

the farmington enterprise & observer

YOUR HOMETOWN NEWSPAPER

15¢ a Copy

Weekend of October 14-15, 1972

'Ecology Route' Urged By Council

The Quakertown Village council will be coming to a public hearing Monday, Oct. 16, to press for an "alternate route" sewer which will protect the Quakertown Valley.

The hearing, which will be a joint meeting of the Quakertown council and the Farmington Township Board in the Township Hall, Orchard Lake and 11 Mile Rd., will be a presentation of three proposals for a huge \$3 million-plus sewer project which will serve Quakertown and much of the northwest corner of the township.

The three proposals are (A)

The Quakertown Council is supporting a route up Farmington Rd. to 11 Mile, and across 11 Mile through the village.

through the "valley" to the northwest area. (B) up Farmington Rd. and across 11 Mile Rd. and (C) the same "Valley route" but with pumping stations.

THE TOWNSHIP board met recently with the Quakertown

people, and a Quakertown meeting Tuesday resulted in a resolution in favor of route B, up Farmington Rd. and across 11 Mile.

The resolution, passed unanimously by the council, cited the "residents pressure to preserve the ecological balance of the area."

The area to be served by the proposed sewer is bounded roughly by the "valley" of a tributary of the Rouge River that runs from Haggerty Rd. and 13 Mile Rd. to 10 Mile and Drake Rd.

Called the "10 Mile Rd. arm," the area to be served is about two miles wide. The northwest end includes large parcels of vacant land, while closer to the end of the proposed sewer lies the Village of Quakertown.

QUAKERTOWN residents protested the original proposed route (A) of the sewer, which would have put it beneath the bed of the river, the lowest point of land in the area.

But cost figures in a study of the route indicates this route would also be the most expensive, at least initially, at approximately \$3,960,000.

Main reason is extensive tunneling required for the route.

The study, by engineers Pate, Howard and Bogue, indicates the added cost of three pumping stations on the

"alternate route" would balance the cost after 12 years, and in the long run would make it the most expensive.

The route the Quakertown council is supporting is across 10 Mile Rd. to Dohoney, up Dohoney to Glen Oaks, Glen Oaks to Farmington Rd. and up Farmington Rd. to 11 Mile Rd.

At 11 Mile Rd. it goes across country to a route along the river, where the area is undeveloped.

THE STUDY listed three main benefits of a street route:

• Initial construction cost, estimated at \$3,541,000 is cheaper than the \$3,960,000 estimated for a route through the "valley."

• The route disturbs only 2,300 feet of woodland, compared to 14,000 feet in the original proposal.

• Subdivisions along the route should be able to tap into the alternate route with few or no pumping stations, while the first route contemplated would require several to be built.

The original route contemplated, rejected by Quakertown, would have followed the course of the Rouge River from 13 Mile Rd. down to 10 Mile and Farmington Rd.

A 56-inch tunnel for 4,600 feet would be necessary, costing \$1.5 million.

Pumping stations could replace the tunnel, according to the study, which is a third alternate for the project, but the trees would be demolished.

This third alternate, (C) also rejected, is the cheapest, at \$2.2 million for construction.



NOT A BEANSTALK, this 12-foot high corn stalk is trying to get the same press Jack's beans did. It grew in the back yard of William White, Farmington, who found out, despite its height, that nary a single ear of corn materialized. (Evert photo)

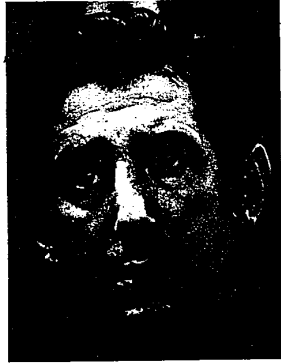
North Farmington Has Homecoming

North Farmington High School will celebrate homecoming Saturday with a football game against Franklin High School at 2 p.m. Coronation of the homecoming queen will take place at half-time.

the junior class in the queen's court will be Pam Gooding and from the sophomore class, Sue Green.

Seniors nominated for queen are Gina Bregel, Sue Kuhn and Sue Reed. Representing

Homecoming ceremonies will conclude with a dance in the school auditorium at 9 p.m. Saturday.



NO JOY IN TIGERTOWN, because the mighty Tigers struck out, but it wasn't without a battle and one heckuva finish. Defeat was hard to take -- especially for the man who pushed the Tigers to the top, Manager Billy Martin. For Eddie Edgar's story and Tom Donoghue's pictures, flip to today's sports page. Page 10A

Water, Water...

The beginning of a project that will kick off development of much of the vacant land in Farmington Township is now in the works. To find out what's changing Farmington, turn to: Page 2A

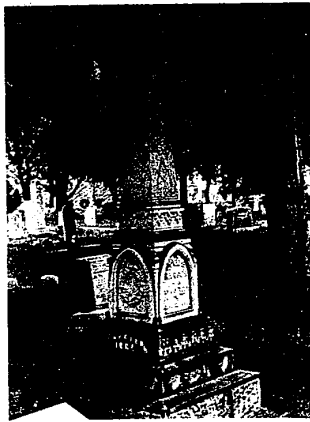
United Foundation

The local UF drive is getting under way in Farmington. To find out who the local people who will be running the campaign, see the story on: Page 3A

Writers Meet

Aspiring writers might get some tips on the toughest part of writing, how to get started, in a conference next week at Oakland University. A Farmington woman found it well worthwhile. Page 10B

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A MAJESTIC MONUMENT--Located in the North Farmington Cemetery, this marker was built nine years before Joel Harger died in 1893. (Evert photo)

History Lies Buried In Local Cemeteries

By STEVE BARNABY

The tainted city air sweeps through the trees in the lonely cemetery. Cars drive by, their drivers unaware of the lonely forgotten sanctuary.

The wild vegetation which surrounds the weather-worn gravestones sharpens the contrast between living and dead. It seems like nature's joke on mankind's quest for immortality.

The weather has eaten away at the century-old sandstone markers, leaving many of

The vegetation surrounding the gravestones seems like nature's joke on mankind's quest for immortality.

them unreadable. Some of the markers are crumbled or pushed over by 20th century vandals. A ragged crater reveals an apparent attempt by some midnight marauders to dig a grave of its meager riches.

This was the scene last week at the East Farmington Cemetery on 12 Mile and Middle Belh. Originally called the Uley Cemetery, it was first used by the Sanford Uley family in 1824. Now, 148 years later, it stands alone, an unwanted and abused landmark.

FARMINGTON HAS five cemeteries which contain the areas historical record from the early 19th century to the present day.

Walking through them one can see familiar names such as Botsford, Power, Wixom and Cairns -- all names of families who have made a mark in Farmington history.

The Quaker Cemetery, on Cortland and Gill south of Grand River, is one of the most significant historical landmarks in Farmington. It was first used by Nathan Power, Farmington's founder, in 1830, to bury his wife and child, who died in a cholera epidemic.

Also buried in the Quaker cemetery is Myron Botsford whose inn is still on Grand River.

Michigan's first three-term governor, Fred Warner, is buried in the Oakwood Cemetery on Grand River and Wilmarth.

THE WEST Farmington

Cemetery was established in 1835 for use by the Baptist church. Worshipers still attend services at the church on Halstead and 12 Mile.

Incorporated in 1837, the North Farmington Cemetery, 13 Mile and Farmington, is still in use and contains many family names of past and present historical significance.

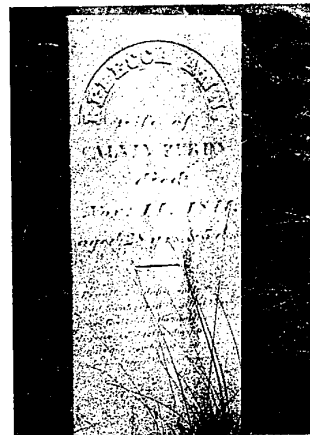
Members of the Wixom family, who arrived in the Farmington area in 1824, lay alongside the Cairns, a family familiar to Farmington residents today because of Floyd Cairns, the longtime township clerk.

Also within the gates of these five cemeteries are the resting places for those who were known only to family and friends.

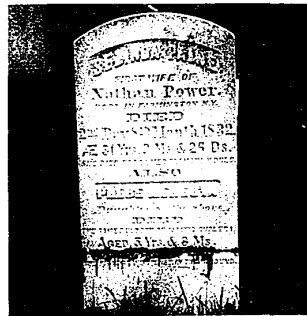
There are families who were wiped out by epidemics, veterans killed in America's many wars, and most importantly just "plain folk" who braved the journey west to conquer the wilderness with their sweat and blood.

Although none of the cemeteries is so badly abused as the Uley Cemetery, a pattern can be seen. As families die and move away, graves are forgotten, and vandals and weather move in to take their toll.

RECENTLY Earl Teeples, Farmington Township supervisor, suggested that the cemeteries be bought by the township and maintained at public expense. Although not enthused with buying the property, the township board agreed to look into ways of maintaining the landmarks.



THE WEATHER-WORN inscription on the marker of Rebecca Ann Purdy is in the East Farmington Cemetery. (Evert photo)



THE QUAKER CEMETERY on Gill south of Grand River is where members of the Power family, one of the founders of Farmington, are buried. This is the grave of Selinda Paine Power and her daughter Phebe Minerva, who died of cholera and were the first to be buried in the cemetery. (Evert photo)

FOCUS: Suburbia



WINTER CAR CARE! Read how in this issue.