

Farmington Enterprise & Observer

Vol. 81, No. 103 Wednesday, September 17, 1969 68 pages, 6 sections 15c a Copy Philip H. Power, Publisher

today's hot line

A Camera's Journey

The arrival of fall prompted Fran Evert to take her camera on a trip around Farmington in search of photographic art which best depicted the color of autumn in the area. Her presentation, in black and white, shows what the signs of autumn are.

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The First Step

The City of Farmington has hired a consultant to study downtown redevelopment, has named a new planning commissioner, is investigating air pollution at a local industrial firm, and is asking for higher interest rates to be charged for delinquent taxes.

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Speaks On Sex

Dr. Leroy Augenstein, member of the State Board of Education, is coming to Farmington to speak on the controversial topic of sex education. The time, date and place are reported inside.

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On Their Way

Everyone has been predicting North Farmington's Raiders to be the top high school football team in Observerland and over a large part of the state. And it may come true, judging from the way they walked Pontiac Northern opening day.

Page 1B

Bright Centennial

A great-great-grandmother will be marking her 100th birthday Friday in a nursing home in Farmington. Women's editor Margaret Miller found her a delightful lady to visit. Read her story.

Page 1C

Fine Filly

Bay Acree, owned by an Observerland industrialist, is turning out to be one of the finest two-year fillies in the country's thoroughbred tracks. Doc Minard has this and other racing stories in Turf Tips & Quips, an exclusive feature of your hometown paper.

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upcoming

COMMUNITY COLLEGES are more than just two-year academies — they are emerging as patrons of the arts in suburban culture. Sue Shaughnessy tells how two local schools went about it — and what they have to offer will surprise you. See Sunday's edition of your hometown paper.



EXTRA TIME-PIECES?

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18 File For Commission; All Governments Represented

Each of the four governments in the Farmington Area was assured of a candidate for the consolidation charter commission last week when an attorney from Wood Creek Farms filed.

David A. Goldman of 25652 Millbrook, the Wood Creek Farms village attorney and a seven-year resident, became the only candidate from the vil-

lage.

TWO MEN FROM Quakertown, nine from Farmington Township and six from the City of Farmington have filed for charter commission positions. Filing ended yesterday.

If consolidation is approved, one from each village, two from the city, and five from the township will be elected to write a

charter.

Goldman, a supporter of consolidation, has practiced law for 31 years and was a member of the Wood Creek Farms planning commission as well as village attorney. He is now a partner in Levin, Levin, Garveit and Dill, a Detroit law firm.

In view of the statute which prohibits municipal officers from becoming members of charter commissions, Goldman

said he will resign as village attorney if elected.

IN ADDITION, a second candidate from Quakertown has filed petitions. Richard C. Hacht of 34655 Brittany Dr., a past village councilman and president, joined Gerald S. Ellisworth of 34155 Hunters Row in the race for one seat.

New candidates from the city are Lyle L. Hall of 23055 War-

ner and Charles E. Smith of 23050 Manning. Other candidates from the city are Richard Tupper of 23180 Case, Robert S. Jones of 21031 Birchwood, Stanley A. Robertson, Jr., of 21497 Chestnut and Robert N. Sawyer, Jr., of 33850 Freedom Rd.

John H. Burke of 31811 Staman Cr., Thomas F. Gust of 22688 Tulane and Carl Thorpe

of 27745 Brownwell are new candidates from Farmington Township.

Other candidates from the township are: Township Attorney Joseph T. Brennan; Richard Gould of 29746 Highmeadow; Wayne F. Parkinson of 30247 Wicklow Ct.; William Stone of 29555 Ford Rd.; William H. Haines of 29277 Geraldine Ct.; and John J. Bailey of 30213 Stockton Dr.



BIT OF HOME — Columnist Bob Talbert, who moved to Farmington from South Carolina, keeps an authentic southern-style rope hammock in his backyard. Peeking over the edge are Dafna and Jason and that's Mrs. Talbert at the left. (Evert photo)

Amusing?

A Million Words And Still Writing

By ELIZABETH WISSMAN

To date, Robert B. Talbert, Jr., of 25643 Arden Park Drive, Farmington, has written approximately one million words about Detroit yet he still finds enough to titillate him into writing a fresh 300 words everyday.

More familiarly known as "Bob," Talbert is the author of "Bob Talbert's Detroit," appearing daily in the Detroit Free Press. He's been at it since June 1968.

Faced with a chore that would daunt most newsmen, Talbert claims he writes a daily column to "keep myself amused."

"I bore as rapidly and fast as anyone you can name," he says. "Writing a daily column keeps me constantly amused."

PERHAPS TALBERT sees Detroit with a fresh eye because he is transplanted from Spartanburg, S.C.

Talbert says he is "a lot more selective today" with his material than he was when he was writing "Bob Talbert at Large" back in South Carolina. "There's so much material in this community and I've got to think in terms of a great, large audience. I think I've become a little more big city as opposed to the southern country boy."

YET the "southern country boy" heritage might be the secret of his column's charm. To some observers his approach is folksy whether he is writing about automotive moguls, sports greats or the lady next door.

And yet, his selectivity can be pungent and gutsy, and always offset. "A good column has to have a little offbeat touch," he explains, "I say the thing you would have said if you had thought of it."

Talbert attests to having "a little bit of ham" and his physical appearance bears this out because he goes to work in downtown Detroit wearing bell bottoms, boots and sports shirts, all of it contrasting strongly with his businesslike briefcase.

He elaborates: "Throughout my career I have been able to capture people. Once you find the people of a community you can capture that community on paper. And that's easy, because I am a people."

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Consolidation Better Than Annexation?

The proposal to consolidate the four governments in the Farmington Area into a new single city was endorsed this week by newly elected school board trustee Kenneth Perrin of Quakertown and Wood Creek Farms on Nov. 4.

Perrin told The Enterprise & Observer that his endorsement of consolidation was a difficult decision to reach since he had previously spent a great deal of time and effort campaigning for incorporation of Farmington Township.

"The reasons for incorporation are as valid now as they were then," explains Perrin. "Primarily it would allow the township area to be developed in a planned and orderly manner without the threat of losing our valuable industrial areas to neighboring communities. This loss would involve tax base and force future changes in zoning to make up for the tax loss."

"We in the township still do not have this protection nor, under present state laws, does it appear possible that we will ever be able to achieve it except under consolidation," Perrin continued.

PERRIN SAID the township has two alternatives: to continue as a township without any protection whatsoever or to consolidate the four governments into one. "Each has its disadvantages but each of us must choose between the two," he cautioned, "for there are no other alternatives."

"Consolidation will undoubtedly offer far more advantages than any attempt by each of the four communities to 'go it alone,'" Perrin added he was concerned the wording on the ballot might lead to confusion. According to Act 191, the consolidation of Farmington Township, the City of Farmington, and the villages of Quakertown and Wood Creek Farms on Nov. 4.

Perrin stressed: "This wording is unfortunate because it is misleading. But it is the only wording allowed. It implies a finality that is not there. A 'yes' vote is not final — it is not an irrevocable decision to consolidate."

"A 'yes' vote only provides a time for nine citizens of our community to attempt to write a charter which would be satisfactory to the citizens of the two villages, the township and the city. Any proposed charter would have to be approved by the residents of these areas for consolidation to take effect."



KENNETH PERRIN

"I would hope that we could elect as members of the charter commission people who would recognize not only the community of interests we all have in the area, but also the unique differences in each of the four local areas of government."

"I believe such a charter can be written and I will not support any charter which does not take into consideration these local differences."

PERRIN CONCLUDED by saying: "I believe that we must approve the consolidation proposal on Nov. 4. I believe that a charter can be written which will provide for the unique interests of the four local areas and at the same time strengthen the community of interests of all of the residents of the entire area."

"In conclusion, I believe that if consolidation fails we will have only a haphazard growth which will have an adverse effect on all of us."

Tupper, Brennan Tell Reactions To Resigning

By WYLIE GERDES

One candidate for the consolidation charter commission has indicated he hopes to be elected even though it may cost him his seat as a village councilman, employed on a retainer basis.

RICHARD TUPPER, of 23180 Case in the City of Farmington, who has been elected to the city planning commission post if elected to the charter commission and he is prohibited from holding both positions.

The Secondary Act (191) under which the consolidation would be made, says municipal officials or employees, either appointed or elected, may not be a member of the charter commission.

Michigan Attorney General Frank Kelley recently gave his opinion that township officers and employees are included in the ban.

THE OTHER candidate for the charter commission apparently affected by the law is Township Attorney Joseph T. Brennan.

Brennan said he knew nothing of the attorney general's opinion other than what he read in The Enterprise & Observer. The attorney general's opinion said a township officer, employed on a retainer basis, as Brennan is, is included among those officials prohibited from being members of a consolidation charter commission.

Brennan refused to say whether he would resign as township officer if elected to the charter

commission. He said he would inspect the attorney general's opinion "sometime in the near or far future" if he felt it might have some effect on his eligibility to be a member of the charter commission.

Kelley's opinion was issued in a letter to G. Stuart Francke, chairman of the State Boundary Commission who requested a ruling. A copy of the letter was sent to Farmington City Clerk Elizabeth Brines.

Center Needs Things

Now that Farmington Community Center is officially open, Mrs. Alberta Taylor, executive director, has issued a call for some more needed furnishings. First on the priority list are chairs which are necessary for craft groups and card parties meeting in the center.

Response to an earlier request for lamps was good, but more are needed. Either table or floor lamps are acceptable, and small tables would also be useful.

A crib or two would make the nursery more convenient. Car beds might be an acceptable substitute. One crib has already been donated, but is minus a mattress. Someone replacing his home refrigerator might be glad to present the old one if it is in working order. Even a small apartment size would be usable in the pantry. Stamp books could be used to help fill in the corners, and Betty Crocker or Pillsbury coupons could be set aside toward eventually accumulating some silverware and china.