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SEVENTY-FIRST YEAR — NUMBER 10 FARMINGTON, MICHIGAN, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 4, 1958

Will Re-Assign Several Pupils In Kindergarten

Several kindergarten youngsters in the Farmington public school system will be re-assigned to new schools to help balance class sizes in this grade throughout the district, school officials disclosed Tuesday.

The Fairview school on Grand River in the western portion of the district will be closed and kindergarten students enrolled there transferred to the Woodland, Cloverdale and Ten Mile schools where present kindergarten enrollees are low.

THIRD-SESSION kindergarten classes will start at the Woodland and Cloverdale schools where present enrollees are heaviest and continuing to increase. Kindergarten classes will start at the same time in the morning for these two schools with only five minutes being deducted from each session to permit the addition of a third session program. The third session classes will be dismissed at 3:25 p.m.

The teacher at the Fairview school will instruct kindergarten classes at both schools.

A POLICY has also been adopted by the school administration whereby all future new elementary students coming to the Westbrooke area for the remainder of the current school year will be assigned to the Westbrooke school.

Notices have now been mailed out to parents of all students who will be re-assigned, school administrators stated.

Sirens to Blow

Next Sunday, Dec. 7 is the anniversary of Pearl Harbor and also national Civil Defense day.

The siren service sirens in the metropolitan area and Farmington township will be sounded at 2 p.m. There will be two different signals. The blast will be steady for two minutes, then after one minute there will be a warbling blast for two minutes. The first is the "alert" and the second "take cover."

Goodfellows to Sell Papers in Twp. Dec. 12

Practically every Farmington organization will participate in the annual Goodfellows newspaper sale throughout the city and township Friday and Saturday, Dec. 12 and 13.

Meantime names of needy families should be reported immediately so that members of the board can make a list of names to investigate applications. Deadline is Dec. 19. Phone calls will be taken at one point. Everyone is asked to telephone the following number:

GR. 4-9960

Each application should include name and address of needy family, number of children, and their ages, plus the name and phone number of person submitting the recommendation for assistance.

FRED MENKE is in charge of the Goodfellow program this year, assisted by a large committee.

"It is important that we know the circumstances of each family so that we can include the necessary items in the individual Christmas boxes as well as provide toys and certificates," Mr. Menke said.



SANTA CLAUS made his first official visit to Farmington last Friday when he dropped in by helicopter at the Farmington Plaza Shopping Center. Despite the fact that it was a cold and rainy day, a throng of youngsters and their parents turned out to greet him. Pausing to

wave to a group of youngsters in the distance while passing out candy to other youngsters in line, he is shown here with Martin Soffin, manager of Zolowker's Dept. Store at the Plaza (with box of candy in hand) and S. Selzer of Royal Clothes in background between them.

All Property Zoned Residential In Wood Creek, Despite Protest

After more than three hours of discussion that heated discussion led in the proposed ordinance excluding commercial zoning and establishing one residential zone for all of Wood Creek Farms Village, the zoning board of appeals met Tuesday night.

Discussion centered around an ordinance proposed and a need for assistance by George Wellington, Smith, chairman of the Farm subdivision, that four outlots in the subdivision fronting on Northwestern Highway are owned by him be zoned commercial in the original zoning ordinance.

The first two hours were spent in discussion with Smith by Walter Kinney, chairman of the nine-man planning commission which drew up the ordinance, and council members. The last hour was spent by the commission discussing the matter privately.

IT WAS Smith's contention that the outlots he wanted zoned commercial were intended for this purpose from the very beginning. This is why they were not included in the zoning ordinance, he said. It was pointed out when residents sought property in the subdivision made a residential development commercially when a need for such commercial development was deemed advisable. Smith added that the developer said he had no need for these lots zoned commercial when efforts were being made to zone the entire township since some of the outlots in the subdivision at that time asked him why he asked them why he had not appeared before the planning commission to request this commercial zoning when work was started on the village ordinance.

Indications were given by Smith throughout the discussion that he would not act against the village if the commercial zoning he requested was not included in the zoning ordinance.

PROVISIONS of the zoning ordinance set a minimum lot size of 33,600 square feet and the minimum size of the dwelling (main floor) at 1,500 square feet. Other provisions call for a minimum front yard setback of 50 feet, a minimum side yard of 15 feet on either side of the building and set a maximum building height of 27 feet.

In a separate resolution the planning commission was directed to meet and confer with Smith at his request on any matters pertaining to the zoning ordinance.

No New Twp. Office Seekers

There are no new candidates in the open for any of the township offices to be elected in coming elections, and one incumbent says he will not seek re-election.

Fred Westlake, who has served six years and is easily the township's board member with the greatest length of service, said last week he did not plan to run for office. Some friends are trying to get him to change his mind, however.

Postoffice Sets Vail Services

Special hours will be in effect at the Farmington postoffice for the next two weeks.

From Monday, Dec. 8, through Saturday, Dec. 20, the postoffice will be open two days from 7:30 a.m. to 6 p.m., and both Saturdays from 7:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.

For Sunday, Dec. 14, only, the postoffice will be open two hours in the afternoon, from 2 to 4 p.m.

Postmaster Henry Trombley says these extra hours should enable all residents to get their Christmas packages and letters mailed in the mail early this year, and insure early delivery.

Fire Hall Site Bought, Twp. Plans Others

A one acre site for a fire station, the largest portion of the township has been ordered purchased by the board, and the township planning board has been asked to attempt to buy sites in other general areas as previously determined.

A site of 1.5 acres to serve the Kendallwood area has the greatest interest for the township officials.

15 Year Old Steals 2 Cars

A 15 year old Farmington youth who confessed to two auto thefts in less than a week, after his apprehension Sunday by city police officer Dick Walker, has now been committed to the Oakland County Juvenile Home.

The first theft occurred last Wednesday afternoon. At 1:40 p.m. Russ Lashbrook reported that his car had been stolen from the library where he was working. Less than two hours later it was found abandoned at Grand River and Warren.

SUNDAY the second car was stolen from the Our Lady of Sorrows Church parking lot. The car was driven to the Plymouth motor where he was involved in a hit-and-run accident. Upon returning to the City of Farmington he was picked up by Officer Walker.

A plea has been made by the police department asking that all drivers remove their keys and lock their car when leaving it, regardless of how short a period of time they may be gone.

Water Petitions Reported to Board

Status of the water petitions in the township dry area reported to the township board last week by Clerk Floyd A. Cairns. In District 7 it is likely the necessary percentage will be attained in District 4 the percentage is 49.1, and with hard work this might be boosted enough.

Protest Ditch

During recent construction on 12 Mile Road the contractors left a large open ditch near Schroeder. The township board claims. It has asked the county road commission, to see if this can't be filled to reduce danger from drowning.

Meeting Friday On Woodcroft

All residents of the proposed Village of Woodcroft are invited to a meeting this Friday evening, Dec. 5, to get answers to their questions about this type of village.

Mrs. Lydia Stark of Michigan Municipal League will tell details of such a proposal under the General Law Village statute, and answer questions.

THE PUBLIC meeting will be held 8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 5, at Gill Road elementary school.

All Gill says this meeting will be held prior to the public hearing by the boundaries committee of the board of supervisors, so all may be familiar with the plan.

A township's public hearing will be held Thursday, Dec. 11, at 8 p.m., also at Gill Road school. The boundaries committee, as a result of this hearing, is likely to approve or disapprove the petitions to form a general law village.

Tax Penalty to Be Collected

For the first time in years Farmington township taxpayers will have to conform to the law and pay the 4 percent penalty on real estate taxes not paid on or before Jan. 19, 1959.

In past years the township board has unavailably waived the penalty, and gotten away with it. This year both county and township treasurers could be taken into court.

An attorney general's ruling reads: "The provision for a 4 percent collection fee on taxes paid on or after Jan. 20 is mandatory, and the township can not extend the time for payment without this penalty."

Personal property taxes are due a different time — Jan. 10, 1959. However, if not paid by then, the personal property is usually seized, and the penalty is then added from returns from a tax sale.

Meet Monday on Downtown Off Street Parking Problems

Possibly the most important meeting concerning the future of downtown Farmington is that called for next Monday evening, Dec. 8, at the city hall.

The city council is inviting all property owners and business men, and particularly all members of the Farmington Downtown Business District Ass'n.

DISCUSSION of off street parking plans is the topic, and the success of any city project to revitalize the downtown area depends upon decisions made on parking.

The problem is to decide what is a practical plan for free city parking facilities under the off street parking ordinance. Inasmuch as the city will carry out the plan agreed on, but downtown property owners will bear the cost of improvements on a city street.

THE COUNCIL has been discussing the proposals some weeks, and holding meetings with groups.

City Manager Earl Scherffus has established the number of parking places required for each business under the present ordinance, but says the figures are not realistic in all cases.

The plan, contemplates some method under which established businesses must also pay their share of expanded parking, but this may have to be under petition for a special assessment district.

A parking lot on the north side of Grand River is also to be discussed.

County Given Civil Defense

The township Civil Defense organization, without a head since the resignation of Donald D. Pullen, has been turned over to the township organization in its entirety.

The township organization, while it prospered here, is unusual. All C-D activities are usually under a county setup, but Farmington is the only township in the county organization.

TOWNSHIP officials have volunteered over the local organization, often charging it was being used for politics.

Last week when Ass't Director Floyd Jaye wrote the board he could not assume the direct control of the organization unless approved by the county to take over.

This won't affect local C-D activities, which are expected to continue to grow in importance.

Youth Injured in School Bus Mishap

Five year old Kevin Goshorn of 32305 Valview suffered a fractured femur last Wednesday when he was struck by a school bus and knocked to the ground.

The youth had just gotten off the bus and was walking toward his home when the mishap took place, a police report revealed.

The accident occurred at 11:40 a.m. on Valview at Prospect.

Skating Rink Meets Called for Saturday

A meeting of all parents in the Clarenceville area interested in the skating rink now being prepared on the Botsford Inn property behind the Edgewood school will be held Saturday afternoon at the township fire station on Wheeler Street.

The meeting has been called for the purpose of completing plans for the rink and maintaining of the rink this winter.

Sec. 36 Water System Bond Charges Ended

Debt retirement charges for patrons of Section 36 water system were ended last week by action of the township board.

At the Dec. 9 board meeting members will discuss advisability of taking over and operating Grand River Homes water system. Section 36 is bounded by 8 and 9 Mile Roads, and Inker and Middlebelt Roads. The Grand River Homes system adjoins immediately to the west.

BOTH SYSTEMS are important now in township planning. If a water authority is formed with City of Farmington, the township would buy Detroit water from the authority, and resell it to both water systems.

Two large groups of consumers in these systems would improve the sale of bonds to finance the construction of mains, and make easier the task of getting funds to build facilities to serve the township's dry areas.

Both systems are also in the path of the proposed water authority. The water authority would build on West from the 51-inch main the City of Detroit proposes to build as far west as Inker.

SECTION 36 patrons heretofore no longer pay the \$3.75 per quarter charge for debt retirement. They will continue to pay the regular \$3.75 minimum water charge for 1,600 cubic feet of water a year.

After studying a report on the water system finances made by the township CPA, Robert Clarke, the board voted favorably on five recommendations. They set up a debt retirement fund of \$27,845 which will pay off remaining bonds as they come due.

They also set up a fund for depreciation, and one for contingencies, and will charge the water system \$2,000 a year for administering the system. This will reimburse the township for billing, collections, office work, etc.

FRED WESTLAKE, long time board member and resident in the Village of Quakertown will be placed to a vote of residents on February 16 at which time candidates for the village council will also be voted on.

Having been approved by Governor G. Mennen Williams recently, the bill for the township prepared for distribution the early part of January.

CANDIDATES for village office may obtain nominating petitions now from William Kurtz. They must be filed by January 16.

Registration of voters will begin December 16 and continue through January 16. All residents within the boundaries of the proposed Village of Quakertown are reminded that they must register during this time to qualify as voters in the election. Voters registered to vote in the township does not qualify a person to vote in this special village election, an official spokesman emphasized.

A PLACE of registration has not yet been selected. It will be announced next week.

Named to handle registration and serve as election inspectors are: Mrs. Frank T. Downs, Mrs. Mrs. M. J. Powers and Mrs. Morley Foster.

Quakertown Election Set

A proposed charter for the Village of Quakertown will be placed to a vote of residents on February 16 at which time candidates for the village council will also be voted on.

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THE FUTURE of Grand River Homes water system will bring a change from private to public ownership soon. Whether it will be operated by the township or by a public works is uncertain yet.

At the next board meeting Dec. 9 reports by the township engineers will be available, and members will try to reach agreement.

THE QUESTION of what the township would do to was brought by Mr. Eaton, who said the system was ready to take over operation, if the township would approve.

Residents are asking someone else should shoulder the cost of bringing the system up to date, but this would have to be done under special assessment and patrons would pay the costs.

Seek Home for Foreign Pupil

The Clarenceville American Field Service Foreign Exchange Student Committee is seeking to locate a family which would be interested in taking a foreign exchange student into their home for the 1959-60 school year.

Plans must be made now in order to complete all arrangements. Officials state that any interested party designated both the country and the sex of the foreign exchange student.

Anyone interested is asked to contact either Mrs. Lillian Levin, GR. 4-4088, of Barbara Stutz, GR. 4-0135.

A Japanese student is attending Clarenceville High on a 1959 foreign student exchange program this year.

THE SECTION 36 water system has been operated since a revenue bond issue. There were not sufficient customers then to carry the load, and it went into receivership.

In the spring of 1957 it was taken over by the township, after the courts were petitioned for recovery of the system. It has been operated since by the office of Clerk Floyd A. Cairns. When the township took it over, there were \$46,000 in outstanding bonds.

City Bonds Get Lower Interest

A lower interest rate than was anticipated was brought in the sale of \$65,000 of the city's street improvement bonds Monday evening. Interest rate for the low bid was 3.8224 percent.

About two months ago when placed on sale there were no bidders. This was because a 4 percent limitation placed on the bonds. At that time the bond market was higher, and no bond bidders this time.

SUCCESSFUL bidder was Kenworth & Co. Complete interest cost was estimated at \$65,000. There were five bidders in this action.

In other action Monday the city council introduced an ordinance change which would see CITY BONDS on Page 6A, Column 3.

Smart Monthly Colorgrave Section Included With Enterprise in January

Farmington Enterprise has been singled out as one of the weekly newspapers in selected price readers in the first issue every month thereafter.

READERS all over the country living in suburban areas were contacted to build up an informational index on what their interests are and "Suburbia Today" will include the features, the articles, the photographs and art work, the fiction which appears in this select smart suburban class of people.

Only the top qualified newspapers covering the upper income residential suburbs in the United States, were chosen as charter members by the magazine's executives. Although newspapers from coast to coast have been selected to include "Suburbia Today" with their regular editions.

"It will be the editorial purview of "Suburbia Today" to be published.

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THE MAGAZINE OF PLEASANT PLACES

daily newspapers. "Suburbia Today" however, will have its own separate staff of topflight men and women who know precisely the interests of suburban families.

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