

# Seek \$850,000 for Classroom Additions

This is the first in a series on the three propositions which will be asked to vote Monday, March 21.

One of the three propositions upon which residents of the City of Farmington will be asked to cast their ballots on March 21, is an \$850,000 bond issue.

This amount is being asked by the Board of Education to satisfy anticipated needs through the opening months of the 1962-63 school year.

Of the \$850,000, \$500,000 is proposed to be used for additions to existing buildings. The additions called for will provide facilities for a minimum of 600 more pupils, it has been estimated.

TEN ADDITIONAL classrooms as well as a library is called for in the new Grandview elementary school at an estimated total cost of \$1,075,000. The building, set in 1961, for construction, \$12,675 for architectural fees and \$16,000 for equipment.

Another seven classrooms and a library is proposed at the Bolsofer elementary school. Estimated for construction is \$1,000,000 for architectural services and \$13,000 for equipment for a total of \$1,013,000.

The construction of home-making, industrial arts and science rooms at the senior high school is planned. A construction cost of \$200,000 has been set in the budget. Another \$16,500 for architectural services and \$2,000 for equipment boosts the total earmarked in the budget for this project to \$208,500.

A SDM of \$5,500 for legal fees and another \$5,100 for engineering the first interest payment makes the total allocated in the \$850,000 bonding proposal budget to \$799,275.

The remaining \$54,725 might be used for a variety of jobs, school officials stated. Among those mentioned were purchase of land improvement of sites, possible addition to the junior high shower room, renovation of Central section for administrative and maintenance needs, a multipurpose room, classroom addition at the Westbrook school and on a classroom addition at the Edgewood school.

Bonding and construction requires a minimum of 18 months, it was emphasized. Unless construction of additions can be started by September of this year, facilities might not be available to adequately house all students by the end of the 1961-62 year, say school heads.

# 5 Parcels Sold At Auction Here

Two bidders bought five parcels of excess State Highway Department property in a public auction in Farmington Tuesday, Feb. 26.

The two buyers, M.A. Gallo, director of the Michigan State Highway Department, and J. L. Goodman, Pontiac, bid a total of \$40,600 for the parcels. This is \$7,500 over their total appraised value.

Gallo was high bidder on three of the parcels. They are: (1) a six-tenths of an acre lot at the southwest corner of the intersection of Lake Road and Grand River Ave. His bid was \$30,000 for the parcel appraised at \$28,250.

(2) In the city of Pontiac he bought an improved lot on the southwest corner of Seneca and Perry St., including a small building, for \$2,700. The property was appraised at \$1,800 but sold for the much higher price after 24 raises.

(3) The third parcel was 1.1 acre south of the Brighton Farmington expressway service road just east of Norline turn-off. He bought it for \$7,000. The property was appraised at \$5,000 but sold for the much higher price after 24 raises.

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(5) The fifth parcel was 1.1 acre south of the Brighton Farmington expressway service road just east of Norline turn-off. He bought it for \$7,000. The property was appraised at \$5,000 but sold for the much higher price after 24 raises.

# Franklin Knolls Sewer Project Moving Ahead

Despite the extremely cold weather, the multipurpose sewer project for Franklin Knolls is moving ahead. A report from township officials this week.

Work on the living of lines into that portion of the subdivision within Farmington township was begun February 17. Barring unforeseen difficulties, it is expected that the project within the subdivision will be completed prior to the completion and opening of the interceptor sewer line itself.

How fast homes will be tied in depends entirely on how soon the lot owners get their homes and lots out from their homes to the laterals.

Township Clerk Floyd Cairns also reported that Franklin Knolls and Franklin Forest subdivisions, in the same vicinity, have their solutions worked out to the interceptor. They are now being checked for certification, he said.

# Wood Creek Village Wide Clean-Up Set

Plans for another Pick-Up, Spruce-Up, Clean-Up Campaign, similar to one held last year, are being formulated by the Wood Creek Farms Village Council at its regular meeting Monday night.

By resolution, the Council set April 29-30 as the period for the Wood Creek Spring clean-up effort.

President Alger Clark informed fellow Council members that he had spoken to the board of directors of the Wood Creek Farms Civic Assn. and that they had agreed to sponsor the campaign again.

It was indicated that the Township Board has expressed its desire to burn down an old building in the village for practice. The suggestion was made that the village should be cleaned up before the conclusion of the clean-up campaign and make it a demonstration of the practices following in fire-fighting.

Following the campaign, an inspection will be made of the entire village by Harry Lang, zoning inspector; Eric Janison, planning commission member; and Watson Kinney, chairman of the planning commission.

# GOP Women to Hear Official From Township

The Republican Women's organization of Farmington will hold its monthly meeting on Thursday, March 15, at the home of Mrs. C. E. Haynes, president, 23475 Leisler Lane, off Farmington Road between 31 and 32.

Guest speaker will be Curtis Hall, township supervisor, and Floyd Cairns, township clerk. They will talk on the many phases of township government. It is hoped that at least one member will bring an interested friend or neighbor to the meeting, so that they too, may take advantage of this educational program on a local level.

# WANE DERBY display the plaque presented him by the Ford Motor Co. for outstanding community service.

WANE DERBY, township supervisor, is displaying a plaque presented to him by the Ford Motor Co. for outstanding community service. The plaque was presented to him at a special dinner held February 23.

Mr. Derby is the township supervisor of Farmington. He has been in the position for six years ago. He was assigned to the position of township supervisor in 1956. He is a member of the Farmington Civil Defense group and attends monthly meetings to keep abreast of the latest developments of civil defense procedures.

Wayne and his wife, Nora, had an enjoyable time at the presentation dinner. Benson Ford, vice president of the Farmington dealer policy board of the company, made the presentations. U.S. Senator, Philip A. Hart was principal speaker. He made a presentation which was an annual event.

WANE, started with the Ford Motor Company 12 years ago at the old Lincoln plant on Warren Ave. in Detroit. He was assigned to the position of township supervisor in 1956. He is a member of the Farmington Civil Defense group and attends monthly meetings to keep abreast of the latest developments of civil defense procedures.

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# Farmington Enterprise

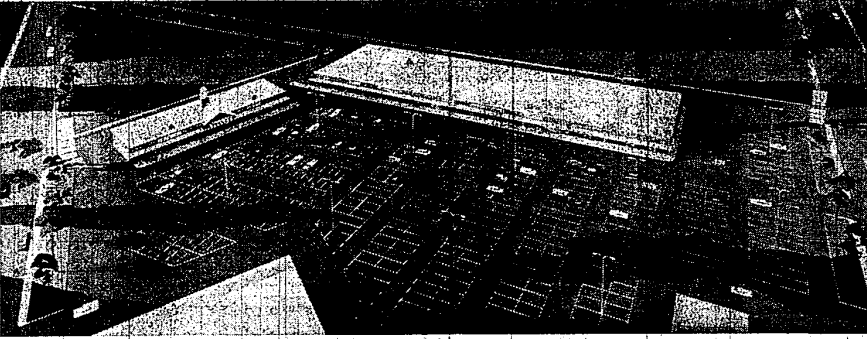
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SEVENTY-SECOND YEAR - NO. 23

FARMINGTON, MICHIGAN, THURSDAY, MARCH 3, 1960

TWELVE PAGES



AN ARCHITECT'S rendering of the proposed new commercial development in the downtown Farmington area east of Farmington Road and south of the present stores fronting on Grand River was completed and shown publicly for the first time the latter part of last week.

As shown in the drawing, the biggest unit in the development would be one large building containing several different stores facing northward onto a very ample parking area. This unit would be backed up to Orchard Street. Also called for is some commercial development backing up to

Grove Street to the east and also fronting on the parking area. The amount of commercial development in this segment of the overall plan is as yet somewhat indefinite, it was indicated.

To the extreme right in the drawing is widened Farmington Road. To the left is Grand River Avenue. Jetting out at the lower edge of the picture is a present commercial development fronting on Grand River and another along Farmington Road southward from Grand River.

# 1960 City, Township Assessment Review Dates March 8, 14, 15

Property owners in both the city and township of Farmington having either questions or complaints to voice about the assessed valuations placed on their property for 1960 will have an opportunity to be heard during the next two weeks.

The boards of review for both governmental bodies will be in session one day next week and two days the following week.

It is before the boards of review at this time only that any changes in the individual assessments placed on properties on the assessment rolls for 1960 can be changed. The assessment established as being satisfactory to the property owner unless he appears before the board of review to protest at one of the board sessions in the next two weeks.

SUFFICIENT cause can be shown, the board of review has the authority to correct the assessment on a piece of property in such a manner as will, in the opinion of the board, make the value relatively just and equal.

Notices informing property owners of the assessed valuations on their property for 1960 were mailed out by the city a short time ago. Letters notifying township residents of changes, if any, made in the assessed valuations on their homes for 1960 are being mailed out this week. Township Supervisor Curt Hall stated Monday.

THE TOWNSHIP Board of Review will hold sessions at the Town Hall at Grand River and Farmington Road, 9 hours on Monday, March 7, 8 and 9.

See REVIEW DATES Column 6, Page 8A

# Four Killed in 12 Mile Crash, Eight Injured

The parents and the two youngest of their seven children were killed when their station wagon skidded into a truck on 12 Mile Road near Inkster, Farmington.

The other five children were injured but all reported in fair condition. They were taken from the completely demolished car and rushed to Beaumont Hospital where extra doctors and nurses were summoned to care for the surviving children.

And are Mr. and Mrs. Allen C. Kaiser of Royal court and their two children, Mark 1, and Maria, 3. Eight other persons including the five surviving children of the Kaiser family, James Crowell, 38, of 29725 Farmington Rd., Farmington, the driver of the truck, was included in the opposite direction with his daughter Donna, 15, as a passenger.

"I saw the station wagon come over the hill in front of me. I saw it skid and I picked up speed as it came. I did my best to get clear by turning onto the shoulder and after banking off my truck into the snowbank."

The station wagon kept coming and there was a tremendous crash. When Crowell came to after halting on the road for a few seconds, he noticed that his left hand had gone through the windshield.

Crowell said that his daughter was calling his name and asking if he was alright. Blood was running down from a cut on his forehead.

He heard screams coming from the demolished station wagon.

See FOUR KILLED Column 4, Page 8A

# Wood Creek Election Mar. 14

Monday, March 14, Wood Creek Farms Village election will be going to the polls to select two new council members and a treasurer.

Incumbent officers are not running for re-election having expressed the desire to see new residents serve their community.

Running for the two Council positions are John M. Ambrose, Thomas H. Jennings and Roy J. Busch. The names of Herman A. Dobson and Zarr A. Reader are expiring.

Allice Billis is unopposed for village clerk. Incumbent Arthur J. Busch informed the Council that he did not choose to serve for another term at an earlier date.

Robert C. Day is also unopposed for the office of treasurer. His position is presently being held by W. M. Davenport.

It was reported at the Council meeting Tuesday night that nothing is being done in the way of re-development until this village is completely and the village knows exactly how successful the proposed re-development might be.

GALESPIE pointed out in his talk that the City of Farmington is somewhat different than other villages in that it has a higher caliber of residential development while Wayne's was sub-standard. Farmington's downtown business district is something else again, he said. Considerable improvements are needed.

Another attempt is being made to get a Federal representative here. It was learned the first of this week.

The days of big Urban Renewal projects, such as the first one successful completed by Wayne, are dead as far as Federal assistance is concerned, in the opinion of Galespie, however, the Federal government would continue to help with small projects which can qualify under the Urban Renewal program, where by several old rundown homes would also be removed. He said.

# FARC Program Still Popular

Despite the fact that many boys and girls are being attracted by the cold weather to outdoor winter sports activities, the Saturday recreation program at the Farmington Area Recreation Commission is still very popular.

FARC Director Warren During February a total of 1,950 boys and girls took part in activities at the various school gymnasiums, he reported. The program continues to hold the attendance record with 306 participating in activities there on the four Saturday afternoons in February.

Programs will be continued at all the schools through March, Piche said, with one exception: The program at Farmington Junior High for Saturday afternoons will be concluded as of this Saturday, March 5.

Other activities have been scheduled here for the remainder of March. Director Piche commented.

Boys wishing to go to Duncun Junior High for the morning program from 9 a.m. until 12 noon are invited to do so, Piche said.

# Attends State Twp. Association Meet

Floyd A. Cairns, Farmington township clerk, was in Lansing Thursday in attendance at the annual meeting of the Michigan Township Association.

Cairns was recently elected director of the association for the year 1959-60. He is replacing Elsie Avery, Farmington township treasurer.

Proposed state legislation having an effect on township government is being discussed at the main topic of discussion.

# Detroit Water Series Starts Next Week

A series of articles on the proposal to convert Farmington City from well water to a Detroit water supply will be started in next week's issue of the Enterprise.

Every effort will be made to present as much factual information as possible prior to April 11. That is the date when voters will be asked to go to the polls to cast their ballots on a \$250,000 general obligation bond issue to finance the proposed project.

Discussed in the series will be: (1) Water supply needs in the future until the city is totally developed; (2) Details relative to the location of main and needed pumping station, etc. (a sketch to be included); (3) Cost estimates on the total project and the average cost which will be involved for each family; (4) Water rates and what affect, if any, the conversion will have to present rates; (5) Details about where to vote, who is qualified to cast a ballot, the hours the polls will be open and the percentage of votes that will be necessary for the proposition to be approved.

# Tires Stolen Sunday

The two front tires were stolen from the car belonging to the Walter Porman's, 33925 Alder Lane Dr., early Sunday afternoon while the Porman's were attending the last Mass at Our Lady of Sorrows.

# Keeps Area Around Mail Boxes Clear

A mounted on behalf of the postal carriers working out of the Farmington post office was made this week by Postmaster Henry Tromp.

He urged that all persons receiving mail from roadside boxes keep the area around those boxes and the approaches clear of litter, that carriers can make deliveries more quickly and safely.

# Downtown Development Project Moving Ahead; Buying Property

Plans for development of the area east of Farmington Road and to the rear of stores fronting on the south side of Grand River Ave. in the present Downtown Farmington business district are moving ahead.

Called for in the area, extending as far south as Orchard St. and eastward to Grove, is a sizeable free parking lot, a one-unit chain of stores fronting on to the parking lot and backing up to Orchard one or two more stores fronting on Farmington Road and some commercial development on Grove.

Having obtained options to buy the homes and business establishments on the north side of Orchard and west side of Grove, the City of Farmington is now proceeding to make purchases.

CITY MANAGER Earl Scherffius reported Monday that the Strassburg property immediately to the east of the Ruch parcel at the north corner of Farmington Road and Orchard has now been purchased by the city. The Humphrey parcel next to it should be obtained before the end of this week, he added. This will leave only nine more parcels to be purchased before the entire development is complete. The Ruch property at Farmington Road and Orchard St. is already owned by the corporation of local businessmen and property owners who plan to develop the area. The city is acting only as a promoter of this project.

PLANS ARE to get the first three homes on the north side of Orchard at the Farmington Road end torn down in the very near future, Scherffius said. Soon as these are down and weather permits, grading work will be started. Earth will be moved from the high area at the orchard-Farmington Road corner to a northerly side of Orchard to fill in the lower spots at the center of the development area, he commented.

Manager Scherffius indicated that by the first part of May, the western one-third of the lot next to the developed area will be well enough along that at least so that building construction work and work on completion of the parking area can move ahead, he concluded.

# Start Survey Of McGee Hill

Work is now moving ahead on engineering work to determine the feasibility of re-opening the old Farmington Road route up McGee Hill into Downtown Farmington.

City Manager Earl Scherffius reported Monday that Pate and Hira, engineering consultants, are now working on the survey and making cost estimates for the proposed project.

The planning consultants for the city have also begun to study the proposal to determine the extent that they feel the re-opening of this more direct route into downtown might benefit the business district, the city manager added.

After the cost estimates are made and a report given to the planning consultants on possible benefits, it will be up to the Council to determine whether the project should be undertaken to warrant the needed funds for the project, Scherffius concluded.

# Awaits Trial For Murder

Lawrence E. Rabey, 22, of 21021 Waldron is now being held without bond in the Oakland County Jail, charged with the butcher-knife slaying of his 20 year old wife, Dolores, last week.

Appearing before Farmington Township Justice James P. Lawson Friday, Rabey pled guilty to the charge of murder. He appeared without counsel. On Monday he will be arraigned in Circuit court.

The mutilated body of Mrs. Rabey was found by State Police in the living room of the Ramsey's small home.

"This is the most sad case I have seen in the 14 years I have been the prosecutor's office," Oakland County Prosecutor George F. Taylor was quoted as saying. "The man is obviously insane."

Taylor said Rabey's father told him that his son had attacked a neighbor woman when he was 14 and had spent some time in St. Joseph Retreat Hospital, Dearborn, as well as being treated for six months by a psychiatrist. Taylor also said that young Rabey told him he had frequent "emotional sea disturbances."

"Parents of a young son, the Rabeyes, were expecting another child when the murder occurred. Lawrence Rabey had been employed as an orderly at St. Mary Hospital in Livonia."

# Police Stop Wiener Roast in Model Home

Eight youngsters ranging in age from nine to 13 broke into a model home at 31245 Conroy Ct. Monday afternoon and had a wiener roast in the basement.

The boys, having bought hot dogs, rolls, catsup, cookies, etc. at a local market, broke a rear window and gained entrance to the house. The basement was littered with wrappers and other debris when city police arrived to put a damper on the party.

# Federal Aid For Re-development Possibility; Businessmen Told

At a luncheon meeting last Thursday, members of the Farmington Downtown Business District Assn. and guests heard a report on what the Village of Wayne is doing in the way of Urban Renewal with Federal aid assistance.

Richard Galespie, engineer and head of the Urban Renewal program in Wayne, told the gathering of businessmen that the village had started its village re-development program in 1958. Steps to get Federal assistance were first taken at this time but it was not until almost two years later that actual approval for Federal aid was given.

THE PROJECT undertaken in Wayne was one of cleaning out an area containing approximately 200 sub-standard homes. Galespie said. When approval of the project finally came, he stated, Federal money was received on a two-third to one-third basis. Federal money took care of two-thirds of the cost. This was a \$3,127,000 project. He stated that the village had a total of approximately 40 acres in the downtown area, Galespie indicated. He referred to this as a slum clearance project, where by several old rundown homes would also be removed. He said.

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He urged that all persons receiving mail from roadside boxes keep the area around those boxes and the approaches clear of litter, that carriers can make deliveries more quickly and safely.

Wayne is now seeking Federal aid for re-development of the downtown area, Galespie pointed out. He referred to this as a slum clearance project, where by several old rundown homes would also be removed. He said.