

The Farmington Enterprise

Farmington's Own
Community Newspaper
SERVING SINCE
1888

LEADERSHIP-OUR PURPOSE SERVICE-OUR GOAL

FARMINGTON, MICHIGAN THURSDAY, MARCH 18, 1954

12 PAGES

SEVEN CENTS A COPY

Prize Winner
Second Place
1953
1954
General
Excellence

SIXTY-SIXTH YEAR - NUMBER 24

CONTROL PROTESTS LIMITATION ON ISSUANCE OF DRIVERS' LICENSES

Employ Engineer To Draft Final Parking Site Plans

Details To Be Ready For Council In April

Russell Cole, Farmington engineer, has been employed by the city to prepare final plans and specifications for the two parking lots by the regular April meeting of the City Council. The layout of the lots and specifications will be used by the contractor to determine estimated costs and extent of financing. The Council must approve the plans before further action can be taken.

CONSTRUCTION is being given to the extension of parking facilities along Thomas Street, officials stated. The proposed extension would include additional parking stalls on the south side of Thomas Street west of Warren Street. Under the proposal a parking area would be set up in rear of the stores facing onto the north side of Grand River from the Civic Theater on the west to Curt Hall, agency on the east. The program would also include some parking on the north side of James Street, as well as the proposed extension.

The City Council Monday evening directed the building inspector to issue no new building permits in the area of the proposed parking site.

Engineer work is also continuing on the proposed parking area on South Farmington Road.

Council Requests Dog Quarantine

A formal request is being filed by the Council with the Oakland County Health Department requesting that a dog quarantine be established within the city limits of Farmington.

As soon as the request has been received by health department officials, action will be started to impose the quarantine. Public notice of the provisions of the quarantine will be given. Under the quarantine, all dogs must be confined to the owner's property or on leash when taken off the property.

City police report an increased number of complaints regarding dogs running at large and there have been several incidents of dog bites in recent weeks. This definite report, however, has any definite reports of rabies.

Vote Registration Deadline Friday

This Friday, March 19, is the final day of registration for the special Farmington School District election to be held March 29 at the high school gymnasium.

Only persons not already registered in the Farmington School District need to register during the special period. The special election is being called to allow qualified electors to vote on whether or not the proposed \$1,500,000 school building program is to become a reality.

Registrations for the special election are being taken at the respective city and township clerk's offices. Farmington Township residents may register at the Township Office in the Town Hall on Friday, March 19, from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. City residents may register at the clerk's office in the Municipal Building on the final day from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Residents of the School District living in Livonia may register at the City Clerk's office from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday evening.

Study Proposed Zoning Revision

A proposed text on the first section of a revised city zoning ordinance was submitted to members of the Farmington City Planning Commission at their regular meeting Wednesday evening.

The proposal was presented to the Commission by Malcolm Warner, Planning Consultant, in accordance with instructions from the planning group. Copies of the first section were given to Commission members for detailed study and consideration. Warner stated that another proposed section will be available at the regular April meeting. Copies of the proposal have also been submitted to members of the City Council.

Prior to the presentation of the zoning proposal, a report was made by chairman Louis Nolan (Continued on Page 5A)

BLOOD BANK VISIT IN FARMINGTON SET FOR APRIL 26

A mobile blood bank unit of the American Red Cross is scheduled to visit Farmington on April 26, officials announced this week.

The bank will be in Farmington for one day only from 1:45 p.m. to 7:45 p.m. It is expected to be located at the Farmington Town Hall. Plans are now being made for the advance registration of blood donors throughout the Farmington area. Actual registration is expected to begin about April 25.

AROUND THE BLOCK

A BRIEF GLANCE

At the stack of new building permit applications piled high on the desks of the city and township building and zoning inspectors, it is an indication of the big things to come in the summer months ahead. Officials of both the city and township report that applications for building permits are running way ahead of previous records. It is mighty hard to keep track of things now, but what better will it be like by July? If you're planning an extensive trip this summer, better put up some landmarks so you can find your way home!

ANOTHER RUNAWAY

Look please in South Farmington Road this week to add a touch of excitement to the everyday scene. This is about the fifth or sixth time in the past few months that a car has taken off down the street all by its lonesome. The latest incident resulted in a banged-up door and a fairly good sized crowd. Two weeks ago a runaway car slowed through the front window of Conroy's Market, causing considerable more damage and a much larger audience. Police are requesting motorists who park along South Farmington Road to put their cars in gear and set the emergency brake to discourage any ideas of wanderlust on the part of the family chauffeur.

LOOKING FOR LAUGHS

Then don't miss the Annual Jaycee Musical Show to be held this Saturday evening at the high school gym. The show will be loaded with local talent, including a number of old favorites who have made a hit with previous audiences. According to those who have had a peek at some of the rehearsals, this year's presentation should be just about top-notch. Having a whole lot of fun, you'll be having the Jaycees carry on their important program of community betterment. So get your tickets, bring the family and be in the front row when the curtain goes up!

THE TIME HAS COME

Once again to remind city and township residents of the dangers of grass and brush fires. The red wagons were kept pretty active during the past week-end chasing down the first crop of grass fires in the new season. As warm weather approaches, the demand of the streets is expected to become more frequent, unless you do your part. Remember, every time the siren blows, it costs you money. Money that could be used for some constructive improvements. So take extra precautions when you bang off open areas or brush. Don't make the fire truck come to your door.

Two Die, Three Injured In This Car Last Thursday



This is the automobile which Kenneth B. Fenwick, Jr., was driving when he apparently lost control at the west end of the Grand River Cut-Off and rolled the car into a ditch. Fenwick was killed. His father died of injuries later in the Detroit General Hospital. Three other passengers of the car, all residents of Farmington, escaped with minor injuries. The five were returning from a hockey practice session at Michigan State College when the accident occurred. The top of the auto was completely severed from the car and is shown lying across the body of the vehicle.

New Senior High School Dedication Plans Completed For This Sunday

State, Local School Officials to Participate; Board Secretary Turner To Accept Building

Formal dedication of the new Farmington Senior High School will take place Sunday, March 21, at 9:00 a.m. Open house at the new building has been planned from 2:00 to 5:00 p.m. and visitors will be conducted on tours through the entire plant. Dr. Clair Taylor, State Superintendent of Public Instruction, is scheduled to deliver the principal address of the afternoon.

The Board of Education sent formal invitations this week to other schools in the area, to the architects and to construction companies to attend the ceremony. All residents of the Farmington area, whether or not they have children in school, are invited to see the new building.

'Fine N' Dandy' Set For Saturday

Time for the show of the year has arrived again in Farmington! The curtain will be raised at 8:15 p.m. Saturday evening on the Farmington Junior Chamber of Commerce "Fine N' Dandy" Musical Show and judging from the combined enthusiasm of the singers, the directors and the cast, the 1954 production will give spectators just what they want of the way of varied entertainment.

For the past several weeks, directors of the show have been taping their hats to the manner in which Lloyd Smith has handled the duties of creating a musical background for the entire presentation. Lloyd, incidentally, will be featured in an act of his own as (Continued on Page 8A)

To Appear In '54 'Fine N' Dandy'



These youthful troopers, Sandy Sek and Tommy Bartel, were show-stoppers in the 1953 "Fine N' Dandy" production, and as far as the cost of the '54 show is concerned, they might well do it again Saturday night. In all, a cast of approximately 75 persons will wind up rehearsals Thursday night in preparation for 8:15 p.m. curtain time on March 20 in the High School Auditorium.

Zoning Hearing Expected To Draw Large Audience

Citizens To Discuss 3 Proposals Monday

A large delegation of residents is expected at the public hearing on three proposed amendments to the Township Zoning Ordinance to be held next Monday evening, March 22, at the Farmington Town Hall.

The prediction of a sizeable audience is based on compelling evidence registered by citizens regarding the changes. The hearing, which is being held in accordance with provisions of the ordinance, is scheduled to open at 8:00 p.m. Complete text of the three proposed changes have been published and public notice of the hearing has been given.

ALL RESIDENTS of Farmington Township affected by the proposed amendment are invited to attend and participate in the hearing. Le Kelly, chairman of the Zoning Board, stated this week that all persons will have equal opportunity to express their views. Kelly added that the opinions presented at the hearing will have a great deal to do with the recommendations made by the Zoning Board to the Township Board.

The first proposed amendment which changes the zoning on a parcel of land in the Middlebelt-Medburn Street section from residential to light industrial. Medburn Street is north of Taylor Street. The second proposal involves a parcel of land on the north side of Northwestern Highway near Fourteen Mile Road, which would be changed from commercial to light industrial. The property is owned by Harvey Tracy and is located at 32580 Northwestern.

The third proposed amendment would change a portion of land north of Ten Mile Road and west of Middlebelt from Residential Four to Residential Three. The property contains approximately 37 acres and is adjacent to the Springfield subdivision.

U. S. Agency OK's Westbrook School

The Clarenceville School Board was advised this week by the United Department of Education and Welfare that construction work on the Westbrook Elementary School has been completed and approved.

By the act of approval, the Federal Agency announced that the final check amounting to \$12,158.70 will be forwarded to the school district in a few days. The amount is 10% of the total federal funds granted to Clarenceville for the construction of the building. The District received the other 90% of the total amount during the construction of the building.

At the regular Clarenceville School Board meeting last Thursday evening, the act was taken to seek bids for fill-in strips between the tennis courts at the high school. The specifications call for asphalt or concrete strips with rolling curb between the courts. The Board also authorized the Superintendent to secure information and costs on air conditioning the Board office.

The bid of the Vandervoort Hardware Company for athletic equipment in the amount of \$900.73 was accepted by the Board.

City Starts Action To Vacate Alleys

Action has been initiated by the City Council to vacate all alleys in the residential section of Floral Park.

The action came as the result of a resolution introduced by the Council at its regular meeting Monday evening. The resolution sets up the procedure for the legal vacating of the alleys. It also provides for a public hearing which has been set for April 19, the date of the next regular meeting of the City Council. The hearing is to be held at 8:00 p.m. at the Municipal Building.

According to the resolution, only residential alleys would be vacated. The alley running in rear of the commercial proposition along Grand River and one running parallel to Orchard Lake Road between Shawansee and Grand River will remain. The resolution also provides that a public utility easement would be reserved throughout the residential area.

CITY OFFICIALS ATTEND STREET BUILDING CLINIC

James Tennant, City Manager, and Floyd Sallow, head of the Public Works Department, are attending a state-wide street construction clinic being held in Grand Rapids March 16, 17 and 18.

The clinic is designed to acquaint officials and engineers in various phases of road construction. Officials stated that the clinic will cover all types of road construction with special emphasis on secondary streets.

CITY HIRES NEW POLICE OFFICER TO FILL VACANCY

James Tennant, City Manager, announced this week that John Butters, 22600 Middlebelt Road, has joined the city police department to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Thomas Schriber.

Butters, who is married and has two children, took over his new duties Wednesday. Prior to his moving to Farmington, Butters lived in Walled Lake. He attended school in Wisconsin.

Inside Features

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State Closes Farmington License Bureau To Residents Of Township

A resolution protesting the action of the Secretary of State's office in limiting the issuance of drivers' licenses to residents of the city only, was approved by the City Council at its regular meeting Monday evening.

City officials stated that under the new policy change, only residents of the city can secure licenses at the Farmington Bureau. Residents of the township, as well as other nearby communities, must go to the Oakland County Sheriff's Office in Pontiac to get their licenses. The change of policy was received in a letter dated March 8 from the Secretary of State's Office, Division of Driver and Vehicle Services.

The Council directed that copies of the resolution be sent to the Secretary of State, as well as the Oakland County Board of Supervisors and other communities affected by the new policy. It was noted that if any other communities in Oakland County are involved in the change, Officials stated that many residents have already filed protests with the Farmington license bureau.

ERIC HULLSTON points out that under the new policy, people residing in the Township of Farmington and surrounding territory will have to travel in most instances to Pontiac to get their licenses. This contention and delay in securing licenses is being regarded as a result of the change. The resolution states further that many people will have to take a day off from work in order to meet the hours and times of opening such license bureaus in Pontiac.

Farmington now has an efficient bureau in operation for the examination of applicants as well as facilities for road tests, and it is hoped that under the former policy should be maintained as a public service.

City officials stated that they have made an investigation of the (Continued on Page 8A)

Fire Damages Novi Inn On March 14

Five Communities Help In Fight

A blaze which began in the basement of Novi Inn early last Sunday morning completely gutted the inn and caused smoking land damage to four adjoining stores. Firemen from Farmington, Novi, Commerce, Northville, and Walled Lake fought the fire for two hours before bringing it under control. The blaze began at approximately 4:00 a.m. Smoke rising to the second floor of the 25-year old inn awakened the owner of the building, Ben Finkham, who sounded the alarm.

HUNDREDS of gallons of water were poured on the blaze and firemen were able to keep the roof of the building from collapsing. No one was injured.

Damage to the part of the building in which the bar is situated was predominantly confined to smoke and water. Restoration work has been under way since and it is planned to open the establishment for business this week end.

No damage estimate on the building has been available.

MRS. LELAND NAMED DETROIT FLOWER SHOW OFFICIAL

A Farmington woman has been appointed general chairman of the garden club section of the Detroit Flower Show for 1954.

Mrs. Glenn Leland (22825 Grand River) received the appointment for the show, which is sponsored by the Detroit Garden Center and will be held at the State Fair Grounds March 27 through April 4.

This year the garden club section will feature a small, modern landscaped home with flower arrangements appropriate to the interior setting.

Mrs. Leland said that this exhibit is being planned to meet special interests of young married couples and other new home owners.

Tickets for the show may be purchased in advance at a reduced rate. They are now at Dickings Greenhouses, 2401 E. Taylor; Mrs. Richard, 2127 E. Edgewood; May's Flower Shop, 2225 Grand River; or they may be obtained from Mrs. Arthur Groop, treasurer of the Farmington Garden Club, at 25257 Thirteen Mile Road.

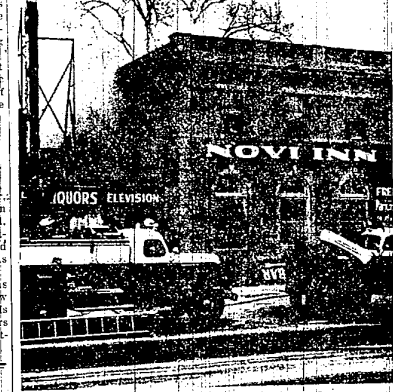
FARMINGTON PLANS THIRD ADULT CERAMICS CLASS

A third class in ceramics is now being organized under the Farmington Adult Education Program. James Reed, assistant superintendent, announced this week.

The first session of the new class will begin Tuesday, March 23, and will continue on Tuesday evenings. Persons interested in joining the ceramics class are requested to call the Board of Education office at Farmington 2224 as soon as possible. Two other ceramics classes are now in session on Monday and Thursday evenings.

Persons may still register for beginning art and upholstery classes which opened March 17. Reed stated.

Firemen Fight Novi Inn Blaze



Firemen play hoses on the rear portion of Ben's Novi Inn, which was severely damaged by fire early Sunday morning. Fire Departments from four communities assisted the Novi Department in fighting the blaze. The fire which apparently broke out in the basement of the inn, caused considerable damage to four adjacent stores located in the center of Novi. The fire departments of Farmington, Commerce, Northville, and Walled Lake were called to aid in fighting the fire.