

No History Supporting Consolidation -- Allen

By JOHN ALLEN

History has often a way of disproving predictions for the future. In our own lives we have seen the situation of the unexpected which has dramatically changed the present. There is no inevitability of circumstances which will absolutely define our future regardless of what we do. With planning and action we can build the community image we desire. What we will be tomorrow can be planned today.

The proposal to consolidate the City of Farmington, Farmington Township, and the villages of Quakertown and Woodcreek Farms is being presented without economic substantiation, no previous experience, little appreciation of the enormity of the task and without even a reference to comparable alternatives.

We have yet to hear what the cost will be in taxes or what the sacrifices must be in services. They have told us there have been no previous examples of this being done in the State of

Michigan. And not a single reference has been made to consider the problems of similar neighbor communities.

The enormity of the proposal can be seen if we visualize the services and problems of a city more than 1/4 the size of the City of Detroit. The future of such a city would have to be a staggering complexity of politics, competition and priorities.

The very thought of a successful future on the basis of such minimum of study and planning is in itself an indictment of the understanding, judgment and ability of those who propose it.

Compare us, if you will, with the City of Birmingham. The population of Birmingham is given as 28,000, and it encompasses an area of 11 1/2 square miles -- not a great deal larger than our projected future population.

Many of us will remember a few short years ago Birmingham was not unlike the Farmington of today. The future of Birmingham was not solved in

(Following is another in a series of articles, written by John Allen, representing the views of a group of city residents called WE who are opposed to the question of consolidation. The views expressed are those of the writer and not necessarily of this newspaper.)

expansion, or even its affluent sprawling neighbors; rather, the Birmingham we admire today is a product of the dedi-

cation and work and faith of the city fathers, business men and people who with good professional assistance patiently

planned and developed the city of today.

We say then, "Let us, like Birmingham, direct our attention and effort and abilities to what we have." There is much to do right now. The people of this community do have the ambition and faith to accomplish a better community. It may be the proponents of consolidation do not realize

many of our citizens do not want to be part of "big city" may not want large industrial or even commercial developments.

Many of us would quite willingly share the cost of our independence as we have in the past. We do not wish to lose our freedom of choice and we can prevent only by voting "no" to consolidation.

Ghost Writer Told Why Youth Needs Listening Ear

Daniels Den

By EMORY DANIELS

An unsigned letter was received this week which, although it will not be printed, deserves comment since it reflects opinions received over the phone from a few residents.

Our ghost writer, in part, stated, "It appears to me the Observer Newspaper is in favor of anything the minority wants and against anything the majority think is right and decent."

"According to your paper, long hair, beards, bare feet, protests, liberals on our school board, sex education in elementary grades, dirty movies get full page spreads and full support. . . . A newspaper like the Observer makes me ashamed to live in this community and if you speak for the majority then we truly do live in a sick society. No! I am not a John Birchler -- I am an American."

NEITHER HAS this paper taken an editorial stand on the dress code. Frankly, because it wasn't necessary. The school board, with proper speed, study and consideration, in debating the question of dress codes.

We have never editorially endorsed long hair, beards or barefoot but nor have we opposed such. Appearance is a matter of individual taste and is the choice of the individual as long as he does not choose nakedness.

A government agency has no right to dictate what a young person should wear or how he should appear, unless he is legally incompetent. But there is nothing legally incompetent about long hair, beards or bare feet. Hair, whiskers or uncovered toes have nothing to do with the process of bestowing knowledge and, therefore, should not be controlled by a school.

An American has the right to dress in a manner which is pleasing to him personally, not the majority. I also am

an American but this does not give me the right to dictate how other people's youngsters should dress.

WHICH BRINGS me to a crucial point. A dress code is not enforced by a school. In most systems, the child dresses at home and usually keeps his wardrobe in the bedroom closet and not his school gym locker.

If he appears in school with long hair, a beard and without socks, it is because the student's parents allowed him to dress that way. The decision was made by the student, endorsed by his parents, and accepted by the school.

Schools had fewer problems enforcing dress codes when the skirt length stopped at the knee. But when the hem jumped three, four and five inches above the knee it became difficult to enforce skirt lengths. Even more difficult when mothers, PTA presidents, teachers, etc., appeared with hems three, four and five inches above the knee.

If Susan can walk all over town, go to dances, appear in church, and show up at a part-time job in a mini, how could the schools possibly be expected to enforce a dress code which stopped at the knees.

IT WAS NOT the schools which first liberalized the dress code five years ago. It was society -- mothers, PTA presidents, teachers, etc. The schools could not outlaw a manner of dress which was allowed in other public places by parents.

Elimination of many dress restrictions at North Farmington High simply was a step in which the school said: "We allow boys with long hair, beards and sandals to enroll here because their parents allow them to dress like that elsewhere."

The school did not say all students must dress this way. It simply said that it would allow what society allows -- sounds democratic to me.

What is less to our ghost writer means nothing. She

can dress her children as she wishes. And as long as our students are dressed, no laws are broken.

I am not ashamed to have faith in our young people. I believe if they are to become useful citizens they must learn responsibility now, make decisions now, and participate in democracy now.

Yes, students need restraints and discipline. But they need freedom to learn and should not be expelled from school because of whiskers on their face or some other silly reason.

And, hopefully, when today's senior becomes an adult and writes his first letter to the editor, the letter will be signed. Democracy allows freedom of expression and that freedom allows identification of the expressor.

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Musicale Schedules Buffet

FARMINGTON The Farmington Musicales will entertain its members and invited guests at a salad buffet to be given in the Farmington Community Center on Sept. 24 at noon.

The first program of the 1969-70 season will feature Mrs. Vera Roberts, soprano, and Arlyne Olson, cellist, Miss Olson, a student at North Farmington High School, was first prize winner for strings in the 1969-70 scholarship competition sponsored by the musicale. Mrs. Roberts will be accompanied by Mrs. Carolee McQuay, Miss Olson's accompanist will be Mrs. Marie Welch.

Program chairman will be Mrs. James Bigelow with Mrs. Linda Lloyd as luncheon chairman.

The Farmington Musicales, an affiliate of the National and Michigan Federations of Music Clubs, invites those with an in-

terest in fine music -- both performers and listeners -- to contact Mrs. Paul Notestine at 476-1729. Instrumental performers are particularly welcome.

GOP Women To Hear Views

FARMINGTON The Republican Women's Organization of Farmington Hills will hold its first meeting of the fall season in the home of Mrs. Richard Butler on noon Sept. 15.

Guests, City Councilmen John Richardson and John Allen will present paper and can views of consolidation. A question and answer period will follow their talks.

Dessert and coffee will be served and interested residents are invited to attend.

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STATE OF MICHIGAN
PROBATE COURT FOR
THE COUNTY OF OAKLAND

IN RE: ESTATE OF J. W. KARK, Deceased.
Notice is hereby given that on October 20, 1969, at 10:00 a.m. in the Probate Courtroom Pontiac, Michigan a hearing will be held on the petition of William Griffin for the appointment of an administrator to said estate and to determine who and where at the time of death the heirs at law of said estate are.

Publication and service shall be made in the State of Michigan and County of Oakland. Dated September 16, 1969.

NORMAN B. BARNARD, Clerk of Probate.

Floral Park News

By E. R. PHILLIPS GR 4-6575

Mrs. Anton Schweizer, of Orchard Lake Rd., is so glad to be home after suffering a stroke and spending many weeks in Brent General Hospital and Cambridge Convalescent Home. She says her doctor can notice improvement every time he comes to see her.

We wish her a speedy recovery. Tom Koops, son of Mrs. Roger Koops of 2319 Violet has started his studies at Eastern Michigan University. Tom is a graduate of Farmington High and is on a partial scholarship for wrestling.

The E. R. Phillips of 22779 Lilac have just returned after a three-week vacation. They visited Mrs. Phillips' sister and brother-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Anderson in Flin Flon, Manitoba, Canada. They stayed at the Anderson's cabin at Big Alton Lake, where the swimming and fishing are usually excellent. While they were there, though, the fish all seemed to be parked at the bottom of the 400 foot deep lake. The couple also visited their other relatives in Winnipeg, Manitoba, where they were surprised with a 41st wedding anniversary party.

ROBERT J. KELLY, Attorney
3221 Grand River Avenue
Farmington

STATE OF MICHIGAN
PROBATE COURT FOR
THE COUNTY OF OAKLAND

IN RE: ESTATE OF WILMA BARTLOW ALSO KNOWN AS WILMA L. BARTLOW, Deceased.
It is Ordered that on December 16, 1969 at 10:00 a.m. in the Probate Courtroom Pontiac, Michigan a hearing will be held at which all creditors of said estate are required to prove their claims and on or before such hearing file their claims, in writing and under oath, with this Court, and serve a copy upon the executor: William C. Kelley, 3223 W. Nine Mile Road, Farmington 48021. Publication and service shall be made as provided by Statute and Court Rule.

Dated: September 16, 1969
NORMAN B. BARNARD, Clerk of Probate.

Robert J. Kelly, Atty.
3221 Grand River Avenue
Farmington, Michigan 48024
Newspaper: The Farmington Enterprise & Observer
(821, 28, 105-40)

Realtor News

B.F. Chamberlain Co.
JIM STIMPSON

Jim Stimpson is an enthusiastic member of an outstanding sales staff. His background is varied to include a position with Ford Motor Company as a department coordinator, a financial analyst for an electronics corporation and assistant director of marketing with an architectural-engineering firm.

He attended Cleary College in Ypsilanti and is now participating in the management training classes presented by the B.F. Chamberlain Company to those who desire and earn the opportunity for advancement.

He is a lifetime resident of Plymouth and his many hobbies include photography which he uses in conjunction with his duties as public information officer for the Michigan National Guard in Detroit.

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