

Opinion

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O&E Monday, July 30, 1984

Most callers favor our Founders' Festival

This week's Oral Quarrel question asked Farmington and Farmington Hills residents: How did the 1984 Founders' Festival compare to past events? How could the festival be improved? Following are the responses:

I think what the festival needs is perhaps a car show or bull fight in the Farmer Jack parking lot.

This years Founders' Festival was a big improvement over last year and I am very happy to see that. I didn't really want to go down to see it but heard so many good comments that I just had to go see for myself and I do believe that it was a lot better. Next year I think they ought to stop the traffic going through in front of stores where sidewalk shoppers could get injured. An example: in front of the strip of stores. Maybe they could allow parking to the western side where the band show is but not directly in front of the stores. The cars coming through were quite dangerous for people who were sidewalk shopping because they were so close to the sidewalk. Other than that there are no other improvements.

How did the festival compare to last year? It was superior to anything I have ever seen in Farmington. Could the festival be improved? No. It was A-1. Everyone was impressed and it was the best festival ever.

My family and I had an excellent time and we are already looking forward to next year. The parade was at its best.

It was a bigger nuisance this year than it has in years past. Traffic-jams, flea markets, etc. The only improvement that it could have had is if it had been rained on.

I felt that the festival was one of the best and it could be improved by being extended a full seven days.

We have been to all Farmington Festivals and enjoyed them all but we do appreciate the job Jon Grant did this year. It was one of the better ones. Thank you.

This year's festival was fantastic and lots of people were involved, some kids to old people. I really think that was good. There are lots of opportunities for everyone for either to sell something or really get involved. I think it was great.

I thought it was great. Much improved over other years. I went downtown Wednesday through Saturday and people seemed to be enjoying it as I saw the same people each day. Arts and crafts corner was super. Keep up the good work.

The festival was very nice but I certainly didn't appreciate all those rides down on Orchard Lake and Grand River. I live on the block behind that and

oral quarrel

We had a lot of extra traffic, a lot of people who were low life going back and forth in their trailers and I thought the whole carnival atmosphere was very unkempt and unclear. I think the festival would be improved by having no rides.

The festival was so terrible it is impossible to put into words. The best way to improve it is by either scrapping it or hiring a professional that knows what he is doing. It is so cheap that it should be just abandoned.

The 1984 Founders' Festival was a pleasure. There was a sense of order about it that didn't take away from the fun of it. The craft area was well represented although I hoped for a few more painters. We are proud of the historical character of the Farmington area so that the only improvement that I could suggest to more strongly tie the festival activities with the historical past of Farmington. How about costume characters representing our historical figures.

The festival on the whole was better this year. We enjoyed the parade when it finally arrived. It was so late arriving on Farmington Road that some of the families with children had to leave before it got there. The parade should not be delayed for anyone who doesn't show up on time. Start on time and let

the late arrivals take up the rear including the politicians.

It was super. It was like it used to be. It was clean. The clientele was excellent. The food was superb. All in all I couldn't ask for more.

I feel the festival was pretty nice but there was too many crafts and not enough entertainment. On Saturday night everything was over downtown about 9 o'clock while on Orchard Lake where they had the ox roast everything was still going on till about midnight or so. The only good food was the homemade pasta.

First of all I think when the parade is on, everyone shouldn't have to work so they can see the parade and stuff that they always miss. That's number one. Number two, I think the parade could have been improved a lot compared to other years and number three I don't think it is fair to have people park in the handicapped parking just because of the festival.

We thought the festival was great this year except for one thing. We were sitting across from the Masonic Temple and they let all the dignitaries and the princesses and queen out before we got to see them. We were really toed

off and could have cared less about staying but we stayed and we were glad because it was a great parade and we enjoyed the festival, too.

After several years of staying away from the festival except for the crafters corners event we really enjoyed the parade this year and return of the carnival. We also like the crafters tent in the Downtown Center. We appreciated some very talented workmanship up there but we would also like to see the return of the historic home tour and some people wearing Quaker costumes, some local contest like beard growing and things like that.

Personally we thought that the start of the parade was absolutely terrible. The local bands, as far as we are concerned, were a disgrace to the cities of Farmington and Farmington Hills. There was no call for the parade being over an hour late. There was no announcements made as to why.

The parade was super. My sister was in the dunk tank for Farmington High School and I liked watching her get dunked. I hope they do that again next year.

This is the best festival in the five years we lived in Farmington. I hope it continues to be just as successful as it was this year.

I feel that the festival has been a success. We enjoy attending as a family. However it does appear that the merchants use this opportunity to unload items that they have sitting in their storerooms and it has gotten to be disheartening to see the junk that is set out.

I would say it could be improved by stopping those alien-happy firemen. It is so cruel to the horses and especially to that horse and buggy in that aged group float that came behind it. Please stop that siren blowing.

For the most parts, festivals are lots of fun and a nice tradition. Why doesn't the Farmington Observer cover it better? It's fun to read the local paper and read local events and scenery and people I recognize. I want to know who won the parade. I want to see friends in the crowd. I want to read about experiences. Fireworks in the sky may be great photography but they could have been exploded anywhere.

I think it is a shame that there wasn't more community booths in the festival. I understand it cost too much to have a booth. The parade was to late, too long and who needs Shakes but O'Sheehans was very nice with their outdoor cafe. Much better than last years.

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