark Timmons, who is a track sprinter able to run the hundred in :10.0 and 220-yard in :22.5.

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### 9 Days To Vote

Nine days remain before Farmington residents will elect two members of the Farmington Board of Education from a field of 12 candidates. Backgrounds on three of the 12 is reported inside.

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### Falcons Hoping

It's Farmington against Wayne Memorial in the Les Anders baseball championship. For the complete rundown of the upcoming game and the comparison of the two teams, see today's sport section.

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### Preacher Before

Lester Kinsolving, our religion columnist, has done some checking into the days when candidate George McGovern was a young pastor. Religion Update today is interesting reading, whatever your political preferences.

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## FOCUS: Suburbia



She's wearing shorts... what are her folks wearing? Find out in today's FOCUS on Outdoor Fashions...

# 1,240 Students Graduating; Harrison Losing 1st Seniors

Farmington School District's three high schools will graduate 1,240 seniors this month with the spotlight being on Harrison High, which will be graduating its first class.

Harrison will graduate 339 students, North Farmington High 441 and Farmington High School 460.

Many of the 1,240 graduates will be entering colleges and universities for advanced studies. But many, also, will be seeking jobs in the area. Unfortunately, many will enter the unemployment ranks because jobs remain scarce.

THE GRADUATION ceremonies at the three schools will bring prominent speakers into Farmington to issue challenges to the 1972 graduates.

Farmington High graduates will hear Johannes Spreen, former Detroit police commissioner; North will hear Dr. Maurice A. Crane, professor of humanities at Michigan State University, and Harrison seniors will hear Michigan Atty. Gen. Frank J. Kelley.

Some of the graduation events have already occurred while others are scheduled for next week. The graduation ceremonies are: FHS at 8 p.m. June 15 in Ford Auditorium; Detroit; NFHS at 8 p.m. June 14 in Ford Auditorium; and HHS at 3 p.m. June 11 in Ford Auditorium.

Farmington High held its senior prom May 5 in Lovett Hall, Greenfield Village and North Farmington had its prom June 1 in the Rooster-tail, Detroit. Harrison's prom will be June 8 in the Rooster-tail.

Farmington High will have its "swing out" at 8:45 a.m. on June 9 in the FHS gym. The NFHS "swing out" will begin 9 a.m. June 9 in North's gym and the Harrison "swing out" will be 8:30 a.m. June 8 in its gym.

THE FHS graduation ceremony will begin with greetings from Alan Vassilakos, senior class president and son of Mr. and Mrs. Gregory V. Vassilakos of Barfield Dr.

The invocation will be said by Wendy Saari, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Walfred S. Saari, of Tralee Trail, and the benediction pronounced by John North, son of Mr. and Mrs. Carol Pullen of 21046 W. Farm, Northville.

Mrs. Kathryn Stirling, board secretary, will present diplomas to the FHS graduates.

THE NFHS graduation will begin with greetings from Gail Altenberg, class president

and daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Elliott A. Altenburg of Sprucewood.

The invocation and benediction will be said by the Rev. Eric Hammer of Orchard United Methodist Church of Farmington.

Diplomas will be presented North graduates by Richard Peters, board president, who will also make remarks along with Principal Clayton Graham.

HARRISON'S first graduation ceremony will begin with greetings from Robert Fisher, son of Mr. and Mrs. Jack E. Fisher of Lynford Dr.

The invocation will be said by Linda Shuster, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Walter S. Shuster of Middle Belt, and benediction pronounced by Deborah Tomchak, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Frank T. Tomchak of Summerwood.

Presenting the diplomas to Harrison seniors

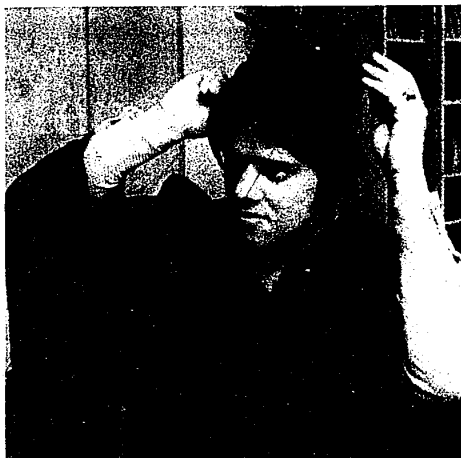
will be Kenneth Perrin, board vice president, who will also be making a short speech.

CLARENCEVILLE High School will hold its graduation ceremonies June 16 at 8 p.m. in the L.E. Schmidt Auditorium in the high school on Middle Belt just south of Eight Mile.

Dr. Russell J. Kleis, professor of administration and higher education at Michigan State University, will deliver the commencement address.

The Rev. John E. Smith, pastor of St. Priscilla Catholic Church, Livonia, will be baccalaureate speaker on Sunday, June 11, beginning at 8 p.m. in the Schmidt Auditorium.

The Rev. Elsie Johns, pastor of Clarenceville United Methodist Church, will offer the invocation and benediction at commencement.



FIRST GRADUATES -- Harrison High School is graduating its first class in 1972. Greg Toney, Harrison senior, is shown looking in the mirror to adjust his mortar board for that historic occasion. (Fran Evert photo)

## Absentee Ballots Available

Absentee voter ballots may be picked up at the Farmington Board of Education office for the June 12 school trustees election. Absentee ballots will be given to residents who expect to be out of town June 12 or unable to go to the polls.

Residents should apply to Byron Oliver, administrative assistant who acts as election clerk for Farmington Schools.

The deadline is 2 p.m. Saturday, June 10, to apply for an absentee ballot. Absentee ballots may be returned to the district at any time but must be returned no later than 5 p.m. on election day, June 12. Residents unable to be at the polls June 12 will be given an application to fill out and an absentee ballot will be mailed to their home.

On Saturday, June 10, from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Oliver's office will be open to receive absentee ballot applications and the ballots may be filled out and handed in on that date.

# Weldon Petz Wins National Honor For Exceptional Lincoln Studies



By SANDRA ARMBRUSTER

The "most coveted award" for study in the area of Lincoln and the Civil War has been presented this weekend to a Farmington school district principal, who is the first educator to merit the award.

Weldon Petz, principal at Forest Elementary School, has received the "Lincoln diploma of honor" during commencement exercises at Lincoln Memorial University located near Cumberland Gap, Tenn.

THE FIRST Michigan man to receive the award, Petz is also the 35th person to receive the award in 34 years. Other recipients include Raymond Massey and Robert Sherwood for the plan and movie "Abe Lincoln in Illinois." Carl Sandburg, Bruce Catton and Alan Nevins.

The award, which is made on the same level as an honorary doctorate, is given by the Committee of Lincolniana. The committee is composed of men with an interest in the Lincoln and Civil War era who judge those who have made significant contributions to the field. Petz was selected because of his work with students as an

educator for 26 years, for his research and writings in music and other areas of Lincolniana and for his work in re-categorizing the country's second largest Lincoln collection.

"I would like to think that my work with children has contributed to the award," said Petz, who has made 54 appearances since January before audiences of all ages. "I hope I can continue to provide material and inspiration for study."

IN ADDITION to his work with children, Petz is busy editing an anthology on Lincoln representing 40 years of work.

He is also re-categorizing the Lincoln collection at Lincoln Memorial University which contains some of the rarest items of Lincolniana in the country.

The university itself was originated in an attempt to fulfill an idea of Lincoln's to reward the people in the Cumberland Gap area for their loyalty during the Civil War.

Petz used the Lincoln collection at the university when doing his master's thesis in musicology on the Lincoln theme. One of the first to

research music in the Lincoln era, Petz is still working on a bibliography which now includes 483 song titles.

The bibliography includes 16 songsters used during Lincoln's first campaign and 10 used during his second. Petz' criteria for songs listed in his bibliography is that they must contain Lincoln's name somewhere in the title or body of the song.

"Lincoln was very moved by music, although musically he could do very little," explained Petz, his enthusiasm rising visibly.

"One night after the Civil War had ended in April, some people came to serenade Lincoln," continued Petz. "While he spoke to the people, Lincoln noticed they had a band with them and asked them to play a tune which was now the property of both sides. That tune was 'Dixie'."

PETZ' INTEREST in Lincolniana began when he was about 13 years old, and he now has a collection of about 40,000 items including 1,500 pictures. This does not include 14 boxes of unfiled paper clippings which he works on when time permits.

"I feel very strongly that heritage should be continued," said Petz. "Call it

hero worship, if you want. But heritage is something that everyone wants -- to realize that these people lived and were real."

"So much of the past is being bulldozed under. Patriotism means one thing to me. These men have given us much that we should be aware of and use to build for the future," he added.

A love of heritage is reflected in Petz' family which is interested in and collects antiques. His wife, Shirley, collects glassware. His son, a ninth grader at West Bloomfield Junior High, collects train materials. His daughter, who graduates from Northern Michigan University this week, collects antique owls and miniature oil lamps.

Petz believes that he has now received "the pinnacle of something that you can get." Where does he go from here? Petz plans to continue work on his bibliography, and work on the university's Lincoln collection this summer.

In the future, Petz hopes "to see a lot of development of materials pertinent to education for the use of all ages because there is little for the very young in heritage materials."