

The Farmington Enterprise

Official Publication for Farmington City and Township

SEVENTY-NINTH YEAR — NO. 9

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FOURTEEN PAGES

10 CENTS

City Slapped With Township Lawsuit

Accused of "legalized larceny" by Township Supervisor Curtis Hall, Farmington finds its position in a lawsuit filed Wednesday by the Circuit Court.

A direct result of last week's election giving approval of annexation to the city of 457 acres of the Township, the whole matter hinges on sewer systems and the Tarabusi Arm.

Trustee Earl Opperthaus stated, "The taxpayers of this Township have put their good faith and the credit of the

Township back of this Arm. Our position is right."

The position is that the city should be prevented from annexing the annexed Woodcroft area into the Tarabusi Arm and Township Industrial water system unless the annexed area bears the same cost per unit as other like properties in the same area.

Fees assessed Township residents on an at-large basis include \$350 tap-in fee to the Tarabusi Arm, \$150 Tarabusi interceptor fee, \$75 tap fee for water, \$20 per year service debt charge on water.

Trustees claim the city issued pre-election "propaganda" on its sewer plan for this area and the resulting lower sewer costs residents would be assessed.

Farmington City Manager John Dinan says that there is a sewer now in that area which services Longacre School and that the area is adjacent to the city water system. Consequently, he says, the Tarabusi does not enter into it.

He says that the city got legal opinion on this matter from attorneys Miller, Can-

field, Paddock and Stone before it proposed annexation. More is that the area can be tied into the city system.

Dinan says, "Fees will be based in assessed valuation of the area affected in relationship to the entire area of the Township. The entire Township owes \$4,000,000 on the Farmington Interceptor, Tarabusi Arm and Industrial water system.

"We're talking about only 457 acres out of 28 square miles. The area is less than seven percent of the whole."

He refused Supervisor Hall's quotation of approximately \$72,000 the Township stands to lose by the annexation.

Township Attorney Joseph T. Brennan, who filed and proposed the case for the Township, says, "There should be no deficit in this district. There won't be provided all the district pays its charges." Arguments for the city will be presented by City Attorney Robert Kelly.

Discussion on the matter at Monday's Township Board meeting ended with Supervisor Hall saying, "It's going to be a field day for the attorneys."

Twenty Winners Of Free Turkeys

The Farmington Enterprise annual Turkey Contest is ended. Twenty winners names were drawn this week. They are listed on this page.

Winners will receive a free turkey at their participating stores. Sizes range up to 14 pounds.

Free turkeys must be picked up by December 15. Happy holidays and good eating!

Winners and stores are: A & T Food Store, 2300 Farmington Road — Mrs. M. Cable, 34073 State.

Dameron Motor Sales—Mrs. Emily Smith, 2104 Gill Road.

Conroy's Market—Mrs. Will Horn, 24025 Oakland.

Farmington Center Florist — Tom Brennan, 2419 Twin Valley Court.

Frederick Cleaners—John Stock, 2754 Edgemoor.

Bob Rosenberg Service Station—Ray Chamberlain, 2315 Violet.

First Farmington Savings & Loan Assn. — Rosalee Engle, 2120 Orchard Lake Road.

Hinkle's of Farmington, 2815 Springfield.

Madeline's Children's Shop — Mrs. E. Schell, 38015 Trade Street.

Homogeneity Ward — Mrs. Estelle Sturman, 22280 W. 10 Mile, Southfield.

Regular Pickup

The regular City of Farmington Thursday garbage and rubbish pickup will take place on Wednesday, Dec. 1. As in the past, this collection is scheduled to begin considerably earlier than usual so as to clear your materials the evening before.

Peace Contest Deadline Nears

Now that judges have been assigned for the Peace Essay Contest, Lions Club president, Lynn Stuetter, reminds students in the area that they have only until December 10 to submit their entries in this world-wide \$50,000 contest.

"Of the contestants who will be competing against entrants from all over the world for the \$25,000 first prize or one of the \$5,000 consolation prizes in addition to the \$25,000 first prize, the contest has eight world division awards each offering a \$1,000 prize and a trip to Chicago for the final judging. This brings the prize total to \$50,000.

"The object of the contest," Stuetter continued, "is to stir an interest in peace and to challenge the men and women of tomorrow. Thought given to this challenge by the younger generation throughout the world could lead to a better understanding of peace and to possible means for its attainment."

Judges from the Farmington area will be Curtis Hall, Robert Fitzel and Edwin Oglesby.

For specific contest rules and requirements, applicants should contact any member of the Lions Club or Mr. Stuetter at 3204 Hargrove.

The contest is open to all young people who are 14 years of age and under 22 as of January 15, 1947. The ultimate winning essay will be presented at the Lions International 50th Annual Convention in Chicago as one of the highlights of the Association's Golden Anniversary Year.

Lions International, with more than 800,000 members in 42 countries, has the largest free world is the largest service club organization in the world.

Board Denies Custodial Grievance

At their Monday meeting, the Board of Education issued a denial to the Local 1456 of the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees over their claim that their contract calls for overtime pay when a building is used after normal school hours.

The Board based their denial on two points: They maintained the right to determine the hours of employment and the duties and assignments of school employees, and, since no employee was assigned to work more than eight hours in one day or forty hours in one week, no scheduled overtime was involved.

A letter to Walter Ritchey, president of the local, commended the group for focusing attention on the need for having qualified personnel in the schools during all hours of the day including after-school, hour community activities. It also pointed out that an attempt by the Board earlier this year to reduce operation costs by the employment of part-time personnel has proven to be unsuccessful in view of the current labor market.

Ritchey continues the letter, "until such time as we are able to employ qualified unassigned personnel to perform such duties as may be directed, we intend to continue the present practice of handling building permit work with our regular operational staff members."

While voting to file a lawsuit against the city, the Township Board got a lot of routine business done Monday night.

Trustee Earl Opperthaus reported that a committee has met on filling the Board vacancy and narrowed the list down to three candidates, termed "most outstanding."

Decision on the appointment will be made at a Board meeting November 28.

Regular meetings of the Board will not be held on that date because of the holidays. Regular meetings will be held December 5 and 19.

Opperthaus was appointed Board representative on the Farmington Area Recreation Commission. He will serve as chairman, at Commission request, as the Township bears the greater part of Commission expense.

Trustees approved five Police promotions at the request of Police Chief Irving H. Yakes. Corporal Jack Brown was promoted to sergeant; Patrolman George Waite to corporal; Patrolman Gordon Ross to corporal; Patrolman Merrill Spencer to corporal; and Cadet Robert Novak to patrolman.

Appointed as citizen committees to the pension board were Robert Clark for a three-year term and Richard Wallace for a two-year term.

Robert Romer was appointed for a one-year term as a member committee man and William Kelly for a two-year term.

Mr. M. E. Treasurer Elice Avery was appointed as Board representative. She will serve for her term as secretary-treasurer of the pension board.

Twp. Considering 3 For Appointment

The Board was told that the County Road Commission has agreed to improve Powers Road from 10 to 11 Mile and 11 Mile to Orchard Lake Road. Estimated cost will be \$196,000, with the Township share at approximately \$98,000, payable over a three-year period.

Supervisor Hall told trustees that improvement of Drake Road will be completed next summer, with the money already in the budget.

Trustees gave approval to Old Farm Colony Civic Association's request for an overhead light at 10 Mile and Glenecrek.

They also approved the special assessment district for Glen Orchard, Farmington Hills, Staman Acres, Springfield and LaMueria Subdivisions.

Contracts were awarded for sanitary sewer projects for Grand River Homes, Richard Gardens and Bridgeman Street. Amounts were \$153,903.85, \$239,964 and \$104,885, respectively.

Working unusually fast, trustees adopted an ordinance for confinement of livestock. Ordinarily, ordinance adoption takes more than one meeting. The ordinance was proposed at the request of residents in the southwest section of the Township who have been plagued by livestock on the roadways and on their property.

The ordinance provides for \$100 fine or 90 days imprisonment. Public hearings will be held December 5 at 7:30 and 8 p.m. on sewer assessments for Orchard Lake from B and C Street to Burbank Street and cost estimates for water facilities for Brookhill Subdivision.

Child Safety Issue Before School Board

Child safety was one of the paramount issues at Monday evening's Board of Education meeting as a group of mothers presented a graphic plea for a sidewalk along 14 Mile Rd. leading to Eagle School.

A letter from Wooddale PTA described what was referred to as "serious traffic safety problem which will soon reach a critical state" in the immediate vicinity of that elementary building.

Handing to the Board a montage of a traffic signal in which the red light carried the message "Stop no sidewalk," the amber, "Caution—Imminent Tragedy," and the green — "Go, sidewalk for safety." Mrs. David Salberg drew attention to snapshot taken of the shoulder of 14 Mile Rd. on which Eagle students are forced to walk. She repeatedly stated that action to correct the dangerous conditions prevailing along this route must be taken immediately. "Sidewalks must be completed before the winter weather begins in earnest," she said emphatically.

Assurances have been given by the neighboring associations of Kimberley North, Franklin Knolls and Briarcliff that parents in those subdivisions will help to foot the bill if cooperation can be obtained from the Farmington and West Bloomfield Townships. The School Board agreed to do its share by providing the sidewalk across the school property and to use whatever influence it could on getting both Townships to assist with the project.

"The Wooddale problem was specifically concerned with the intersection of Green Willow and Peppermill. The letter stated that a few years ago Farmington Township Police and the Automobile Club of Michigan made a study of the crossing and recommended adult supervision during the morning and afternoon rush hours."

Since the study, according to the letter, Wooddale PTA has assumed responsibility for providing this supervision with volunteer help from parents of the school children. The list of helpers is so depleted that the PTA can no longer fill this need, and assistance was asked from the Board to take necessary action for assuring the safety of Wooddale children.

The Board directed the safety committee to make an immediate study and judgment of the situation, and they agreed to visit the school site with this in mind on the following Thursday.

Santa Arrives At Plaza on November 25

With no snow on the ground, Santa won't arrive in Farmington by sled, but he will arrive by fire engine at 1:30 p.m. Friday, November 25, at the Farmington Plaza Shopping Center, Grand River Avenue just west of Orchard Lake Road.

"All children and adult-believers in Santa Claus are invited to be on hand to see him arrive. There will be balloons and candy for the youngsters. The portly gentleman will take up residence during the holidays in a trailer at the Plaza and will be available to take directions on what the children want their parents to give them for Christmas."

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Leslie Tinson New Supervisor

Appointment of a new supervisor of Buildings and Grounds was approved at Monday's Board of Education meeting. He is Leslie Tinson who has been with the school district since January 1946.

He has been acting supervisor since July of this year when Ralph Veit retired from that post. Prior to that, he was assistant supervisor.

Before joining the Farmington schools staff, Tinson worked for the W. E. Wood and W. A. Brynson Construction Companies of Detroit. He became a foreman during that period.

From 1945 until 1950 he ran his own company known as the L. E. Tinson Construction Company. He has held a journeyman bricklayer's card for the past 25 years and has directed and supervised general construction work for 20 years.

Seven members of the Polmateer family who died in a November 10 blaze at their home were quietly buried at historic North Farmington Cemetery on Monday morning.

Citizens of the grieving Farmington community did what they could to express their deep sympathy to the survivors, Harold and Rose Polmateer and their nine year old daughter, Cynthia.

Rev. Herbert Noy of Gallatin Baptist Church, Livonia, conducted the service. He had earlier baptized the three eldest children. He reported that

compassionate members of his congregation had a fire-damaged residence could be found, but the Polmateers had already been offered the use of a home for six months. Another woman without children following the family felt compelled to make a collection for them but was relieved when the Township police agreed to take over this function.

Those buried on Monday morning included Carol, 12, Lisa, 9, Suzanne, 6, David, 5, Randolph, 3, and two-year-old twins, Denise and Dennis.

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THIS NOBLE BIRD seems to be conscious of the fact that the limelight is all his as Americans look forward to their most American holiday next week on Thursday.

What To Take Along When Buying Plates

Vehicle owners planning to buy their license plates early are reminded of what they need when they go to purchase 1947 plates.

They should bring: (1) their 1946 registration or vehicle title; (2) enough cash to purchase plates based on the customary 35 cents per hundred-weight formula (a same amount as last year); and (3) either \$1 extra for persons having liability insurance and valid... of it or \$35 additional for owners of uninsured vehicles.

Listed are examples of proof of liability insurance:

1. Valid certificate of insurance but only when a policy number and expiration date appear on the certificate. The terms "applied for" or "continuous" are not acceptable.

2. A statement with the same information as the certificate on the letterhead of any company or agent.

3. In-effect liability insurance policy.

4. Copy of a policy declaration or an insurance ID card which contains the same information as the certificate.

5. A certificate of insurance binder or any document containing the same information as a binder showing the binder period or expiration date.

A copy of the binder must be turned over to the purchaser when plates are purchased and will be checked at the expiration of the binder period to see if the person followed through with the purchase of liability insurance.

Persons who do not show in-effect liability insurance will be asked to pay the \$35 uninsured fee.

AT THIS TIME OF YEAR, an unflinching Thanksgiving Day (even one of our happiest as it was 1945).

World War II was over and our boys were due home any day) always comes to mind. The festive bird was cooked in a California boarding house for Navy wives with the most motley assortment of kitchen utensils imaginable. The one saucenep could only be partially filled or sink stopped up immediately after dinner and the dishes had to be washed in the bathroom while two little girls growing fretful vied for their mother's attention. This year our saucenep has a hand.

ODD OLSEN DROPPED BY TO SHOW US some amazing carrots his garden at 2740 Elm Grove produced this year. Each one must have weighed two pounds. When asked if he gave credit to a particular brand of seed, he said no that it must be given to an old-fashioned organic by-product of the home.

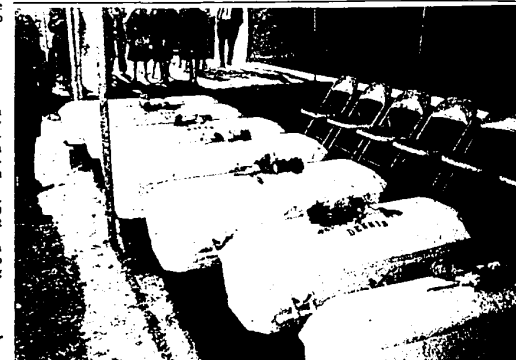
A DEEP AND AFOGGETIC BOW in the direction of Norm DeCoursey who was demoted to the varsity squad on last week's sports page. Everyone knows that Norm is one of the rampaging Raiders' greatest stars. Can you forgive us, Mr. D?

IN KUALA LUMPUR (the most exotic of place names) the crows now outnumber the residents. And, as we have insisted before, they can read as well as the inhabitants. Signs enforce the shooting of these pests only at heights above eye level, so when they spy a gun, they settle to the ground and give a sassy caw. Seems they do have something to crow about.

PERHAPS OUR CONCERN with the pestiferous crow is brought on by the fact that it has recently become quite a dietary staple around the house.

LATE THE OTHER EVENING, there were ponies drifting around loose through the misty fog on Drake Road. An eerie light to behold, but another quaint dividend of life in this remarkable community. What an exceptional experience to plod through the ankle deep midnight mud and report the trunks at their farmhouses who three excited puppies buried themselves at the intruder.

By Shirley Berger



MUTE EVIDENCE of one of Farmington's saddest chapters, cakes of the seven Farmington matriarch children killed in a house fire on November 10 await burial at North Farmington cemetery.

Sorrowing Community Tries To Aid Polmateers

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