

# The Farmington Enterprise

LEADERSHIP--OUR PURPOSE SERVICE--OUR GOAL

NOW BEING READ

BY 4,241 FAMILIES

or 60.7% of the Citizens of the Farmington Area

SIXTY-NINTH YEAR — NUMBER 45

FARMINGTON, MICHIGAN, THURSDAY, AUGUST 8, 1957

## CITY COUNCIL REJECTS PROPOSED COMMERCIAL REZONING

### Wood Creek Farms Council Appoints Planning Comm.

A nine-man planning commission for the Village of Wood Creek Farms was appointed by the Village Council at its regular meeting Tuesday evening following consideration of individual choices made by each Council member.

Appointed to serve for three-year terms were Dr. Charles M. Smith, Verdon Fisher and Watson Kinney. Those appointed to serve for two-year terms were Ross Plewis, Maurice Teaglam and Roy Nelson with Lloyd McKay, Preston Schlotterbeck and Richard Weedon being selected for one year terms.

The newly appointed commission will meet on the 25th of August at the Council at its next regular meeting on September 3 for the purpose of organizing.

A COMPLAINT was filed with the Council against Harry Weinstein for dumping a considerable amount of broken concrete and debris running across a vacant piece of property which he owns in the village. Blocking of the natural drainage route could result in considerable future damage to roads and adjacent property, it was pointed out.

It was agreed that immediate steps should be taken to determine what authority the Council has to correct the situation.

The clerk was instructed to obtain copies of any Farmington Township ordinances controlling the blocking of natural drainage.

In other action, the Council unanimously approved the appointment of Wendell Brown as village attorney and the appointment of Richard Knoll as an assistant village administrator.

### TO REGISTER NEW GRADE SCHOOL STUDENTS AUG. 15

Registration of new grade school students not previously registered to attend the Farmington Public Schools this fall will be conducted next Thursday, August 15, school officials disclosed Monday.

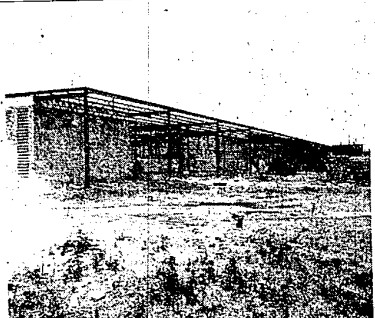
Students will be registered from 9:30 to 11:30 a. m. and from 6 to 8 p. m. Registration at the elementary school they will be attending. They are also requested to bring their youngsters' birth certificates with them when registering. Residents having questions about the school they should register at or on any other matters regarding registration are requested to call the School Administration offices at GR 4-1133.

## AROUND THE BLOCK

**WE GOT A CALL . . .** last week-end from Mrs. Hugh Owen on 14 Mile Road inquiring about the record size of snakes in this area. We were at a loss for an answer because no tabulation has been kept to date. However, we've since found out that Mrs. Owen promptly advised us that she had just measured a dead blue racer in her drive which totaled five foot three inches in length. The snake had apparently been run over in the drive. As far as we know this is the largest native snake yet recorded in the Farmington area. If all property owners are required to be cordoned in. Regardless of whether it's a record or not, it's a big snake no matter how you look at it.

**YOUR BLOOD IS NEEDED NOW** to save lives. If you haven't contributed to a blood bank recently, register now at the special booth in the lobby of the National Bank of Detroit, Farmington Branch. The Red Cross Mobile Unit will be at the Farmington Junior High gymnasium on Thomas Street Tuesday, August 27 from 3:00 to 8:00 p. m. and you are urgently requested to be there. The present supply in the Farmington credit bank, used nearly every week by city and township residents, is very low. Unless it is replenished at the August 27 bank, the demand will soon drain the existing supply. So let's register. GR. 4-8059. This is urgent . . . we can't afford to let our friends and neighbors, or yes, even ourselves, down now!

**HERE'S JUST A MEMO** to tired mothers and their restless off-springs. The opening of an outdoor school year is less than a month away. The long summer vacation is fast drawing to a close and white-knuckled parents are anxious to get to the younger set. We have an idea that the monthly note will be happy to get back to books and textbooks once again.



**THE BIG RUSH** is on at three new schools in the Farmington District all hoping to have the buildings ready for occupancy by the opening of classes in September or as soon after that date as possible. Present plans call for completion of the classrooms section of the O. E. Dunckel Junior high school, shown above, by the September 5 opening date. Extra construction crews are also hard at work on the Kendallwood Elementary school, upper right, however it is doubtful that this unit will be completed in time for the scheduled opening classes in September. The new William Grace Elementary School, right, is under construction. The final stages of construction and details hope to have the building ready for the September 5 opening.

### Completion Of Township Interceptor Plans Scheduled For December 1

Township Supervisor Frank Stephenson reported Tuesday that construction plans for the proposed Farmington Sewer Interceptor are expected to be completed by December 1, 1957. The information was disclosed at a meeting held this week with Harold K. Shone, acting director of the newly organized Oakland County department of public works. Shone informed Stephenson as well as Paul Ingersoll, County Commissioner, that construction plans for the interceptor would be completed by the December 1 deadline.

### Reappraisal Work Started In City

Field survey work is now under way in connection with the reappraisal of property in the City, officials announced this week.

A total of 12 field men from the firm of Blaska and Garian are now working in the Floral Park section of the city. All of the property in the field of reappraisal work. They are charged with the responsibility of measuring all property and obtaining data on the type of construction, building features, condition and general character of all structures in the city.

Each of the field men have been given identification material and all property owners are asked to assist them with the obtaining of necessary information regarding their property. Work in the Floral Park section is expected to be completed this week at which time the field men will move to the Bel-Aire Farms Subdivision. The entire city reappraisal survey which is expected to take two to three weeks.

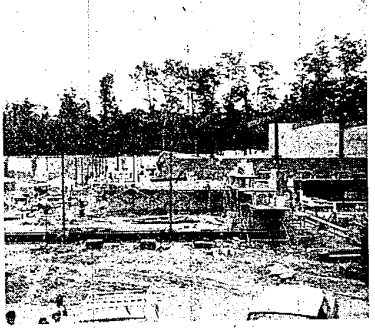
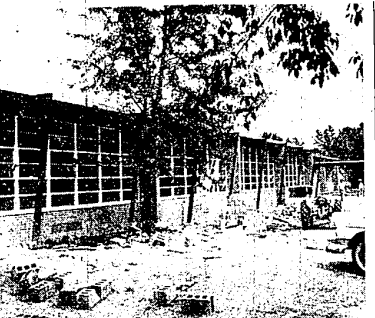
The purpose of the reappraisal is to establish an equitable value for all property in the City. Officials emphasized that the appraisal firm has nothing to do with assessment rates.

### Ask Higher Price For Right-Of-Way

The City, through legal counsel, has formally requested the State Highway Department to begin negotiations immediately on the item of a purchase price for 8.75 acres of city-owned land included in the new Grand River Cut-Off right-of-way.

The property, located south of the old Cut-Off and east of Gill Road, was sold to the Highway Department several years ago at the amount of a purchase price for 8.75 acres of city-owned land included in the new Grand River Cut-Off right-of-way.

The State Highway Department has been asked to meet with city attorneys immediately in order to complete a new agreement prior to the opening of the new expressway. City officials stated that the original agreement, in the opinion of the present Council, the property is much more valuable than at the time it was acquired. As a result they are requesting a re-negotiation on the purchase price.



### New Controls Aid U.S. 16 Traffic

The new system of traffic control, set up this past week-end on Grand River through the cooperation of the City, Township and State Highway Department, has been labeled as "very satisfactory" by officials.

Under the new system, two lanes were opened for east bound traffic during the morning hours. This applied to all three land sections of Grand-River from the westerly limits of the City of Farmington through New Hudson. The traffic markers were placed at the intersections of Grand River and Farmington Roads and Grand River and Nine Mile Roads. Earl Scherffus, City Manager, stated that the new system helped materially in reducing congestion throughout the city.

The traffic control measures were used on Saturday and Sunday only. It is anticipated that the same program will be followed on week-ends until the new expressway is opened to traffic. The expressway is now in the west of 10 Mile Road by the addition of a fourth lane on the south side of Grand River.

The expressway, from the 10 Mile Road east to Tuck Road, is expected to be opened to east bound traffic in about two weeks.

### CITY SCHEDULES RUBBISH PICK-UPS ON MONDAYS

Effective next week, rubbish collections will be conducted throughout the City every Monday, according to Earl Scherffus, City Manager.

Scherffus emphasized that the collections will be made on Mondays only. Persons are urged to comply with the new schedule in order to avoid inconvenience and to assist with the orderly collection of rubbish. The collection which is conducted by the Public Works Department, includes all rubbish which is not picked up by the regular collection contractor.

### Inside Features

- Blood Bank Registrations . . . 1B
- New Being Taken . . . 1B
- Seek Big Brother . . . 2A
- Area Volunteers . . . 3B
- Name Little League . . . 3A
- Farm Champions . . . 3A
- Farmington Savings Names . . . 3A
- Contest Winners . . . 8A
- Classified Adv. . . 4A, 5A, 6A
- Church Activities . . . 2A
- Editorial Features . . . 2B
- Michigan Mirror . . . 2B
- Neighborhood News . . . 2B
- Sport News . . . 3A, 6A, 7A, 1B, 4B, 5B, 7B, 8B
- Sport News . . . 3A

### Three Farmington People Injured In Auto Crashes

Three Farmington residents were injured last week in automobile accidents in the area. Tommy Serdenis, 13 year old son of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Serdenis of 23048 Orchard Lake Road, suffered serious injuries late Wednesday evening when the car in which he was traveling with his mother was struck by another car on Nine Mile Road at Telegraph. Thrown from the auto by the impact of the crash, Tommy suffered a fractured skull and bad cuts and bruises about the face and body. He was taken to the William Beaumont Hospital for treatment.

According to the Southfield police, Ronald Reimer of Detroit, driver of the second car, ran through a red light on Telegraph and smashed into the right rear of the Serdenis auto, proceeding west across Telegraph on Nine Mile. The accident occurred around 7:30 p. m. Eight year old James Amich of 30150 Elght Road was injured last Wednesday afternoon when he was struck by a car while crossing Eight Mile at Tuck Road. Paul T. Sawyer, driver of the car, stated that he did not see the boy darting across the road until it was too late to stop in time to avoid hitting him.

Young James was taken to Bedford Memorial Hospital to receive treatment of head injuries and possible internal injuries. The accident occurred around 3:30 p. m.

Early Monday morning George Harze, 25, of 21423 Jefferson was injured when he apparently fell asleep at the wheel of his car on Grand River near Wilmarth Street in the area of the new expressway, glanced off one telephone pole and continued on until it smashed into another around 1:30 for swerve. The time of the accident was set at about 12:35 a. m. Hayes suffered a broken arm, a cut nose and other cuts and bruises. He was taken to the Receiving Hospital for treatment.

### City Interceptor To Open Thursday

The City Council was advised Monday by Earl Scherffus, City Manager, that the new sewer interceptor is expected to be in full and permanent operation by Thursday.

The manager added that the system was tested last Friday afternoon and worked satisfactorily with a few minor exceptions. Scherffus stated that the minor adjustments are now being made in the system and that it should be ready for permanent operation by Thursday.

The plan provided for a separation unit which is expected to be ready this week. As soon as approved by the State Highway Department, residents of the City will have three years in which to comply with the regulations.

### CLERK CERTIFIES FRANKLIN KNOLLS SEWER PETITIONS

Floyd A. Cairns, Township Clerk, announced Monday that sufficient signatures have been obtained for Franklin Knolls to proceed with the R. P. Knoll subdivision sewer petition.

Signatures of the owners of 5% of the total land area have been obtained on special assessment petitions. Cairns stated that the signatures have been checked and certified by the Township Clerk and the abstract company. The petitions are now being turned over to Claude Stevens, financial consultant. Cairns stated that the necessary resolutions which must be considered and approved by the Board of Supervisors are now being prepared. A public hearing will be held at which time all affected property owners will be given an opportunity to ask questions and express opinions regarding the proposed project.

### Deny Request For Business Zone In Vicinity Of Mooney Street

The City Council, at its regular meeting Monday evening, rejected separate requests for the proposed rezoning from Residential to Commercial for three parcels of land in the vicinity of Mooney Street between Shiawassee and Grand River.

Three members of the Council, Robert Lindbert, V. O. Bates and John Lapham voted to deny the request while Councilmen James Cavanaugh and Thomas Barber voted for the rezoning. Prior to the discussion and vote, Earl Scherffus, City Manager, stated that a professional planner had been called in to study the proposal and make recommendations. He added that while the recommendations were not conclusive, the planner did express the opinion that the property would be satisfactory for commercial development.

### Accept City Offer For Purchase Of Mill Property

Earl Scherffus, City Manager, announced Monday that the Council's offer to purchase the Farmington Mills property on State Street, west of Farmington Road, has been accepted.

The City Manager added that the option fee has been paid and that arrangements on the financing of the purchase are now being discussed. Scherffus has been authorized to purchase the property in behalf of the City at a price of \$31,000. The offer provides for a \$20,000 down payment with the balance to be financed on a time plan.

Scherffus stated that the property will be used initially at least for the Public Works Department. Funds for the purchase will come from the increased millage approved by the Council for the year 1957-58. It is estimated that the increase will provide approximately \$20,000 this year which will cover the down payment. The City Manager added that previous plans for the construction of a new Public Works building on Nine Mile Road will be delayed in view of the purchase of the Mill property.

### CITY TO RECEIVE \$4,302 IN STATE HIGHWAY FUNDS

A total of \$4,302.33 will be received by the City of Farmington as its share of the Second Quarter receipts of the Motor Vehicle Highway Fund and increased gas and weight tax monies.

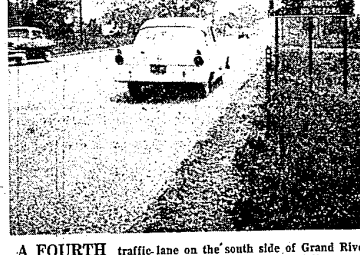
The City will receive a total of \$3,829.07 from the Motor Vehicle Highway Fund which includes all gasoline, weight and Diesel fuel taxes collected by the State except those collected under Act 37 of the 1955 session of the Legislature. The City's share of the Act 87 distribution is \$473.26 for the quarter. This covers the recent rise in increase in gas taxes and the additional weight taxes.

Oakland County will receive a total of \$759,617.82 as its share of the Second Quarter receipts of the two funds.

### SCHOOL BOOK STORE TO OPEN AUG. 14, HOURS DISCLOSED

The Farmington Public School book store located in the Junior High School on Thomas Street will open next Wednesday, August 14, and remain open until school Monday.

Regular book store hours will be from 9 a. m. to 4 p. m. Monday through Friday. The book store will also be open from 7 to 9 p. m. on Friday evenings except on Friday, August 30, and on Saturdays from 9 a. m. until 12 noon except on Saturday, August 10, which is indicated.



A FOURTH traffic lane on the south side of Grand River from 14 Mile Road west to Kensington Park was officially opened by the State Highway Department last Saturday. According to officials, the additional lane plus other traffic controls through Farmington city and township, helped materialize the plan to ease congestion on heavily traveled U. S. 16. The additional asphalt has been installed to provide two lanes for both east and west bound traffic from 10 Mile Road through to Kensington Park.