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# The Observer OF FARMINGTON

This Week's Press Run  
**91,700**  
 The six Observer newspapers are Michigan's Largest Weekly Newspaper Group. Complete area coverage of 27.5 miles Western Wayne County.  
 This Edition Contains **48 PAGES**

THE OBSERVER NEWSPAPER GROUP, founded by Paul M. Chandler, publishing newspapers in the cities of Livonia, Plymouth, Farmington, Garden City and Westland and Townships of Plymouth, Redford, and Farmington  
 VOL. 3—No. 33 WEDNESDAY, MARCH 15, 1967 33425 Grand River, Farmington Philip H. Power, Publisher

## Smith Is New Superintendent

# 'Solid But Progressive' Program Viewed

By JOY STINSON  
 A mind for finance, a keen interest in construction and curriculum development and an awareness of the importance of community relations—this is how the mind of Farmington's school superintendent-elect works.

Dr. Roderick J. Smith, 47, and presently superintendent of Dearborn Township School District No. 8, was unanimously selected last week by the Board of Education to succeed Gerald V. Harrison. After 10 years in the post, Harrison will retire June 30. Smith assumes his duties July 1.

With Smith at the helm, Farmington's parents can look to "a basically solid but progressive program fitted to the needs of a fast growing community."  
 "We won't force changes but we must be alert to them," Smith says. "We must meet the students'

needs whether this means more technical training or less or more humanities or less."  
 Smith believes that a sound educational program is paramount with self discipline training coming a close second if good intellectually minds as well as  
 (Continued on Page 4A)



EYES ON THE FUTURE. That's Farmington's new Superintendent of Schools Dr. Roderick J. Smith as he stands in front of the offices of the Farmington Board of Education. Smith was given a three year contract to the post last week. He succeeds Gerald V. Harrison who retires June 30.

# Moderate GOP Wins Right to Drop Its Suit

The "Cartwright Group" of Republican moderates in the 19th Congressional District has won another battle in its effort to gain control of the party organization.  
 Wayne Circuit Judge Blair Moody Jr. last Friday allowed Chairman John Cartwright to dismiss a suit he had filed against the ousted conservative officers led by Christian A. Powell.  
 The Powell forces, represented in court by attorney

Richard Kuhn, unsuccessful candidate for the 1964 GOP nomination for Congress, had asked that the suit not be dismissed—a move that would have allowed the Powell forces to carry their fight to court.  
 Cartwright's suit had sought to force the Powell officers to turn over their records and funds. Cartwright said he asked dismissal of the suit because the records could be reproduced by other means and the money wasn't worth fighting for.  
 The Cartwright forces were seated as delegates after a credentials fight at the Feb. 25 Republican State Convention. The Powell group, however, contends it constitutes the legal 19th District organization.  
 Last weekend, the Cartwright group was seated at the first meeting of the new Republican State Central Committee in Lansing.  
 State Vice Chairman William McLaughlin told The Observer that the state GOP officially recognizes the Cartwright group of officers.  
 McLaughlin added that two members of the Cartwright group were named to committees of the GOP State Central Committee. They are Dale Feet, of Waterford Township, chairman of the ways and means committee, and Mrs. Marion Donaldson, of Redford Township, secretary of the campaign committee.  
 Despite the State Central Committee action, the Powell group said it will continue to maintain what it calls the "official" party headquarters at 3813 Ellisbeth Lake Road, Pontiac.  
 And the Powell group offered its own interpretation of the Circuit Court case:

"The 'rump' (Cartwright) group decision not to contest the authority of Christian Powell's elected committee will establish the lack of a legal basis upon which to do so. We accept the withdrawal from the battle of our group's Republican Committee, 245 S. Woodward, Birmingham.

## Brown Is President Of Village

William E. Brown is the new president of the Village of Wood Creek Farms. A total of 61 of the Village's 190 registered voters turned out Monday to elect a village president and two members of the Council to two year terms.  
 Brown was unopposed on the ballot, but the current Village President, Norman E. Kreider, received seven write-in votes.  
 The two councilmen elected were: incumbent William E. Smolek, who received 60 votes as a write-in, and David E. Martin with 54 votes. Write in votes for the posts on the council were cast for: Vernon P. Fisher (3); D. C. McKay (2); and Kreider (1).  
 Alice Billu remains in her post as Village Clerk, while Thomas Jennings is the Village Treasurer. Neither of these posts nor the two other council seats were on the ballot.

For frankly political reasons, the superintendents recommended "that one area vocational school should be established to serve each of the four quadrants of Oakland County. . . . It is possible that the Orchard Lake (County) school board will be able to temporarily accommodate one of the programs which would serve the southwestern quadrant."  
 The report estimates a building program of about \$6.5 million and an annual operating cost of a bit more than \$1 million.  
 Based on the possibility of no state or federal aid, such a program would cost 0.548 mills per year.  
 Assuming 50 per cent state and federal construction aid and 75 per cent state operating aid—the maximum possible under proposed legislation—the tax rate could be as low as 0.178 mills.  
 Lone Farmington school board member voting against the report was Treasurer George A. Nashott, Jr.

## Schools OK County Vote For Vocational Schools

Farmington and 28 other Oakland County school districts may be asked in June to approve a property tax hike of up to a half-mill for a series of four vocational high schools.  
 If enough local boards approve, the intermediate board will likely put the proposal on the June 11 ballot.  
 The Farmington Board of Education Monday gave its 5-1 approval to the plan as outlined in a report from Oakland County school superintendents.  
 If voters approve, the intermediate board would contract with local member boards for the construction, equipping, maintaining and operating of about four "area vocational-technical education centers," according to the superintendents' reports.  
 "The area center courses should be supplemental to the student's home high school," the report says.

Two representatives of the Citizens Research Council of Michigan will discuss city charters at the March 21 meeting of the Farmington chapter of the League of Women Voters.  
 The meeting, which is open to the public, will be

gin at 8:15 p.m. at the City National Bank Building at 10 Mile and Orchard Lake Roads.  
 William Carter and M. Meagher will discuss points of interest for a commission charged with writing a city charter. Their presentation will be illustrated with slides.

## Bd. of Commerce Seeks Means To Underwrite 1967 Festival

The Farmington Board of Commerce is seeking suggestions to help finance the Farmington Founders Festival.  
 Over the past two years the Board has subsidized the Festival. The first year the Board donated \$1,425 and in 1966 the expenses the Board paid were more than \$2,500.  
 Last year the Board solicited the business establishments

of the community and raised \$1,400. This wasn't enough and this year the Board is seeking another means of financing.  
 Asking for suggestions by March 20, which is next meeting of the Board of Directors of the organization, the Board lists four specific proposals. They are:  
 Sell booster buttons or other gimmicks; sponsor a benefit show or dance in the

late spring and ask all businesses and organizations to help sell tickets; request a percentage from the participating concessioners; or have the Board sponsor a professional carnival during the Festival.  
 Additional suggestions or comments would be appreciated by the Board of Commerce is P.O. Box 15, Farmington.

## LWV Sets Charter Talk

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# Township Faces 1958 Incorporation Votes

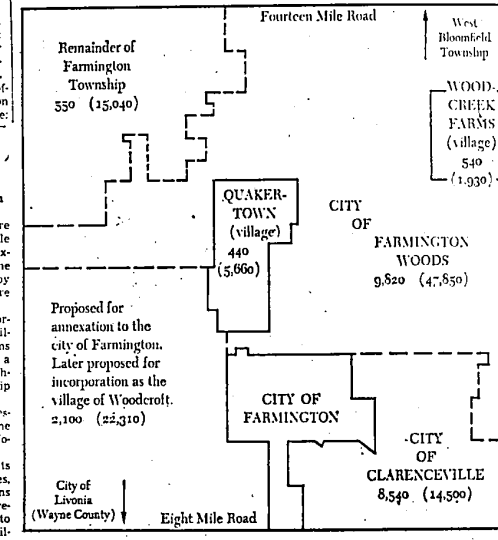
(EDITOR'S NOTE. With all the current talk about annexation, incorporation and consolidation of the community The Observer decided to do some research into the 1958 battle in Farmington about annexation and incorporation. This is the third in the series. This week we will examine the 1958 incorporation attempt in Farmington Township.)  
 By SUE SHAUGHNESSY  
 During the City of Farmington's unsuccessful 1958 attempt to annex a portion of the southwestern corner of

the Township, residents filed petition asking for the incorporation of a part of Farmington Township into the City of Farmington Hills.  
 The petitions requesting the referendum of 14.5 square miles of the Township were filed just seven weeks after the city filed its annexation petition.  
 Robert J. Nowitz in his case histories on the Farmington events states: "The petition was the work of a group new to township politics that had emerged from a community organizations within the township."  
 He notes the formation of the Farmington Township League of Subdivision Associations in 1956 and asserts "Regardless of the motivation of its founders, the Township League was a natural outgrowth of the pluralistic subdivision civic association structure for dealing with area-wide problems."  
 Nowitz terms the area wide problems in 1958 as "zoning regulations and a prospective interceptor sewer" and "growing uneasiness over the future

course of the area's development."  
 In 1958 Oakland County had just organized its Department of Public Works and an interceptor sewer was being constructed in a north south line in the eastern portion of the Township.  
 With the availability of sewers additional residential and industrial development was certain to follow. What kind would depend upon the zoning regulations.  
 The interceptor would be paid for by connection fees since the Township had no authority to levy millage to pay for the construction. In addition to the connection fee, special assessment districts would be set up to pay for the cost of the trunk arms and laterals.  
 No one knew what the new sewer would cost the individual property owner until the districts were established. Many of the league members fought the interceptor and criticized its promoters.  
 They felt that the project would open the township to massive residential and industrial development and would result in the downgrading of residential zoning. In addition

of the two current JP's in the Township.  
 When the petitions were filed the 14.5 square mile area north of the City, excluded Quakerstown and the proposed annexation area by the City as the votes were pending on both of these.  
 The extreme northwest corner of the Township, the Village of Wood Creek Farms (which had incorporated a year before) and the southeast corner of the Township were excluded.  
 An election on the question was set at the same time as the general election in November.  
 The committee waged its campaign through speeches and question and answer sessions at open meetings, news releases and bulletins mailed to residents." In one of the mailers it was noted that a vote to incorporate would forestall annexation moves on the part of the City and provide up to two years' time in which to decide upon a charter.  
 The group asserted that it would "keep rural character" and "offer the opportunity (to residents of the) northwest and southwest

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**WE'RE NUMBER ONE**  
 BECAUSE OF YOU!  
 Thanks for Making It Possible.  
 See Related Story on Page 3.

Existing boundaries shown by solid lines.  
 Numbers in parentheses indicate estimated ultimate population.  
 Other numbers indicate estimated 1958 population.  
 THIS IS the proposed governmental structure of the 36-square-mile Farmington community in 1958 when the City tried to annex the southwestern corner of the "residential-rural" part of that area incorporate into Township, the Village of Quakerstown and the Village of Woodcroft. If approved, only the extreme northwest corner and the area immediately south of the City would have remained with Township status.