

MORE CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS . . .
The Exchange Club has finished erecting their lights around Grand River, so now the street has a ceiling of colored lights in the evening. The Farmington Dairy has also added colored lights and greenery to the front of its store. Christmas is just busting out all over the place.

IT'LL BE A BIG NIGHT . . .
The Farmington High School gym this Friday. From all reports the place should be packed to the rafters with Farmington folks out to cheer the Falcon basketball team as it takes on Keego Harbor. It'll be best to get to the gym early that night. Besides enjoying yourself, you'll be out helping the home team along. That's important to the boys, too.

NOT EXACTLY . . .
Christmas, but certainly decorative, is the new front at Earl Vivier's Olds agency on Grand River, now that the front has been covered with marble, and the entire building expanded. Like we said — is Olds coming out with a new, longer car next year? We would like to see a lot more of that same variety of modernization and improvement. Doesn't hurt our town one bit.

ENCOURAGEMENT . . .
came from the Farmington School Board Monday when they told Curt Hall to start looking into preparing for a lighted foot-candle festival in Farmington. This is something Farmington could well use. The School Board knows that from comparing the gate receipts of games played during the afternoon on the home gridiron and at night on other fields. It'll take a lot of doing to accomplish, and the project is well worth the combined efforts of every local civic organization. An illuminated foot-ball field would make a nice skating rink in the winter, too. Most other towns our size have such an illuminated field; why don't we?

IT'S DIFFICULT . . .
to understand why the mortality rate on Middlebelt Road between Eight Mile and Seven Mile isn't a lot larger than it is. Certainly it's not the fault of all the youngsters who spend their noon hours walking on it. This is a trying area for drivers; during the wet months, the youngsters stay off the shoulders in favor of the drier pavement. It's certainly a place to slow down when you're driving. Someday two trucks will try to pass on that section of Middlebelt, and when it happens we don't want to be there.

OLD SOL . . .
was rather pleasant with us for a while there. We didn't know which way to turn the calendar early this week. The weather gave more indication of Easter than of Christmas. The Christmas atmosphere necessitates snow — but at the rate we were going during the early part of the week, the only way Bing Crosby could have had his dreams come true was with a large whitewash brush. We know a couple of people who have those things, too.

NOW THAT . . .
the city employees have finally complied the simplest and safest out of their hair, they can reconcile themselves to turpentine baths for a while — painting has started. When it's finished, there'll be shades of gray and yellow and oyster white instead of dirty green and nondescript mahogany. Wonder: would tattletale gray become stool pigeon black if it was in the Police Department?

THOSE NEW RAIN CAPES . . .
the Farmington Lions Club gave the Safety Patrol boys Tuesday are a complete northwest wind. The capes, they say, are going to keep a lot more boys a lot drier than they have ever been before. The boys stand out in the snow and rain to do a man's work. We're proud of them, and their parents and friends can be just as proud of the job the boys are doing keeping children alive. We just hope the new capes make things a little better for the boys. And we don't hate the Lions for being the big-hearted donors.

SOME COMMENT . . .
was caused Monday night when no one, not a soul, came to the Farmington School Board with a transportation problem. Heretofore, the board has been a busy place, with many meetings to attend, and the bus drivers do the work of two men. Now that the new ones are in operation, the situation has eased a lot. And members of the board are finding that out. Sam Turner was approached by a smiling little nearly-six-year-old who wistfully thanked him because "Now we don't have to stand." That was the first time since the new capes were made that a new bus goes up next year. From what we hear, service right now is at a new high in comfort, safety and efficiency.

HERE WE INSERT . . .
a faint plea. Please don't bite your mailman or beat him when he comes. The mailmen are starting to wear their "Uniform Season"; the two weeks before Christmas when everyone realizes that Christmas cards and parcels really should be mailed one of these days, and Christmas deliveries come thick, fast and exceedingly heavy. The situation at the local post office has been bad so far not enough people mailing out things. It was only a few days before Christmas noon to photograph the long line jammed before the window but the only action we saw was a man who purchased a three-cent stamp. On the time payment plan, of course.

Safety Squad Boys Get Rain Capes

More than 40 Safety Patrol boys from Farmington, Clarencville and local parochial schools were presented with rain capes Tuesday by the Farmington Lions Club. Russell Hill, president of the Lions Club, and William Spence, District Governor of the Lions, made the presentation in the high school cafeteria. Representatives of the Farmington and Wayne County police organizations were on hand. Farmington Police Chief Joseph G. DeVries said that the Lions Club had materially lessened the work imposed on the small Farmington Police department. "It's not all boys who will take the capes with them to stand on corners in all sorts of weather. I have often wondered how the boys did it," he said. "The Lions club is performing a great service to provide you with these capes."

The capes, designed by Mrs. Alice McDougall, present at the ceremony, were patterned after the capes worn by London "Hobblers." The capes are designed to cover the entire body, and may be worn while riding a bicycle. They are of a waterproof material with insignia on front and back. The boys, from Clarencville, Bond, Noble, William Grace, St. Paul's Lutheran, and Our Lady of Sorrows Schools, were brought to Farmington by school bus for the occasion. The ceremony started at 1 p.m. Dr. Herbert Viergutz, local veterinarian, acted as master of ceremonies, introducing members of the Lions organization and the police departments.



THESE MEN will sell papers Saturday in the annual Goodfellow drive to raise funds for Christmas help to needy families. Back row, left to right, Floyd Nacker, Arthur Lamb, Hugo Peterson, Adolph Wacker, Gene Hynes, Bill Gannon, Second row: Bob Harris, Joseph DeVriendt, Harry Hartz, Emory Hutton, William Carpenter, Edward Hoher, Victor Blackie. Bottom row: Howard Thayer, Claude Godes, Harry Boyce, Sylvester Gannon, Max Hulett, John J. Schulte, and Godfrey Gannon.

Board Approves Continuation Of Bible Study Class

Storm Of Letters Ask For Retention
Religious instruction in the Farmington public schools will be continued, the Farmington School Board voted Monday night. The motion to continue made by treasurer Ray Elchier received unanimous support.

At the Monday night meeting, the board also decided to: start work on the establishment of a rural agricultural school; investigate the possibility of erecting night football facilities; survey the illumination in all old school buildings; have a dental health and hearing clinic; authorize the superintendent to designate specific areas for smoking in each school building; and approve a payroll savings plan for employees.

All five members of the board, president D. Gerald Domes, treasurer Ray Elchier, secretary Rolfe Sarg, and trustees Curt Hall and Sam Turner were present at the meeting, which lasted until midnight. Samuel Kosmynsky, present at last month's meeting to object to the religious education, and Vernon Fisher, representative of the Bond PTA, were also present. According to Archie G. Leonard, the attorney for the School District, the present religious education is unconstitutional because it utilizes school buildings. Currently, "moral training" is being taught in the schools by a teacher. (Continued on Page Eight)

Farmington Swamps Milford 63-33 For Third Straight Cage Victory

Farmington chalked up their third straight cage victory of the season last Friday evening by swamping Milford High School 63 to 33 in the Farmington gym. It was the first Inter-Lakes Conference victory for the Falcons. They previously defeated Plymouth and Wayne, both non-conference foes. The game started out fast with both teams ringing in the baskets. At the close of the first, the Falcons took their fourth straight win of the season Tuesday evening by defeating Rochester High in the Farmington gym 47 to 27. Dave Dirnmayr was high point man for Farmington with 14 points followed by Tupper with 12 points. The Junior Varsity remained undefeated as they won their third straight over Rochester 46 to 22. High point man for the Falcons was Bob Hutton with 16 points. Milford put on a burst of speed in the second quarter and closed the second period with a high-scoring affair with both teams firing away at the baskets. Milford outscored the Falcons 13 points to 11 but were unable to take the lead. The half time score was Farmington 23, Milford 25.

The third period was the big one for Farmington. The Falcons came bounding back to score 19 points while holding Milford to five points. Dave Dirnmayr led the third period assault with eight points, Jim Bates and Dick Tupper got 7 and 6 points respectively. (Continued on Page Eight)

Zoning Board Appointed For Farmington Township

Buses Solve Problems For School Board, Too!

The Farmington School Board's decision to purchase two new school buses, made at its last meeting, paid off Monday night. For the first time since the decision, Farmington, no detentions requesting changes in bus service appeared before the board.

O. E. Duncack asked members of the board whether or not they had had any reaction to the use of the new buses. He also said he hadn't had any complaints since they went into operation, which he took for a good sign.

However, president of the school board, D. Gerald Domes, stated that favorable reactions might take longer to reach the board than complaints. So far as receiving them, Domes said, "Don't hold your head under water while waiting."

Four Men Named To New Board By Probate Judge Arthur Moore

Four Farmington Township residents have been selected by Oakland County Probate Judge Arthur E. Moore as members of the Farmington Township Zoning Board. It was announced this week by Ernest Blanchard, Township Supervisor.

The new members named by Judge Moore are: Edward Moesman, 2540 Farmington Road, for a term of four years; Leo Kelly, 21903 Albion Street, for a term of four years; George McLaughlin, 32219 Fourteen Mile Road, for a term of two years and Edward Schmidt, 25220 United Road, for a term of two years. The selection of members was made December 5 at a session of the Oakland County Probate Court in the Court House in Pontiac.

Appointments of the members of the zoning board are the first of the Farmington Township Board and is one of the main steps in the organization of the zoning program. Under the provisions of the law, the Probate Court selects the members of the Board. The Township only declares its intention to proceed with the drafting of a zoning ordinance, and the Probate Court names the members and designates their terms of office on the Board. The Township declared its intention to draft a zoning ordinance on October 15, 1949.

The zoning ordinance was unanimously adopted by the Board. Following the adoption of the resolution of intention, the Township Board petitioned the Probate Court to appoint a zoning board. The question of zoning was first brought to the attention of the Board when several civic associations in the township started work on the circulating of petitions calling for a zoning ordinance. The resolution of intention was passed by the Board following the presentation of these petitions signed by the property owners.

The members of the newly created Township Zoning Board are: Edward Moesman, Leo Kelly, George McLaughlin, and Edward Schmidt. They then must begin work on the drafting of a proposed zoning ordinance for the Township. Before any formal action can be taken, however, or before it is voted on by the people, public meetings must be held so that residents have ample opportunity to hear the zoning ordinance and to voice their opinions.

Final action on a proposed Building Code is expected to be taken next week at a meeting of the Township Board to be held next Tuesday evening in the Township offices in the Town Hall.

Set New Hours For Drivers' License Tests

Hours for issuance of drivers' licenses have been posted in the lobby of the remodeled Police Department section of the Farmington Municipal Building. According to the poster, licenses will be issued from eight a.m. to 6 p.m. daily, and until 12 noon on Saturdays. Road tests will be given from 10 a.m. to 12 noon and from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. daily from the Police station. No road tests will be given on Saturday.

The local Police department will issue operator and chauffeur permits only to applicants residing within Oakland County. Chief Joseph G. DeVries said. Residents living south of Eight Mile Road, or in Redford Township, must apply at their own township halls.

Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Roberts, of Mayfield Avenue, left Saturday to spend a few days with their son-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Pidot, of Monroe.

Final Tests Made On School Water

The new water system for the Clarencville High School has been completed and will be ready for use as soon as tests and samplings can be made by Wayne County health authorities.

Samples of the water, both inside the building and out, have been taken and are now being tested. The new main has been extended down Middlebelt Road to the school property, and a line completed into the high school water system. The line has been flushed several times in preparation for the testing.



The Clarencville School Board went on record at its regular meeting Monday evening approving the installation of a gas range in the home making house by the Phillips Petroleum Company. The only cost to the School District will be the gas used in the operation of the cooking stove. At the present time the home making house is equipped with a full-size electric stove and an apartment size electric range. The new gas range will help to expand the educational facilities of the District and add to the present home making course. Authorization was granted by the Board to proceed with the improving of lighting in four classrooms in the Central School. The Board anticipates completing the improvement of the lighting system throughout the remainder of the Central School during the next school year. Fluorescent lighting is being installed in place of the present light fixtures. The little son of Mr. and Mrs. Dave Kelbert, Hugo Avenue, is seriously ill.

Big Christmas Rush In Full Swing At Farmington Post Office

Start mailing your Christmas cards, Postmaster Norman C. Lee, told Farmington residents today. Greetings for out-of-state should be in the collection boxes today. Cards for local delivery should be mailed at least Thursday before Christmas. Extensive preparations have been made to handle the record flood of Yuletide mail. But the Postmaster warned procrastinators that further delay could mean deliveries and leave a mountain of undelivered Christmas cheer on Christmas Eve. "It's better for your light-hearted Christmas card to arrive a few days early," he counseled, "than for it to limp in the day after Christmas."

TAKES 2c STAMP
The Postmaster warned that Christmas cards mailed with 1c cent stamps are being returned stamped "Insufficient Postage." The rate for unsealed third-class mail is now 2 cents. Cards sent by class may not be forwarded or returned, without payment of additional postage. The Postmaster stated that large numbers of 1949 Christmas cards are liable to end up in the Dead Letter Office due to incomplete or incorrect addresses. If you're not sure of the address,

a 3 cent stamp entitles your Christmas greeting to first-class postal service. The card will be forwarded from one address to another, or if the envelope bears your return address, the card will be returned to you if the addressee can't be located, without additional charge for postage.

MAIL CARDS NOW
The Postmaster suggested that you get out your Christmas card list right after church this Sunday and start addressing envelopes and licking stamps. If you still have not mailed those greetings to distant friends, use air mail. A 6 cent stamp will assure delivery within 48 hours to any point within the U. S., the Postmaster said.

Meanwhile, local mail carriers will be making Sunday by messaging their euphons and soaking their feet in sunbath. They're preparing for "Mailman Week" — the hectic six days immediately before Christmas, when they deliver sack after sack of heavy mail across endless files of hard side walks.

The Postmaster stated that 39,563 pieces of mail have been cancelled to date as compared to 34,919 pieces at this time a year ago.

Churches Hold Christmas Services

Selections from Handel's "Messiah" will be the musical highlight at the special Christmas church services to be conducted at the Clarencville Methodist Church Sunday, December 18, at 7:30 p.m. The choir of the Clarencville church directed by Miss Wilma Hood and the Salem Evangelical Church under the direction of Albert Bolitho will cooperate in rendering the special music. Only excerpts from the "Messiah" will be heard; the complete work requires four hours for presentation. The performance to be given at the church service will consist of most of section 1, plus excerpts from the other two sections of the complete "Messiah". Handel composed the music of the "Messiah" in 24 days, beginning Christmas Eve (Page Five)

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