

The Farmington Enterprise

Farmington's Own
Community Newspaper
SERVING SINCE
1888

LEADERSHIP--OUR PURPOSE SERVICE--OUR GOAL

16 PAGES

SEVEN CENTS A COPY

SIXTY-EIGHTH YEAR - NUMBER 38

FARMINGTON, MICHIGAN, THURSDAY, JUNE 21, 1956



THE AUTOMOBILE above was totally destroyed Friday afternoon at the Henry Ott Service Station at 33025 Grand River when gasoline fumes ignited and flames spread rapidly to all parts of the car. The car was moved away from the station to prevent flames from spreading to the building and the blaze was brought under control quickly. The auto was owned by Nye W. Humphrey of 33212 Orchard Street. The exact cause of the fire was undetermined. Leo Hendry, fire chief theorized that static electricity during a stormy period when the gas could have ignited the gas fumes. A theory was also expressed that a lighted match may have accidentally been dropped near the car.

Funeral Services Held Tuesday For Local Boy Killed In Cave-In

David Harris, 13, Of 29311 Rockcastle, Buried In North Farmington Cemetery

Funeral services were held at 2 p.m. Tuesday from the Spencer J. Heeny Funeral Home for David Edward Harris, 13, of 29311 Rockcastle, who was fatally injured in a sand cave-in near Nine Mile and Inkster Roads Friday afternoon, June 15.

Services were conducted by Dr. Gordon Northrop of the Farmington First Baptist Church. Interment was in North Farmington Cemetery.

Having just passed from the sixth grade at Middlebelt School, David and his friend, Michael Nadeau, also 13, of 21975 Tulane, had struck out on a hike down Nine Mile Road. Near Inkster Road they found a high rise of sand in a new subdivision and began digging a tunnel into the bank. With the aid of a broken shovel which they found, a good sized cave was soon completed.

DAVID entered the cave first and Michael followed him in. The sand fell and caved in, completely covering David and burying Michael almost to the shoulders. Michael was able to dig himself out and called for help. He located Leon Schaefer of Pontiac grading the road, and they returned together to the scene of the cave-in.

Schaefer, with the aid of State Police, managed to dig David out. Artificial respiration was applied by policemen and Southfield firemen, and adrenaline was administered by a doctor when he happened to be passing by. When a slight pulse was detected, an inhalator was immediately put into use and the youth was rushed to a hospital.

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CITY TO RECEIVE \$7.134 FROM STATE HIGHWAY FUND

The City of Farmington will receive \$7,134.06 as its share of the State Motor Vehicle Highway Fund for the first quarter of 1956. The State Highway Department disclosed last week. It was also revealed that the city will receive \$457.82 as its share of the weight and gasoline taxes collected for the same period.

Indirect benefits will be derived by Farmington Township from the Oakland County share of the fund. The county will receive \$1,341,228.68 from the Motor Vehicle Highway Fund and \$86,789.12 from the weight and gasoline taxes for the first quarter. Total weight and gasoline taxes amounted to \$9,571,957.62.

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AROUND THE BLOCK

THE HEAVY RAINS ... during the past week end may have put a damper on some people's spirits but it came as a welcome relief to city officials who are concerned with the problems of water pressure and dusty roads. The only major difference is to secure a balance between rain and sunshine. Unfortunately, nobody seems to have much pull with the weatherman. As a result, we have to take what comes along and make the best of it. At any rate, the recent moisture had a soothing effect on the busy phones at the Municipal Building as well as providing a refreshing rest for the city's water pumps. Which only goes to show that it's an ill wind that doesn't drop something worthwhile along the way.

FARMINGTON'S NEW ... driver training program got under way this week with a goodly number of eager students on hand. In our opinion, this is one of the most practical and progressive steps to be taken in the Farmington School District in some time. If previous experience in other places is any measuring stick, this program should pay off with dividends. Learning to stay alive is a mighty important part of our continuing education and one that we should all be interested in. The proper training of drivers at the high school level affords an opportunity which has been denied many older drivers. As a result we are making an investment in the future which, if properly applied, will be of major benefit to all of us.

THE BRIEF PAUSE ... in activity at the various Farmington school playgrounds will be broken next Monday with the opening of the summer program of the Farmington Area Recreation Commission. According to preliminary information, this year's program is going to be the biggest and the busiest in the history of the F.A.R.C. Not only is the program expected to set new records, but the program itself has been expanded to provide additional activities for Farmington boys and girls. We hope that as many youngsters as possible will take advantage of this opportunity to enjoy supervised recreation. They not only will have a lot of fun but they will be doing something constructive besides. See you all at the playgrounds!

Harris Appointed To Fill Township Board Vacancy

Name Robert Schulkins To Board Of Review

Robert Harris has been appointed as a trustee of the Farmington Township Board to fill the vacancy caused by the elevation of Ward Eagle to Township Supervisor.

Harris was appointed by action of the Township Board at a special meeting Friday afternoon. His tenure of office will begin immediately. Harris, who lives at 26026 Drake Road, has been a member of the Township Board of Review since April of 1953. He has also served as chairman of the Township Road Committee. Robert Schulkins and Mrs. Philip Neuburg were also nominated for the vacancy.

Immediately following the appointment of Harris, Robert Schulkins, 21607 Packard, was appointed to fill the vacancy on the Board of Review. Schulkins, who is also a member of the Road Committee, will fill out the balance of Harris' term which will expire in April of 1957.

THE BOARD executed the signing of a contract to serve as the continuing authority for the Westbrook Manor Subdivision water and sewer systems. Under the contract agreement, the subdividers will pay all costs of operating the systems until January 1, 1957, or until the facilities are on a paying basis. Westbrook Manor has its own water facilities and has arranged with the Kalamazoo Subdivision for use of its sewage disposal plant. The Westbrook Manor Subdivision is located just west of Orchard Lake Road south of "Chicken Hill Road."

Action was taken by the Board declaring its intent to rezone lots one and two of Supervisor's Middlebelt - Ten Mile Road at from Residential Two to Commercial. The property is located on the northeast corner of Middlebelt and Mile Roads. The proposal will be forwarded to the Zoning Board for study and public hearing.

The Supervisor and Clerk were (Continued on Page 3A)

State Qualifies School Bonds

Farmington school officials were advised this week that the State Department of Public Instruction has approved the qualification of the \$2,000,000 bond issue authorized by the voters for the construction of new school buildings.

A copy of the letter of approval has been forwarded to the Board of Education along with a formal resolution which is expected to be adopted at the next Board meeting. The qualification of the bond issue by the State Department of Public Instruction is necessary in accordance with the unlimited tax bond proposal approved by the voters.

The unlimited tax bonds is an assurance to the voters that no limit will be placed on the amount the district can borrow from state funds to cover the balance. School officials emphasized, however, that Farmington is well below the 13-mill limit.

An application for permission to sell the bond issue is now in the hands of the Municipal Finance Commission and is expected to be acted upon within the next few weeks.

Plan To Interview Police Candidates

Arrangements are now being made for the interviewing of candidates for Township police officer. Floyd A. Cairns, Township Clerk, announced this week.

Cairns stated that the applicants will be interviewed by the Township Board within the next week. A total of nine applications have been received thus far for the position. Cairns stated that the initial interviews will be with the candidates who presently reside in Farmington Township.

The Board approved the hiring of a fourth police officer at its regular meeting on May 22. It was stated that sufficient money had been set aside in the 1956-57 budget for the employing of an additional officer.

HERZOG-NAMED NEW PRESIDENT OF EXCHANGE CLUB

Bert Herzog was elected president of the Farmington Exchange Club at the semi-annual election of officers held last Wednesday afternoon at the Universist Church.

Other officers elected were: Henry Trombley, first vice president; DeVere Fleming, second vice president; Arthur Lamb, treasurer; and Robert Clarke, secretary.

Clarke was elected secretary to replace Claude C. Goodes, D.D.S., who had served as secretary of the club for the past 13 years and as president for one year prior to that time. An 1898 graduate of the University of Michigan, Goodes served as secretary in Farmington until a few years ago. He was voted a life member of the local Exchange Club for faithful service over the past years.

New members of the Board of Control are John Clappison, Bob Dussseau, John Allen and Frank Nager. The new officers will be installed at the first meeting in September.

Township Residents Blame New City Wells For Drop In Water Supply



A BIG BOOST was given to the Farmington baseball program over the past week end when nearly \$600.00 was collected during the Annual Farmington Baseball for Boys Tag Days. The drive was termed a "huge success" by Harry Lapham, Baseball Commissioner. The money will be used to purchase supplies and field equipment. Shown accepting a donation at the entrance of the Lucky Super Market is Jimmy Stevenson while Cameron Ault looks on.

Summer Recreation Program Opens Monday At Farmington Playgrounds

Registrations To Be Taken By Supervisors At All Five Play Areas On Initial Day

Registrations for the Summer Program of the Farmington Area Recreation Commission will be taken at the five playgrounds on opening day, Monday, June 25. Warren Piche, Director, announced this week.

The complete staff of supervisory personnel will be on duty at all of the playgrounds on Monday to handle registrations. Piche stated that five men and five women have been employed to supervise activities at the playgrounds located at Bond School, Eagle School, Shawwassee School, Gill-Road School, and the City Park. All of the playgrounds will be open from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. except on swimming days. Boys and girls between the ages of 8 and 15 years are eligible to take part in the program.

Playground activities will consist of active games and contests during the morning hours and checkers, stories and arts and crafts during the afternoon. Every other Friday competitive contests will be held with ribbons being awarded to the various winners.

SWIMMING trips to Kensington Park will be held on Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays for the various playgrounds. The Bond, Eagle and Shawwassee (Continued on Page 3A)



PETITIONS calling for a referendum vote on the proposed rezoning of property in the southwest section of the Township as a race track site were filed with Township Clerk Floyd Cairns last week. Resigning 75 petition forms bearing the names of approximately 1,200 registered property owners to Cairns was Edge T. Cope of 23718 Longacre. Mrs. Cope, left, looks on. Seven other petitions filed earlier brought the total number signing petitions to over 1,500. It is estimated that 600 names are required to bring the rezoning to a vote of the people. The Township Board indicated that the question will be placed on the ballot at the Primary Election in August.

Request Annexation Of Adjoining Two-Block Area Into City

A group of Township property owners, who claim that their water supply has been seriously affected by the new city wells, appeared before the Council Monday evening to request annexation to the city.

The property owners living on Farmington Road, Cass, Nine Mile, Bostwick and Longwood charged that the water level in their individual wells has dropped out of sight since the new city wells have been placed in full operation. The area is located directly south of the city wells on Nine Mile Road between Farmington and Gill Roads.

Leon Forbes, spokesman for the group, stated that 11 or 12 individual wells are now out of commission while others are down to a trickle. The property owners claim that the sudden drop in the water level coincides with the date on which the new city wells were placed in full operation.

Mayor Robert Lindbert stated that a geologist employed by the Lane-Northern Company, who installed the city pumping equipment, was consulted on the problem last Thursday. According to Lindbert, the geologist indicated that any effect on these individual wells from the city installation was very remote. The mayor added that the city wells are 142 and 148 feet deep, far below the average of the individual wells.

CITY OFFICIALS stated that definite proof of effect would have to be established and even then there would be a question as to what could be done. One property owner suggested that the pumps be shut off for a short period as a means of checking the effect of the individual wells. Lindbert stated that the closing of the wells, even on a temporary basis, would create a hardship in the entire city, since limitations restrictions are already in force.

Following considerable discussion, the Council instructed the City Manager to bring the matter to the Township Supervisor in an effort to find a solution to the problem. The property owners reminded the Council of the initial request for annexation, and presented a petition to that effect signed by 20 property owners. Paul Pare, City Attorney, was instructed to prepare the necessary legal procedures for annexation. The attorney stated that a formal petition would have to be drafted and signed by the individual property owners and that definite boundaries would have to be established. It was also pointed out that such annexation (Continued on Page 3A)

Numerous Auto Accidents Occur In Area Sunday

Three persons were injured in separate auto accidents and several others were involved in property damage accidents on highways in the Farmington area last Sunday. Township and State Police indicated that Sunday was the busiest day on record for accidents this far this year.

Sunday morning Nancy Houghton, 44, of Dearborn, suffered neck and bruises in a three-car pile-up on Grand River and left leg in another rear-end collision on Grand River at Tuck Road. She had stopped her auto to make a left turn from Grand River when struck in the rear by a vehicle operated by Glen R. Warner of 31715 Nine Mile Road.

DONALD A. McINTYRE, 34, of Kirby, was injured in the third injury accident late Sunday afternoon on Farmington Road just south of Kirby. He had slowed down to make a left turn onto Kirby when his car was struck in the rear by an auto driven by Cyrus Griffin of Highland Park. McIntyre, who suffered only minor neck injuries, was treated by his family physician.

Early Thursday evening, David (Continued on Page 3A)

Bailey To Head School Board

The Clarenceville School Board at its annual organization meeting Thursday evening, elected Fred Bailey as Board president for the 1956-57 school year.

Other newly elected officers include William Lawanson as secretary and James Nicholas as treasurer. Richard Gault, who was re-elected as the principal of the Board last Monday, and Elbert Hartom, newly elected member of the Board, were declared as Trustees. The newly elected officers of the Board will take over their duties immediately, in accordance with the new school code.

Bailey has been a member of the Board since its organization in 1952. He served as president of the Board during the 1954-55 school year and has been secretary during the past year. Lawanson has served as president and treasurer of the Board, while Nicholas has previously served as secretary.

The re-organization of the Board was conducted immediately following the certification of the June 11 vote, in which Gault and Hartom were elected to three-year terms on the Board of Education.

Council Opens Sewer Proposals

Sealed bids on the installation of a storm sewer along State Street as well as four sections of sanitary sewer to be constructed in various parts of the city, were received and opened by the Council at its regular meeting Monday evening.

A total of six bids were received for the combined sewer project, ranging in price from \$9,643.94 to \$18,586.10. The bids were referred to the City Manager and City Engineer for checking and approval. Recommendations on the awarding of a contract will be submitted at the next regular meeting of the Council.

Action on the awarding of a contract for the Farmington Sewer Interceptor project was delayed on the recommendation of Earl Scherffus, City Manager. Scherffus reported that the State Health Department has requested a meeting with officials of the City and Township next week for the purpose of discussing the interceptor. The City Manager added that he did not know exactly what would be brought up at the meeting which is scheduled for next Tuesday.

Information relative to the filing of petitions for the paving of Litch and Floral Avenues on a special assessment basis was discussed by the Council. Scherffus reported that the petitions for the Litch paving contained 65% of the property owners' signatures and that the petitions were slightly short of the 65%. Petitions previously filed for the paving of Violet were also declared to be short of the 65% (Continued from Page 3A)

THE COST SPIRAL ... has us in a whirl and while we have attempted in every way possible to hold the postage has been too great. As a result of the rising cost of distribution, we are compelled to increase the single copy news stand price of The Farm Enterprise to \$3.00 per year for twice since 1921. Yet the overall cost of distribution, particularly in recent years, has increased. We would like to emphasize that the regular yearly subscription rate WILL REMAIN THE SAME at \$1.00 per year for Oakland and Wayne Counties.

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