

The Farmington Enterprise

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BASE LINE ROAD TO BE SUPERHIGHWAY

At a joint meeting of the Wayne-Oakland and Wayne-Macomb superhighway commissioners and the Detroit Rapid Transit Commission at Detroit last week a road improvement project was decided upon that means much to this section. The Base Line road, known also as the Eight-Mile road which divides Wayne county from Oakland and Macomb counties is to be made a superhighway 204 feet wide from Grand River road to Clarenceville two miles east of Farmington to its intersection with Vernier road in Macomb county when its direction will deflect slightly to the south along that highway to the Lake St. Clair. The Vernier road section is to be 120 feet wide. This improvement will prove a big factor in relieving Grand River avenue congestion.

The following interesting account of the meeting last week is taken from the Sunday issue of the Detroit Free Press:

The action of the two joint superhighway commissions on this superhighway was spoken of by W. R. Kales, president of the City Planning Commission, after the meeting, as indicative of a general turning toward superhighways by counties which, a few years ago, were considered as rural.

"Counties even as far from the metropolises as Livingston are entirely sold on the benefits to be gained from 204-foot arteries," said Mr. Kales. "The task we have ahead of us is to sell the blase residents of the city on the same proposition."

The Eight Mile road is regarded as one of the most important in the state, because it is the Base Line road, extending from Lake St. Clair to Lake Michigan, from which all north and south surveys are made.

For the very reason that it is, on the line between counties for the entire distance, an obstacle has existed in the way of opening and improving it because, until the 1925 legislature, there was no adequate machinery for joint highway work by counties. Instead of being a model highway, it has been neglected and in some stretches not opened at all.

Previous to Tuesday's meeting, Wayne and its two northern neighbors had made arrangements for a 120 foot highway with a single 40 foot pavement. Commissioner Miller of Macomb county Tuesday made a motion to constitute it a 204 foot highway with two 20 foot pavements from Grand River avenue to the Vernier road.

In the general discussion that followed Mr. Kales and Mr. Blucher of the City Plan Commission pointed out the objections to changing the superhighway from the Seven Mile road, already designated to the Eight Mile road on account of the dedications of the right of way which have been secured on the Seven Mile road between Mack and Kelly roads, but they did not concur in the addition of the Eight Mile road as a superhighway when it was explained that the motion did not consider the abandonment of the Seven Mile road as a superhighway. Commissioner Miller's motion was carried unanimously.

Commissioner Thompson made a motion which was adopted, that all section roads and all roads taking the place of section line roads in the townships of Farmington, West Bloomfield, Southfield, Pontiac, Royal Oak, Troy, Waterford, Commerce, Novi and Avon, be made 120 foot highways except where a wider width had previously been determined.

Motion was made by Commissioner Allen and adopted that the Northwestern superhighway be made a 204 foot highway from Wyoming avenue in the city of Detroit northwesterly across the city of Detroit, Wayne and Oakland counties, to the Oakland-Livingston county line.

SPECIAL COMMUNICATION

A special communication of Farmington Lodge No. 151, F. & A. M., will be held Monday evening, February 15 at 7:30, for work in the first degree.

By order of the W. M.

AM. LEGION CHARTER TO MEET HERE

Plans are now under way for the quarterly meeting of the 6th District of the American Legion and auxiliary to be held in Farmington Friday, February 19 at 3 p. m. There will be a business meeting of the Legion in the Town Hall while the Auxiliary will hold its meeting in the Library room. At 5 p. m. a banquet will be served in the German Evangelical Church parlors under the auspices of the Ladies' Auxiliary. After the banquet, at 9 o'clock a dance will be given in the hall, music for which will be furnished by the Groves-Walker Post orchestra. This will be open to the public.

It is expected that a large number of delegates will be present from all the surrounding towns as the 6th District covers the area from Royal Oak to East Lansing. The Legion hopes that the people of Farmington in general will extend to our visitors the hospitality for which this town has an enviable reputation, so that when each delegate returns to his home he will have reason to remember the good time he had here.

REBECCA LODGE INSTALLS OFFICERS

The Edgewood Rebecca Lodge of Clarenceville held their installation of officers Tuesday evening. Those elected to office were:

Violet Dasha, noble grand. Hazel Barnes, vice-grand. Alice Harrison, recording secretary.

Mrs. Taylor, financial secretary. Mrs. Roff, treasurer.

Appointed officers were: Mable Vander, warden. Mrs. Oliver, Cond.

Mrs. Hall, chaplain. Nellie Walters, Marie Cole, noble grand supporters.

Isabelle Menke, Harriett Huedagen, vice-grand supporters.

Mrs. Friedline, Mrs. Norris, Mrs. Reed, chairman of entertainment committee.

The installing officers were from the Esther and Oriental Lodges of Detroit.

WILL PRACTICE LAW HERE

Mr. Maurice F. Cole, attorney at law, will in the future be associated with the Harry S. Wolfe Co. in the general practice of law. Mr. Charles L. Wilson who will graduate from law school in June, will work with Mr. Cole and under his direction. Mr. Wilson has been obliged to turn down legal work in the past because he was not permitted to handle it. He has made this connection with Mr. Cole so that they will be able to handle any legal work which may come to his office.

Mr. Cole has a large practice in Ferndale, and is the attorney for that city. He will spend only part of his time in Farmington.

FATHER AND SON BANQUET

On Wednesday evening, Feb. 24 the men and boys of the Methodist Church will give an evening especially for the men and boys. The supper will be served by the Ladies' Aid. The program will be just a little different from the usual Father and Son evening, inasmuch as there will be outside talent at the banquet. The program for the evening is in the hands of Mr. W. D. Butterfield to plan and arrange which will insure an interesting evening. There will be toasts by fathers and sons as well as "stunts," etc. A good time is promised.

F. A. C. GIRLS-WIN

Another game The girls' basketball team of the F. A. C. won another game on Monday, February 8 in the Farmington High School gym. The defeated team was the Methodist Church team of Plymouth. Many of the players were those who played on the high school team the same time that the F. A. C. were on the high school team of Farmington, so that the old fighting spirit was renewed in the effort to uphold the reputation of both teams.

The F. A. C. will play Michigan Central Athletic Association on Monday, February 15, at 8:00 o'clock in the High School gym.

VOTE MONDAY, FEBRUARY 15 AT THE SPECIAL CHARTER ELECTION

At the last Special Election the people of Farmington voted to become a Fifth Class City and elected a Commission of nine men to adopt a Charter. This Commission is offering for your approval next Monday the best charter that they can draft. Considerable time and money has been spent. A good portion of this Charter has been selected from a prosperous neighboring city which has had marked success under their charter.

This Charter will give us a staple, reliable form of government. The operation of the city government will be changed but very little at the present time, but the Charter provides for the future growth of Farmington.

The adoption of this Charter relieves the people of Farmington City from the payment of all Township taxes amounting to several thousand dollars each year. Farmington city people will receive full benefit from all local taxes paid.

The Mayor becomes a representative on the Board of Supervisors.

City bonds become more staple and saleable with a reliable form of government.

The running expense of the City will be but slightly higher than at present and will be more than offset by the saving made in the discontinuance of duplicate offices and expenses now being paid as village and township taxes.

The Charter Commission recommends the Charter as offered as a decided improvement over our present regulations and believes that the people of Farmington will profit by the approval of the efforts and time given by the members of the Charter Commission in preparing this Charter.

The rejection of this Charter means that the Charter Commission must rewrite the Charter offered or prepare a new one for submission to the people at some future time.

Read the Charter as printed in The Enterprise on January 29, then vote as your judgment dictates. But vote.

HOWARD M. WARNER, Pres. Charter Com. E. O. HATTON, Sec'y Charter Com.

WITT-SULKOWSKI

A very pretty home wedding was celebrated February 10 at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Michael Sulkowski on Beckett avenue, when Miss Elsie Witt, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Rudolph Witt of the Seven Mile road and their son Ernest were united in holy wedlock. Rev. Bollens performed the ceremony.

The bride was attractively gowned in tan satin crepe and wore a corsage of sweet peas. Her sister, Miss Emma Witt wore a frock of white and pink; sweet peas made up her corsage. Mr. Edwin Sulkowski, brother of the groom performed the duties of best man.

Mr. and Mrs. Sulkowski will make their home in Farmington.

EXCHANGE CLUB NOTES

With the dining hall appropriately decorated the members of the Exchange Club indulged in somewhat impromptu but interesting Lincoln exercises. A roll call of members responded to with a short Lincoln story was the principal feature. Osmond Johnson, a Civil War veteran was a guest of the club and gave a talk on war time experiences. Mary Burrows, an eighth grade pupil, very nicely recited Lincoln's Gettysburg address.

The committee, appointed to take up the matter of better transportation facilities, reported that a date for a hearing with the officials of the D. S. R. with a view to arranging for city cars to run to Farmington had been set.

William Ryan of the Internal Revenue office at Detroit will be the speaker next week. He will explain the new income tax law and answer all questions pertaining to it.

Mr. and Mrs. John Clark are entertaining for dinner Sunday, Mrs. Clark's sister and husband, Mr. and Mrs. James Helliwell of Detroit.

LOCAL NEWS

Rev. J. Bollens is confined to his home because of illness.

Arthur Geisler is confined to his home with an attack of rheumatism.

O. H. Simms returned Friday from a business trip through Indiana.

Miss Lydia Tapio will spend this week end with her sister Helen in Detroit.

Murray and Marguerite Moore spent last week end with relatives in Lansing.

Miss Margaret Webster is better, having been quite ill with the measles.

The Amicus Club meets next Friday, February 19 with Mrs. Jess Dowell in Detroit. Inez Weston of Clarenceville was an overnight Thursday guest of Miss Mildred Graham.

The date of the Father and Son banquet at the M. E. Church will be Wednesday evening, February 24.

A daughter, Christine, was born to Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Bickling, Monday morning, February 8th.

John Graham was taken severely ill Saturday with chronic appendicitis. He is better at present writing.

The regular meeting of the Ladies' Aid of the M. E. Church will be held Thursday, February 18 in the balcony room of the church.

Last Sunday dinner guests of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Bunnell of Detroit were Mr. and Mrs. John Clark and daughters of Farmington.

Sunday guests of Mr. and Mrs. Claude Leach were their daughter and husband, Mr. and Mrs. Walter Rencher, Mary Ann and Mae Chesebro, Mrs. Caroline Rencher of Salem, Mr. and Mrs. John Dumark, daughters Florence and Gladys, and Mrs. Clifford of Detroit.

EXPANDING LOCAL TELEPHONE SERVICE

A large consignment of telephone cable has been received at Farmington and this week construction crews for the Michigan Bell Telephone Company are engaged in making extensive additions to the outside telephone plant in this community for the purpose of expanding local service facilities.

This new project will require the placing of approximately 25-100 feet of aerial cable of various sizes and the erection of 110 poles. It is expected that work will be completed within the next three months. It will represent an added local telephone investment totaling approximately \$21,800, states R. E. Crowe, manager of the local exchange.

The major portion of the plant construction work will be carried on in the east and west sections of Farmington, where steady building growth has been experienced, with a resulting increase of demand for service probable, Mr. Crowe states.

Looking five years into the future of Farmington, telephone engineers anticipate a substantial growth that will add approximately 310 telephones to the local exchange, it is stated. During the past year, 55 telephones were added to the list served by local central office. At the first of this year, 474 telephones were being served through the company's switchboards. New orders for installations are being received almost daily and Manager Crowe believes the gain during 1926 will at least equal the number of telephones added during 1925.

REDFORD TOWNSHIP CITIZENS ORGANIZE ASSN.

At a meeting of Redford Township citizens held at Highland Avenue Community Club rooms last week Thursday evening the name of Highland Avenue Community Club was changed to the Redford Township Civic Association. There were about fifty persons present and twenty new members were taken in.

The purposes of the organization is civic uplift and for the betterment of all community conditions, transportation and improvements.

It is the intention of the association to co-operate with all similar organizations in this locality in working for the interests of residents of this section.

The officers of the old organization will for the present act for the new one.

HOME TOWN EDITORS HOLD STATE MEETING

The building of even better "home town" papers in Michigan occupied the attention of more than 100 members of the state Press Association during a conference held here last week, during the annual Farmers Week at M. S. C.

The publishers of Michigan's weekly newspapers gathered in force to discuss the craft problems of their order and to join in various specially planned social occasions. Several leading newspaper authorities from outside the state were heard from at different times during the press conference. The attendance was said to be the largest in the more than 50 years history of the Michigan Press Association.

Officers elected for the coming year were: Schuyler Marshall, Clinton County Republican-News, St. Johns, president; Hiram Johnson, Saranac Advertiser, vice-president; and Herbert Wood, Bangor Advance, secretary-treasurer.

Mr. and Mrs. Claude Leach visited their aunt, Mrs. Elizabeth Allen in Pontiac Friday. Mrs. Allen is in poor health.

Miss Leah Spaller of Trenton called Friday on her aunts, Mrs. Samuel Turst and Mrs. William Pauline and grandmother, Mrs. Caroline Spaller. Miss Spaller is a senior in the Trenton High School and is a member of the basket ball team that played Farmington Friday.

Advertise in the columns of the Enterprise.

MANDAMUS CASES DECIDED

According to the decision of Judge Fred S. Lamb of Cadillac who heard the mandamus cases brought against Farmington township board by the Snell land interests to compel it to approve of certain plats, a township board has no discretionary powers in the matter of approving of a plat that is regular and legal in form.

Township officials state that the decision makes no particular change in the situation, their contention being that the plats offered were not entirely regular and with corrections indicated would have been of necessity approved by the board.

Judge Lamb holds that if a plat is in legal form it is not discretionary with township boards whether they accept it or not.

The following is Judge Lamb's findings:

"These cases serve to challenge the attention of the Court to the necessity for determining once for all just what the province of the township board is when a plat is presented to it for approval, it will be conceded, I think, that the township board is not concerned with either the necessity for or the advisability of the plat. Approval or rejection is not a matter of discretion with the board.

"The board has no arbitrary authority to exercise in the premises. When, in the plat presented for approval, all the requirements of the statute have been substantially complied with and show it on the face of the plat, the plat is entitled to the approval of the township board without further question. Any reason given by the township board for refusal to approve which is not based upon the absence or inaccuracy of someone or more statutory requirements is not within the province of the board to give and furnishes no defense for failure to approve.

"Applying the above limitation to the province of the township board in these proceedings renders unnecessary the determination of the question raised by the return to the orders to show cause. Whether the diversion of M-16 was legally established did not and does not concern the township board in proceedings of this character."

The Court held that the platters had merely to give a suitable name to the street platted as "Relocation of M-16" after which the plats should be approved or the mandamus will issue.

AGRICULTURAL CLUB MEETING

More than one hundred people attended the Senior Agricultural Club meeting at Walled Lake Consolidated School, Tuesday evening. A very fine supper was served by the junior and senior Home Economics Club.

Among the members on the program were Mr. Vaughn, Oakland County Agent. An interesting paper on "Alfalfa Growing" was given by Ben Shurtleff, one of the High School boys.

Two fine readings by Mrs. Hopkins of Wixom, after which the assembly divided up into groups to discuss the following subject, "Horticulture" by Cecil Cox; "Poultry" by Harry Nesman, principal of the school; "Community Life" by Superintendent Upton; "The Home" by Miss Spalding; "The Dairy" by Fred Giegler.

After about a one-half hour the groups re-assembled in the auditorium to witness a fine picture show, put on by Maynard Post, demonstrating the growth of corn.

RUSLING-STORGES

Mr. and Mrs. Harry Bartlett received the announcement of the marriage of Mrs. Mina Rusling to Robert M. Storges, at Key West, Fla., on Wednesday, January 20. Mr. and Mrs. Storges are returning to Michigan by way of New York City.

Mrs. Rusling lived for many years in Farmington on Grand River near Oakwood Cemetery. Several years ago she moved to Brighton.

Miss Margaret Green has been quite ill with the grippe.