

# THE SCHOOL OPERATING PROPOSAL IS EXTENSION REQUEST

This is the second in a series of articles discussing the proposals to be voted on at the special Farmington School District election to be held on Monday, Nov. 18. Two operating mill proposals will be on the ballot—one asking for an extension on an existing levy being made and the other asking for an operating levy increase. This week we will place emphasis on the proposition asking for an extension and next week on the proposal asking for five mills into one position.

Voters of Farmington will be asked on November 18 to approve a total of 5 mills (\$5 per \$1,000 equalized valuation) for school operating purposes.

Actually of this total, however, only \$2 in additional operating money is being asked to take care of the increased costs of operations which are confronting our schools as well as every other type of business operation today.

MEMBERS OF the Board of Education and school administrative staff nearly all felt that it would be much clearer to voters to put two separate propositions on the ballot than to lump the whole operating levy proposal asking for five mills into one position.

They wanted to be absolutely sure that every voter would understand that the \$2 per \$1,000 equalized valuation proposal was a request for an extension

on an existing levy and would result in an increase in their present school tax levy whatsoever.

It was recognized by the school officials that some might be misled by arguing that all that was really needed was the two mills add which the three additional mills was being asked for from voters to provide for luxury operating expenses if voter approval could be won. Most of the school officials felt, however, that it could be explained to local voters that the whole five mills being asked for was definitely needed but that two separate proposals were being put on the ballot so that it would be crystal clear to all exactly what was being requested.

The two mill levy which is being asked to be extended for a nine-year period from 1963 through 1973 was approved by local voters in late 1959 and began to be levied in 1960.

The yield in local taxes from a two mill levy such as this will presently bring in about \$300,000.

ANY CITIZEN of the school district should be able to see that to take this much out of the budget of the school system as now operating would require some very sharp curtailments in the program even if all operating costs could be frozen at their present level and the valuation behind each child in our school system could be held constant.

The only basis by which a

voter might feel justified in rejecting the \$2 per \$1,000 levy extension being asked for would be if he felt local school officials had been overspending in the past few years.

Many figures have been presented by our local school officials to show that this has not been done.

Of major significance is the fact that the operating tax levy now being made has not been increased since 1959 despite the fact that the operating costs for the average school system and other businesses have been rising from three to five per cent annually from 1959 to the present date.

THE FACT that the local school system has been able to hold the line on the operating

tax levy assessed from 1959 until now is even more significant when one takes into consideration the fact that the valuation behind each child in our district has been dropping steadily.

Due to a lack of a balance of industrial and commercial growth with the residential growth we have had in our community the valuation behind each child in our school district in the past few years has been dropping steadily as these figures show:

Val. Per Child	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963
1958	\$9,822	\$9,702	\$9,704	\$9,666	\$9,123	\$8,585

FARMINGTON'S lack of good

commercial and industrial growth along with its average and above average residential growth makes our school district a poor one getting poorer.

Until a better balance of industrial and commercial growth with our residential growth comes to the heavy school tax burden will have to be borne by residential property owners.

One method that can be used to show that Farmington school officials have been operating the school system economically is to compare our per capita cost of operating with those for neighboring school systems.

Farmington's 1962-'63 per capita cost for operation was \$76.45.

These are figures for some

Per Capita Cost of Oper.	Berkley	Birmingham	Clareville	Ferdale	Oak Park	Pontiac	Royal Oak	Southfield	Walled Lake	Waterford	West Bloomfield
\$19.10	\$21.01	\$27.64	\$41.20	\$30.99	\$48.00	\$51.64	\$42.08	\$75.21	\$54.97	\$55.77	

The average per capita cost of operating for all school systems in Oakland County for the 1962-'63 school year was \$405.78 or over \$200 higher than Farmington's.

SEE SCHOOL ELECTION COLUMN 3, PAGE 8-A

**Enterprise Want Ads**  
Get Quick Results  
Call GR. 4-6225  
SEVENTY-SIXTH YEAR—No. 6

# The Farmington Enterprise

Official Publication for Farmington City and Township  
FARMINGTON, MICHIGAN, THURSDAY, OCTOBER 31, 1963

10c Per Copy  
\$3.00 A YEAR  
OAKLAND & WAYNE COUNTIES  
EIGHTEEN PAGES

## Historical Society Asks For Part of Old City Hall

A strong appeal has been made by the Farmington Historical Society for consideration of its using the old City Hall building on the north side of Grand River Avenue which was recently vacated.

In a letter from the society read at the regular City Council meeting Monday night proposed possible uses for the building were outlined. It was the feeling of the society, as stated in the letter, that portions of the building might be rented to business and professional enterprises and use of some of the building should be granted to civic and cultural organizations in the community.

It is a fact that the local historical society is badly in need of quarters in a central location for the proper storage of its historical collections and artifacts. Part of the historical items collected by the society to date are presently being stored in the old Walker Park district library building, and the balance in the private home of the curator.

It is important that persons having authority to give over to the society have assurance that they will be properly preserved and made readily available for public use and inspection, the letter stated.

Paul R. Schreiber, president of the historical society, present at the Council meeting to express his view in connection with the letter.

## Twp. Bd. Seeks Cleanup Along Rouge Branch

A possible solution to a problem long plaguing the Farmington Township Board may be found as close as the flood plain of the Rouge River branch is scheduled to come under review here by the Water Resources Commission.

Township Supervisor Curt Hall announced at the Board's regular meeting Monday night, October 28, that a meeting with the Commission would be held on Wednesday of this week to investigate possibilities of clearing the flood plain of obstructions along the course of the Rouge tributary in both the City and Township.

RESIDENTS in this area have attempted to get action from the Township on different occasions in the past, but since the Township claims to have no jurisdiction or means to act independently in the matter, the plight of property owners has gone unanswered.

A spokesman for the Water Resources Commission indicated to Township officials that the clearing of obstructions along the Rouge River branch can be removed without cost to either the Township or the property owners. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, it is believed, could assume the job.

The Water Resources Commission was also scheduled to meet with the City of Farmington officials on the same subject Wednesday.

## Stage Parade, Dedicate Tree on UN Day Here

The City of Farmington observed United Nations Day on Saturday, October 26, with a parade led by a color guard composed of legionnaires from the Walker Park district. A second unit of flag bearers from local Boy Scout troops. The Farmington Junior High School band participated in the parade as well as a dedication ceremony on the site of this year's planting of the UN tree in the Farmington City Park.

The tree, a Norway Spruce, sent from Finland was planted, beside the two other trees dedicated on UN Day in 1962 and '61. It is the aim of the Farmington American Legion Post to have a tree planted in succeeding years to represent each of the member countries in the United Nations.

OFFICIATING at the UN Day festivities this year were Mayor Pro-Tem Sandy Brotherton, Groves-Walker Post 346 Commander Jerry Yeager, and the Rev. George Dweed of the Evangelical Free Church.

Foreign students attending local schools and Farmington's exchange students also took part in the City Park ceremonies. Carol Lawwe who spent a year in Spain and Maryann Gordon who visited Holland under the foreign exchange program were on hand with current foreign students, Hanny Kalkkala, Almut, Walter Lila Paavola and George Bay.

## Start Planning Blood Bank

A meeting of the Farmington Blood Bank organization was held Monday, Oct. 21, at the home of Mrs. Dewitt Goodrich, where plans began to be developed for the next local blood bank scheduled for Tuesday, Nov. 26, from 1:45 to 7:45 p.m.

Those in attendance at the meeting besides Mrs. Goodrich, blood bank chairman, were: Mrs. Earle Lathrup, co-chairman; Mrs. John Bailey, church president; Mrs. Calvin MacLennan of the 1st Methodist Church; Mrs. S. J. Pheney of Our Lady of Sorrows church; Mrs. Donald Wingard; Mrs. M. Oatton and Mrs. Walter Durham.

## Still Plenty of Chances to Win In Grid Contest

Football is still very much in the air and there is still plenty of prize money to be won in the weekly Farmington Enterprise Football Contests which will run throughout the entire season.

Get in on the fun by picking the winners of the games in this week's contest to be found in advertisements on the football page on Page 4-B.

Again this week the top prize winner was a teenager, sixteen-year-old Mike Bacon of 2218 Maple won \$15 as well as \$2 additional for having his entry signed by one of the winners in the grid contests.

The whole Bacon family are enthusiastic contestants in our football contest and Mike is the second member of the Bacon family to be a winner. In the first week's contest his brother Robert, 18, won \$9 for placing second.

SECOND place in this past week's contest went to Roland C. Steele, 2005 W. Lake Drive, where plans were made for the \$7 prize he was qualified for \$2 from the \$6 weekly merchant's jackpot.

Third prize winner was R. O. Jones, 8241 Red Clover. He received \$3 in prize money and \$2 additional dollars in jackpot money.

Before making your entry in the football contest don't forget to have it signed by one of the winners in the grid contests.

See FBALL CONTEST Column 6, Page 8-A



A NEW WELCOME SIGN was erected by the Farmington Board of Commerce last week on the southeast corner of the Bedford Ln. property. It was the second welcome sign put up by the Board of Commerce; the work on both signs was done by Truckee (R) Sign Company in Farmington. Looking in with

approval are (L to R) Ed Balden, member of the Board of Commerce Board of Directors, and Russ Gilbert, the organization's president. Service clubs in Farmington are listed below the sign which can be seen by motorists approaching Farmington from the east on Grand River Avenue.

## Suppass Quota In United Fund

Mrs. Arthur Mazur, Regional Co-Chairman of the Oakland County United Fund Campaign, reported this week that 102.3 per cent of the goal set for 1963 was attained through contributions from business and home canvassing.

Farmington's 1963 goal was \$15,950 and exceeding that quota ranked the community second best in Oakland County.

The Region covered in the Farmington area also includes several adjoining communities and is one of five in Oakland County which is being inspected above by Township Clerk Floyd Cairns and Township Treasurer, Elise Avery as Chuck Gross (center) looks on. Gross's company, located at 34011 W. 13 Mile Road, was the contractor for all of the landscaping around the new Township Hall.

## School Board Still Not Sure Where to Allow Magic Square

Where, oh where, can we put the "magic square"? This is the question that City officials have been trying to get the answer to for several weeks now in order to get the black-topped multi-purpose play area constructed at the Flanders School site before really cold weather sets in.

The original plan worked out between city and school district officials was to locate the recreation center square at the southwest corner of the school playground near the parking area but the plan met with vigorous objection from nearby homeowners. They wanted it more than 50 feet away from their rear property lines and preferably on the other side of the school playground area.

NEGOTIATIONS between representatives from Farmington Acres Subdivision and City officials and school officials have been going on at least two or three weeks now.

## Rezoning OK'd By Twp. Bd.

Final action on two rezoning requests was taken by the Farmington Township Board at its regular meeting Monday night, October 28, and a third rezoning request was deferred until the next regular meeting on November 11.

The Board took the recommendation of the Township Zoning Board and approved the rezoning of the E1/2 of the SW1/4 of Section 28 in the Township, a 21.8-acre parcel, from R-2 to R-10 Multiple. The section is bordered to the south by Nine Mile Road and on the north by the Farmington - Brighton Expressway and is considered unsuitable for development, under the previous zoning classification.

APPROVAL by the Board on the other rezoning request involved a 1.43-acre parcel in the SW1/4 of Section 25, located in the northwest corner of Nine Mile and a Middlebelt road, changed from R-4 to B-1. The rezoning will allow the building of a commercial business district at the corner, which is believed unsuitable to residential development.

## Twp. Trustee Tom Duke Seeks More Rigid Laws For Multiple Housing

Farmington Township Board Trustee Thomas A. Duke introduced a measure at the regular Board meeting Monday night, October 28, calling for stricter controls on the development of multiple housing in the Township.

Duke, who is himself a builder and land developer, expressed concern over the Township's present zoning ordinance which apparently lacks effective means to control the extent of multiple housing development in certain areas.

Called for under Duke's proposal is an amendment which would set up a "density control" regulation in the Township's zoning ordinance. This is necessary, Duke felt, because of the increased demand for multiple housing which could lead to an undesirable form of building development.

Under the existing multiple housing regulations, builders are required to allow a standard amount of space for each type of development, be it efficiency apartment units, bedroom apartments or whatever is called for under the builder's plans.

What the present controls lack, according to Duke, is an effective means of preventing apartment house projects in excess of 200 units from being developed in large parcels of property in the Township still available for such purposes. Such low-cost housing developments would be highly objectionable to many residents.

SEE DUKE SPEAKS Column 4, Page 8-A

## \$750,000 Bond Issue for C'ville Schools Slated

As part of a continuous study being conducted by Clarenceville School Board officials to determine that voter approval on a \$750,000 bond issue will be needed to meet classroom needs for the coming school year.

The resolution was adopted by the Board of Education at its meeting last Thursday night calling for a special election on this proposal in January.

Long range needs are not being considered in making a request for more money from voters at this time since it is expected that there will be a considerable increase in the school district's valuation when the shopping center at Middlebelt and 7 Mile Road is completed.

The money from the proposed \$750,000 bond issue is planned to be used for additions to the Edgewood Elementary School and the senior High School. A

SEE BOND ISSUE Column 7, Page 8-A

## Meeting With DSR This Week

City Manager John Dinnin informed the Council at its regular meeting Monday night that he would be meeting with DSR (Detroit Streets and Railways) officials to discuss a schedule for bus runs and possible routes for the extension of their services into Farmington.

It was suggested by members of the Council that a complete report on all proposals be presented to them before any plans are made final. The city manager promised to have a report for the Council, at their next meeting, which will be held this coming Monday night, Nov. 4.

The DSR offered to extend service to Farmington about three years ago and the Council accepted the offer very warmly. Dissatisfaction with service provided by the Great Lakes Transit Lines for this area has been expressed frequently by both citizens and governmental officials for some time now.

## Nab Boys on Xway Bridge Throwing Off Pumpkins

Two 14-year-old youths were arrested on Sunday, October 27, by Farmington Township Police after a truck driver suffered serious injuries in a collision which splintered when a pumpkin was dropped on his windshield while he was driving under the overpass on the I-696 Expressway.

The truck driver, 25-year-old Thomas Tippett, of 2740 Grand View Drayton Place, had been driving two miles from the scene of the incident to a gasoline station before he could get assistance. He was then rushed to St. Mary Hospital in Livonia for treatment of severe facial lacerations.

POLICE WERE able to apprehend the two juveniles, who admitted throwing the pumpkin from the Halstead Road overpass, which struck Tippett's truck windshield, following suit another incident one hour later at the same location.

Tippett, who is employed by the Holcomb Sod-Farm of Troy, Michigan, told Township Police he saw two boys on the overpass as he approached heading east on I-696 at about 6:45 a.m. on Sunday.

Another driver, Wayne W. French, of 6250 W. 13 Mile in Novi, stopped his pickup truck at the same location at 7:30 a.m. and chased two youths who were throwing pumpkins over the overpass. Although he was unable to catch either of the culprits, he alerted the Township Police who caught up with the pair a short time later. A State Police Trooper stopped one of the youths for questioning and he admitted the two incidents and identified his companions. They were taken to the Oakland County Juvenile Home and later released to the custody of their parents.

SEE TRUCKY TRIP Column 5, Page 8-A

## School Election Program Dates

The following is a schedule of the dates and school locations where presentations will be made on the coming school year to the people on the village proposals to be decided by a vote of the people on Monday, Nov. 18.

Nov. 4, 8 p.m., Clareville  
Nov. 4, 8 p.m., Middlebelt  
Nov. 8, 7 p.m., Woodville  
Nov. 8, 8 p.m., Sitlawassee  
Nov. 10, 7 p.m., East Jr. High (Bedford)  
Nov. 11, 7:30 p.m., Farmington Jr. High  
Nov. 11, 8 p.m., Flanders  
Nov. 11, 7:45 p.m., Farmington Sr. High  
Nov. 12, 8 p.m., Highmadowood (Dedrick)  
Nov. 15, 8 p.m., Alameda  
Nov. 14, 8 p.m., Longacre



FINISHING TOUCHES were put on the landscaping around the new Township Hall by Chuck's Landscaping Company of Farmington. What used to be an unsightly clay bank has been transformed into an attractive area featuring a flagstone retaining wall