

Prize Winner
MICH. PRESS ASSOC.
General Excellence
1954

The Farmington Enterprise

LEADERSHIP—OUR PURPOSE SERVICE—OUR GOAL

Farmington's Own
Community Newspaper
SERVING SINCE 1888

SIXTY-EIGHTH YEAR — NUMBER 21

FARMINGTON, MICHIGAN, THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 1956

14 PAGES

SEVEN CENTS A COPY

Council Approves Motion To Secure Voting Machines On Rental Basis

Direct Clerk To Contract For Nine Machines To Be Used In City's Three Voting Precincts

The City Council, Monday evening, approved a motion authorizing the clerk to proceed with the securing of nine voting machines on a 12-month rental basis with the option to purchase at the close of the period.

On the basis of the new state election laws, it is proposed that three voting precincts be set up in the City. The law stipulates that where machines are used, one precinct must be set up for every 1,400 registered voters. Where paper ballots are used, one precinct is required for every 800 registered voters. It is estimated that there will be considerable saving in both time and money by use of the machines.

Schools Prepare Plans For Driver Training Courses

Expect To Start Local Program This Summer

A series of recommendations on the proposed driver training program for the Farmington Public Schools will be presented to the Board of Education at its next regular meeting Monday evening. The recommendations will be submitted by James Read, assistant superintendent, and Gerald Harrison, high school principal. The new driver training program is being set up in accordance with legislation approved by the State Legislature last fall. Under the new law, school districts may enroll in a driver training course. This reimbursement of funds is now in effect. The law also provides that after February 1, 1957, applicants for new driver licenses must successfully pass a driver training course. Officials are proposing that three driver training centers be secured for the Farmington program. It is estimated that one car and teacher is sufficient to train about 120 students during the regular school year. It is expected that approximately 260 students will be eligible for driver training in the Farmington schools next year. Some additional studies and land area in the vicinity of Grand River and Gill Road in residential areas are being planned for the present school year, but that classes may be provided this summer.

The Clarenceville Public Schools have been operating a driver training program for the past several years. (Continued on Page 8A)

EXPECT FINAL RUSH FOR AUTO LICENSES AS DEADLINE NEARS

It is estimated that approximately 7,000 car owners in the Farmington area have yet to secure their 1956 license plates in spite of the fact that the deadline is only a few days away.

Kenneth R. Loomis, manager of the Farmington Branch of the Secretary of State's Office, stated that although sales are running far ahead of last year, it is estimated that there are still a great many car owners who have not purchased their plates as yet. The deadline is Wednesday, February 29.

The office will be open Thursday, Friday and Saturday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. The Branch Office is located on South Farmington street approximately two blocks south of Grand River.

TOWNSHIP VOTERS APPROVE LIBRARY TAX PROPOSAL



HAPPINESS was expressed on the faces of everyone last Thursday at the annual March of Dimes luncheon as checks from communities in this area were presented to representatives of the Oakland County National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis. Mrs. Betty Wagner, Farmington Township's Polio Mother, is shown, extreme left, turning over a check for \$5,153.87 collected in the recent March of Dimes drive in Farmington City and Township. Others in the photo are, left to right, Mrs. Hazel Stevens, Southeast Oakland County March of Dimes chairman, and Mrs. Ruth Parsall and Harold Donaldson, representatives of the Oakland County National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis.

Area Communities Net \$8,862 In 1956 March Of Dimes Campaign

Funds Turned Over To Infantile Paralysis Foundation At March Of Dimes Luncheon

Checks totaling \$8,862.09 were presented last week to the Oakland County National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis from communities in the Southeast Oakland County District. The checks were presented at the district's annual March of Dimes potluck luncheon held at the American Legion Home in Farmington last Thursday.

All money turned over was collected during the annual March of Dimes campaign in January.

A check for \$5,153.87 was presented in behalf of Farmington City and Township by Mrs. Betty Wagner, Farmington Township's Polio Mother. Mrs. Margaret Schaulkins submitted a check for \$1,575.37 as Clarenceville's contribution and Mrs. Frazee Staman offered a check for \$1,532.27 as contributions from the residents of Yastine Park. A fire truck contributed by residents of South Lyon.

Blaze Damages Buttermore Home

Fire of undetermined origin caused estimated \$100,000 to \$150,000 damage to the home of Mr. and Mrs. Pat Buttermore, 3330 Liberty Street, early Monday morning.

The fire, which apparently started in an attached garage, was first reported at approximately 3:30 p.m. Both the City and Township No. 1 fire trucks answered the call. Firemen fought the blaze for nearly three hours before bringing it under control. The fire fighters were hampered by heavy smoke and freezing weather.

According to Buttermore, the fire had apparently been smoldering in the garage for some time. He stated that when he opened the garage door the fire burst into flames and quickly spread to the adjoining kitchen. Buttermore immediately called the police station but was unable to get an answer.

(Continued on Page 8A)

Conduct Final Rehearsals Jaycees Set For Annual Minstrel Show Saturday

Final rehearsals for the Annual "Fine n' Dandy" Minstrel show are now under way as the huge cast of nearly 100 performers get ready for their performance on Saturday, February 25.

The minstrel show, sponsored by the Farmington Junior Chamber of Commerce, has been a tradition in Farmington since its beginning more than 33 years ago. Werner Claus, general chairman of the 1956 presentation, stated that this year's show surpasses in scope and talent any the Jaycees have presented in the past.

Claus pointed out that in addition to the many experienced performers who have appeared in previous years, a great many new song and dance artists have been added to the 1956 program. All in all, he thinks this year's show will provide plenty of laughs for the entire audience as well as a lot of wholesome entertainment.

The chairman stated that this year's program will feature a wide variety of acts, including comedy, singing, dancing and novelty.

The 1956 show will be presented at the Farmington Junior High School gymnasium. Tickets may be secured from any member of the Farmington Junior Chamber of Commerce prior to Saturday, February 25.

THE MAYOR hits a high note. Robert Lindbergh, Farmington's Mayor, proved he was no square during final rehearsals for the Junior Chamber of Commerce "Fine and Dandy" Minstrel Show. Lindbergh will be a featured musician in the show, to be presented this Saturday evening at the Junior High School gymnasium.



Draft New Cost Millage Issue Carries By 130 Votes Figures On Sewer Interceptor Plan

The voters of Farmington Township, at a special election Tuesday, approved the levying of a 3/10 of a mill tax for the maintenance and operation of a new public library.

In an extremely light vote the electors authorized the tax issue by a margin of 130 to 67. According to Floyd A. Cairns, Township Clerk, a total of 1475 votes were cast out of a total registration of approximately 6,479. Tuesday's vote represents about 7.5% of the total registration.

Voting was particularly light at all four precincts throughout the day, with most of the activity coming in the final hours between 6 and 8 p.m.

Precinct Three, at the Middlebelt School, recorded the largest number of votes with 155. Precinct Four, at the Bond School, was a close second with 149 votes.

Precinct Two, at the Fire Station on Wheeler Street, recorded 97 votes and Precinct One, at the Town Hall, had 83 votes. A total of 11 votes were cast but not recorded because of errors by the voter. The following is a breakdown by precincts of the special vote:

PRECINCT ONE	Yes	44	No	38
PRECINCT TWO	Yes	52	No	40
PRECINCT THREE	Yes	99	No	51
PRECINCT FOUR	Yes	99	No	38

The approval of the tax levy clears the way for the appointment of the new City-Township Library Board. Under the provisions of the state law, two representatives shall be appointed from each of the City and Township. This Board shall be empowered to handle the administration of the new Library District. The 3/10 of a mill tax on the assessed valuation of the Township, as equalized by the state, will raise approximately \$3,400. The City's share of the maintenance and operation cost will come from the regular operating budget. The cost of construction of the new library building as well as the site will be handled from funds available through the Clinton W. Wilber and Ruth Garliste Estates.

It is expected that as soon as the Township Board and City Council appoint the Library Board, action will be started on the securing of an architect and the drafting of plans for the new building. It is proposed that the library be constructed on the north side of Grand River just east of an extension of Wilmarth Street in the City.

Appoint Advisory Group To Study Public Parking

A special committee, composed of city officials and businessmen, has been selected by the Council to study and report on off-street parking needs in the business section of the city.

The committee was appointed at a special meeting of the Council held Friday evening at the Municipal Building. The meeting was called at the request of a committee of businessmen from the Farmington Exchange Club. Following a detailed discussion of the problem, the Council agreed to select an advisory committee consisting of two city officials and three businessmen. The personnel of the committee consists of the City Manager, Councilman Paul Calkins, and businessmen Delos Hamlin, John Allen and Harry Lapham.

Prior to the appointment of the committee, John Clappison, spokesman for the businessmen, read a resolution passed by the club in which the businessmen declared their intent to make off-street parking a continuing project and offering the assistance of the club in working out a satisfactory solution to the problem. Mayor Robert Lindbergh stated that in his opinion the first step should be a complete survey of the business area to determine the need for parking.

(Continued on Page 8A)

Protest Proposed 'No Parking' Zone

A group of merchants on Grand River, between Seven Mile and the east end of the Farmington Cut-Off, have formed an organization to protest the establishment of a "no parking" zone along the right of way.

The group, consisting of approximately 22 merchants in Farmington Township, City of Livonia and Redford Township, met last week at the J. McCoy Paint Company, 2224 Grand River, to discuss the problem. The group has retained attorneys to investigate the situation and to recommend any further action.

McCoys stated that the organization was formed after the Department of the State Highway Department planned to establish the "no parking" zone and to erect signs along both sides of Grand River from Seven Mile to the 64th and the Farmington Cut-Off. He added that officials of the Highway Department stated that the possibility had been discussed and denied that any orders have been given.

The group has planned another meeting for this week to further discuss the problem. McCoy stated that additional information regarding the proposal is expected to be available in time for the meeting. It is hoped that the additional information will help to clarify the situation, McCoy added.

COUNCIL APPROVES BID FOR NEW POLICE CAR

A contract has been awarded by the City Council to Bob Southern Sales and Service for the delivery of a new city police car replacing the oldest of the two vehicles now in operation.

The Southern bid was the lowest of five proposals received by the Council. The bids called for a 1956 Plymouth Plaza, four door sedan, V-8 engine with Power-Pak and automatic transmission. The total cost of the police car as listed in the proposal was \$1,162.25.

Inside Features

Classified Ads 4A, 5A, 6A, 6B
Correspondence 2A, 2B, 3A, 3B
Home and Garden 4B, 5B, 6B
Editorials 7A, 7B, 8A, 8B
Looking Back 9A, 9B
Michigan Mirror 10A, 10B
Sorts 11A, 11B, 12A, 12B

AROUND THE BLOCK

A NEW RASH of stolen car incidents have been reported by City and Township Police. This is reminiscent of last summer, when the police were kept busy dragging stolen and dismantled cars from fields and woods roads throughout the area. The situation is clearly winter, but the police offer one word of advice which will save car owners a lot of time, trouble and expense. The advice keep your car locked, particularly at night, and don't, under any circumstances, leave the keys in the ignition. These precautions won't give you absolute protection, but they will make it a lot more difficult for anyone who is trying to walk away with your transportation.

A POINT of clarification is apparently necessary in connection with last week's news story on the Township Board meeting. It was stated in the article that "James Randolph, 2065 Middlebelt, appeared before the Board in response to a call from Randolph requested that his name be stricken from the agenda. On the basis of calls and comments, some readers have interpreted the statement to mean that the Supervisor called Randolph to the meeting. The call referred to in the story means a call from the floor, since the Supervisor calls each name as it appears on the agenda during the course of the meeting.

TOWNSHIP ELECTION officials may not have been the most "un-busy" people in Farmington on Tuesday, but we are sure they ranked mighty high on the list. Throughout the 13 hours that the polls were open for the special library election a little over 7% of the registered voters cast their ballots. The turnout was the lightest vote ever cast in Farmington Township percentage-wise or not, but if it isn't awful close. Officials estimate that each vote recorded on Tuesday cost well over \$100 apiece. That's a pretty good reason why any man's pocket, especially when you consider that a majority vote would have dropped the unit cost down to pennies.

CREWMEN of the County Road Commission put the finishing touches on the erection of a regulation traffic light at the intersection of Orchard Lake Road and Ten Mile Road. The light, located at the boundary between the City and Township, was dedicated Thursday. Numerous petitions and letters have been filed with the local and county officials during the past several years, urging erection of the signal light.