

Official Publication for Farmington City and Township
FARMINGTON, MICHIGAN, THURSDAY, APRIL 11, 1953

Jaycees Offer to Pay If City OK's Park for Lighted Ball Diamond

A lighted softball field in the City Park was proposed at the Farmington City Council at their Monday night meeting by representatives of the Farmington Junior Chamber of Commerce.

The Jaycees offered to stand the cost of erecting the lights if the City provided the softball diamond suitable for this purpose.

An unexpected volume of support came from Farmington Baseball for Boys Commissioner Ray Patton, who appeared at the Council meeting to seek financial aid to replace the vandalized dugouts on the Little League baseball diamond at Power and Shawwassee.

PATTON ASKED the Council to consider replacing the dugouts with players' benches with a protective fence, such as have been in use at the Boss Glenn school at 12 Mile and Orchard Lake Road in the Township.

Patton told the Council the Farmington Baseball Boys Organization was interested in cooperating in any way possible with the Jaycees in bringing about maximum use of the facilities provided for recreation in the City Park.

Patton assured the Council a night softball program on the Little League schedules and felt confident other details could be worked out satisfactorily between the two groups.

NORM POTTS, who appeared before the Council representing the Jaycees, stated their original plan was to erect an outdoor area, as yet undeveloped, to be lighted for use by adult softball players.

POTTS pointed out that several softball teams have been active in past years but have always been curtailed by the lack of adequate playing fields. A lighted field could take the stress of the heavy day-time use given existing diamonds in the City Park by allowing local softball teams to schedule home games at night.

The Council asked the Jaycees to meet with the Baseball for Boys officials, work out a mutual agreement and report back to the Council.

The Council also approved a request from the Little League officials for use of the diamonds in the City Park beginning April 30 until July 31. Commissioner Patton will also work with City Manager John Diman to get estimates on replacing the present dugout arrangement on the City Park baseball diamond.

Downtown Area Stores Name Ham Winners

Free Easter hams have been picked up or will be claimed within the next few days by the 14 lucky families who were declared winners in the Easter Ham Contest sponsored by merchants in the Downtown Farmington area.

The contest was concluded Saturday evening with the winners of these special gift hams being the following: Mrs. J. W. Clark, 3633 W. 15 Mile; Conroy's Market, Paul Maas, 3265 Grand River; Farmington Cleaners - Carl T. Ohmrad, 2327 Lila; Farmington Lumber Co., Anne Potts, 1519 Bainbridge; Lionora; Farmington Hobby Shop - Anne Venix, 2170 Power Road; Bradley Fris - Wayne Maki, 2829 Stoen; Hinkles of Farmington - Mrs. Gidday, 3550 Royale, Lionora; The Book Store - Estelle Flood, 2228 Lakeside; J. and B. Sausage Shop - L. Leonard, 3275 Valley View; Penjaway Discos - Joyce Hahmoch, 3328 Adams; Scott & Dan - E. Richardson, 2207 Frederick; Towne Toggery - J. W. Hazelton, 2551 Crystal Springs; White Horse Valley - F. C. Stark, 2738 Trevelick; Barbara Drugs - Sharon Peberka, 2331 Violet.

Summer Plans For Recreation Being Made

The opening date for the Farmington Area Summer Recreation program has been set for June 24 but there is still some doubts about how extensive a program may be able to be offered, said Director Charles Shandor reported.

The program is scheduled to run through August 2 but some changes may be necessary due to a cut in contributions to be received this year from United Foundation. Next year even charge contributions from the United Foundation are expected which may mean the end of the summer program, it was indicated.

Standard stated that 25 cents may be requested from each child registered to purchase craft materials for use at the program.

Donations are being sought from industrial plants in the area to help finance the summer program this year. The program was extended to Norma Lawton of the Star Cutter Company for a generous \$100 donation.

Shandor reported that he and the president of the Farmington Association of Handicapped Children are now attempting to work out details to include handicapped children in the program as well as the summer swim program.

Peterson has suggestions or wishes to obtain information about the summer program are asked to call Shandor at GR. 6-1782.

Beechview Swim Club Buys Land For Pool

The Beechview Swim Club of Farmington signed the final papers Tuesday, April 9, completing the purchase of a three-acre parcel of land west of Middle Road, lying south of the new 1 1/2 Mile Expressway, in Farmington Township. The landlocked parcel was sold by the State Highway Department.

Delos Hamlin Named To Head Study Group

Delos Hamlin of Farmington was among four prominent Oakland County citizens recently selected in Washington to head a study group on the Columbia to help that South American region prepare for future growth. The announcement came from the Washington office of U.S. Representative William S. Bromfield, Oakland County Republican.

Named along with Hamlin, who is Chairman of the Oakland County Board of Supervisors, were D. B. Varner, Chancellor of Oakland University; George Skrub, county planning director; and George Clain, director of area development for the Detroit Edison Company.

HAMLIN SAID the group will assist Call and its neighboring Caueca Valley in land use planning and industrial development. They will leave for South America May 14 after a day's briefing in Washington.

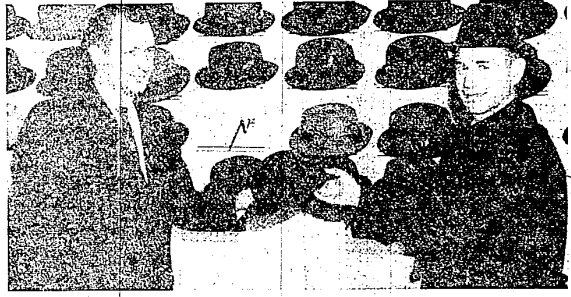
According to Hamlin, three days will be spent in Bogota, Colombia, with the national planning board, preparing for a three-week study mission in the Cali Region. However, Hamlin indicated the study may have to be cut short due to business commitments all four men have in their work here.

It is his hope of the federal government that a local-government approach to local-government approach to this area of foreign trade will be more effective than previous efforts on a more grandiose federal scale.

HAMLIN SAID the new appointment of U.S. Representative William S. Bromfield, Oakland County Republican.



CONROY'S MARKET will be one of the stores where winning Downtown Farmington shoppers will be picking up their free Easter hams this week. Showing what beauties are to be had for the winners of the Annual Easter Ham Contest sponsored by The Enterprise and participating merchants are (L to R) Art Ferris, a wholesale food salesman, and Louis King, Tracy Conroy and Jack Hinhern, familiar faces at Conroy's Market, 23534 Farmington Road, in Downtown Farmington.



MEN SHOULDN'T BE LEFT OUT in the Easter ham department even though women are traditionally associated with "Easter Bonnets." Proving that it isn't strictly a woman's game, Dr. Donald Wingard is shown above (R) viewing the offerings in Towne Toggery Men's Store in the Downtown Farmington Center, where Tom Seekay (L) assists him.

Raise Heavy Objection To Apt. House Rezoning

The Farmington City Council will decide at their meeting next Monday night, April 15, whether to approve the request by Thomas A. Duke, local builder and developer, to rezone land adjacent to the City Park for the purpose of allowing construction of a 55-unit apartment house.

A public hearing on the rezoning request was staged at the Council meeting Monday night, April 8, at which a gathering of about 20 residents in the area appeared to voice objections.

Joseph T. Brennan, attorney for Duke, asked the Council to consider the request on the basis that the reasons for denial offered at the earlier hearing on the matter before the City Planning Commission were unsound and contradictory.

Brennan stated his reasons for contesting the Planning Commission's three points in favor of the present residential zoning, as follows:

1) That the lot in question cannot be properly included in the City's master development plan for park use because it would mean condemnation proceedings against the present owner to allow purchase by the City, whereas as Duke presently holds an option on the land.

2) That possible development of the lot for residential use under the existing zoning would more adversely affect the flood plain of the Rouge River branch which traverses the land than would the proposed apartment house development.

3) That the present zoning is inadequate because single-family residential development is unsuitable.

Sylvester Pheney of 3224 Valleyview Circle appeared before the Council to object to the rezoning in behalf of the Scene View Subdivision Association.

Pheney stated he did not wish to add to the nine reasons submitted to the Planning Commission against the rezoning but did want to offer a clarification to one point made by Brennan.

"If reasonable use" and "profitable use" are to be considered as points favoring the rezoning of land, Pheney said, then the "converse of this must also be true."

"Profitable use" of the land does not make it "reasonable use," Pheney argued. He also urged the Council to follow the recommendation of a survey completed recently on the Rouge River flood plain by Geer and Associates to set up a flood plain zoning ordinance to prevent land development which would adversely affect the plain.

Hamlin Re-Elected Head of County Bd.

Delos Hamlin, City of Farmington representative on the Oakland County Board of Supervisors, was re-elected to an unprecedented eighth term as Chairman of the Board at a meeting of the full county governing body held Monday.

The vote for Hamlin's re-election was unanimous and he was given a standing ovation as a vote of confidence by his fellow members on the Board, it was reported.

Propose Joint Officials Meet

A joint meeting of the three major governing bodies of Farmington to discuss common problems was proposed by the Board of Education Monday night.

The feeling expressed by most of the Board members was that they felt this would be very beneficial in creating a better understanding on all matters in the community between the governing officials.

A dinner meeting for Monday, May 27, prior to regular meetings of the governing Board is being tentatively scheduled. The Board agreed to delay their regular meeting until 9 p.m. on this date and felt the other boards could also.

Superintendent G.V. Harrison was instructed to make arrangements and work with city and township officials in arranging suitable subjects to be discussed about by the joint bodies that evening.

Sheila the Lioness Misses Day in Court

The day in court reserved for an African lioness living at the residence of Bob Russell, 2175 Farmington Road in Farmington Township, was postponed this week from a scheduled appearance Tuesday, April 9, until Tuesday, April 16, at Judge Alton C. Ingle's Justice Court.

Russell was to appear on a citation for failure to get rid of the 210-pound pet in accordance with a Township Ordinance.

Proposed Budget for City Will Require Same Tax Rate

A proposed operating budget for the City of Farmington for general operations for the 1953-54 fiscal year calling for an expenditure of \$56,434 as prepared by City Manager John Diman was turned over to members of the City Council for study Monday night.

The budget which will cover the period from July 1, 1953 through June 30, 1954 will require no increase in the present city tax rate of \$11.50 per \$1,000 assessed valuation.

The mayor's proposed budget runs only a little over \$9,000 higher than the budget which the Council approved in early May of last year for 1952-53 operations. In actuality it is a budget over \$17,000 lower than the planned expenditures budgeted for the current year.

Authorize \$55,200 for Fourth Junior High Site

Plans were finalized on a site for a fourth junior high school to be built in the Farmington public school system at a later date by the Board of Education at its regular meeting Monday night.

Located at the northeast corner of 11 Mile and Halsted Road, the site is one of several in the western portion of the township which have been under study and consideration for the past several years now.

Following a detailed report from Trustee Herbert Neal, the Board's representative on the School Citizens Advisory Committee's site sub-committee, action was taken authorizing purchase of the approximately 23 acre parcel. The Board agreed to a price of \$2,400 an acre or a total expenditure of \$55,200 out of the building and site fund.

"THERE ARE no immediate plans for development of this site but the action is in conformity with a Board policy established several years ago of buying up future school sites well in advance of need in order to obtain the most desirable locations and parcels at lower average prices before areas are developed."

Neal gave information in his report to the Board on three other sites which have been under consideration and outlined the reasons why the site sub-committee felt the parcel decided on was better suited than each of these. Cost, topography, expected future development and general location of the site were all taken into consideration, he pointed out. Harrison told the Board that he and other members of the administrative staff had looked at all the sites under consideration and felt this was a very good location geographically. It will be well situated to permit a maximum number of children, to walk to school, he said.

Virgil Cornwell Petitions for Vote Recount

The first regular meeting following the biennial spring election is usually the time that a reorganizational meeting of the City Council is held but this year it has had to be delayed.

Virgil Cornwell has filed a petition asking for a recount of the voting on April 1 and until this completed reorganization of the Council must be delayed.

Cornwell lost out by only 21 votes in his bid for a seat on the Council. Only this small number of votes stood between him and incumbent Henry Forrest who was re-elected along with incumbents Howard Thayer and Hugo Peterson.

DUE TO the fact that all voting machines are still locked up pending a possible statewide recount on the new constitution votes stood between him and Peterson.

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City to Boost Aid for FARC

The Farmington Area Recreation Commission will again receive financial support from the Farmington City Council, with a provision this year to increase the annual subsidy in the amount of \$100 due to the reduction in funds available for the program from the United Foundation.

In past years the City has contributed \$750 towards support of the six-week summer recreation program or one-quarter of the total monies from the Township and City. U-F has contributed \$4,800 in the past but this year will only be able to provide \$3,200.

The \$1,600 reduction in funds available for the program will be made up if the Township pays its proportionate share and the FARC summer recreation program will not have to be curtailed one and one-half weeks.

Hire 24 More New Teachers

The appointment of 24 new teachers to the Farmington public school system's teaching staff for the 1953-54 school year as recommended by the administration was approved by the Board of Education at its regular Monday night meeting.

Fifteen of these will teach in the secondary schools and the remaining 9 at elementary schools.

The Board also agreed on the re-appointment on a one year basis of six teachers who are now 65 years of age or over. The administration revealed that they had their required physicals and had been recommended for re-appointment by their immediate supervisors.

Still pending is a policy setting a mandatory retirement age. At the request of Trustee George Naylor, this latter has been scheduled for final Board action at the next regular Board meeting.

Okay FARC Request

A request from the Farmington Area Recreation Commission for the use of eight school sites and eight school buses for the annual summer recreation program was unanimously approved by action of the Board of Education Monday night.

Building contractors for both the new East Junior High and Highmeadow elementary schools are now making full speed in an effort to make up lost time. Superintendent G.V. Harrison reported to the Board of Education Monday night.

Both of these schools which were put under construction late last year are scheduled to be completed and ready to be put into use by the start of the 1953-54 school year in September.

The exceptional dry weather weather experienced put construction work on both schools behind schedule and a greatly stepped up work program was necessary to make up the time lost.

Harrison was high in his praise of the way the contractors on both jobs are now moving forward since he has been experiencing good weather.

BRICK AND MORTAR work on the site of the job of roofing the building which is scheduled to be ready for students with the opening of classes in the fall. Completion. Workmen are already beginning.