

Unit Cost Of Proposed Classrooms Questioned By Citizens At Meeting

Community Groups, School Board To Study
Proposed Plan For Possible Action January 18

Community reaction to the proposed \$1,313,400 building program by the Farmington School District was somewhat incomplete as reported at the Citizens School Advisory Committee which met in the new high school library on Monday evening. Approximately 50% of the organizations in Farmington which were to have reported had not met following the last citizens meeting or expressed a desire to study the project further. At least five community organizations which did report at the Monday meeting favored the proposal. Included in this category were the Floral Park Civic Association, the Bond School P. T. A., Farmington Hills Association, A. A. U. W., and the Methodist P. T. A.

Numerous citizens appeared on their own to express the desire that very careful planning be followed so that the most could be obtained for each school dollar spent.

Superintendent of Schools O. E. Dunckel opened the meeting with a brief review of the last citizens' meeting before the floor was given to Mr. Taubman of the Franklin Construction Company, which is developing Franklin Knolls Subdivision on Northwestern at Middlebelt P. T. A.

Mr. Taubman told the group that work on the new houses is going ahead at the rate of one per day and that the first family will be moving in this week.

Mr. Taubman was asked why his company had not approached the School Board with the problem earlier so that plans could (Continued on Page 8A)

Arctic Explorers On Travel Series



LEW RASMUSSEN

Adult Classes Close First Term

The first term of the current Farmington Adult Education program will close this week, with the exception of upholstery and knitting. James Read, Assistant Superintendent, announced Monday.

Read added that the art class under the supervision of Cheryl Whitmore closed Monday evening and a new class will begin on Monday, December 7. Persons interested in registering for the course may call the Board of Education office, Farmington 1220, or report to the opening class which will be held in the band room of the new Farmington High School.

The second term of their adult education classes will begin in January. Read stated. Details on courses to be offered during the second term will be announced later. Persons desiring any particular class should contact the Board of Education office.

During the first term, a total of seven adult classes were offered to residents of the Farmington area. These included three sewing classes, a typing class, knitting class, upholstery class, and an art class. Approximately 100 persons participated in the program during the first term.

JAYCEES SCHEDULE "FUN BOWL" FOR DECEMBER 5

The Farmington Junior Chamber of Commerce will revive the ever-popular "Fun Bowl" on Saturday, December 5, from 11:00 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. at the Farmington Recreation Bowling Alley. Novelty and straight bowling will be featured during the afternoon with a lot of wonderful prizes going to the winners. Tickets for the "Fun Bowl" will be available at the Farmington Recreation Center. Money from the project will be used by the Jaycees for the annual Christmas activities program, which features a last-minute visit of Santa Claus to Farmington.

City Starts Final Draft Of Plans For Sewage Plant

Seek Sanitary Engineer
To Draft Final Plans

Steps are now being taken by the city for the completion of engineering and cost estimates on the proposed sewage disposal plant. City Manager James Tennant announced this week. Tennant stated that he was working with L. N. Hayden, City Engineer, on the securing of a competent sanitary engineer to prepare the final plans for the new system as well as estimates on the cost of construction. The City Manager added that an engineer probably will be employed within the next week. The engineering will include the interceptors and tie-in lines for the proposed sewage disposal plant as well as final details on the plant itself.

AS SOON as the plans are completed, cost estimates will be secured. This information will form the basis for a bond issue to finance the project. It will also be used to facilitate the sale of bonds by the city.

United Service Set For Wednesday

Final details have been completed for the Annual United Thanksgiving Service to be participated in the service during the week. They include the Salem Evangelical Church, the First Methodist Church, the Trinity Episcopal Church and the Farmington Presbyterian Church. The pastors of all five churches will take part in the Thanksgiving Service. Special music will be provided by the Salem Evangelical Church choir. The service will be held at the Episcopal Church, 1000 E. Michigan, at 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday, December 3. (Continued on Page 8A)

PROPERTY IN CITY PURCHASED FOR NEW SUBDIVISION

City officials announced this week that Joseph Perry, Jr., of Detroit, subdivision developer, has purchased 13 acres of land in the southwest section of the city from the Mooney Company, realtors, for new subdivision.

The property is located north of Alta Loma Street and runs between Gill Road and Cass Avenue. According to officials, the property will be laid out this winter for development in the spring. The 13 acre site was formerly owned by Dr. G. F. Weaver, Farmington.

Urges Early Mailing: Farmington Postmaster Predicts Record Flow Of Christmas Mail

Christmas got its official welcome this week as Postmaster Henry Trombley predicted that the volume of Christmas Holiday mail at the Farmington Post Office will exceed the all-time high set last year.

Farmington area residents and business firms are being reminded by the Postmaster that "Correct and careful mailing is just as important as early mailing, perhaps more so. Any unnecessary delay may prevent delivery of your Christmas cards and gifts by December 25." Trombley lists houses and carelessness as vital trouble-makers for postal employees.

Persons are urged to mail their cards and gifts early to insure delivery by Christmas. This is particularly important if they must travel some distance. Trombley emphasized the necessity of writing the full name, street and number, city, zone and state on envelopes and packages. The Postmaster added that many substitute carriers will be on duty at all post offices during the holiday and they naturally will not be as familiar with the territory as regular carriers. Thus it is very important to address all mailings carefully and legibly.

Air Spotter Demonstrates Need For Added Personnel



Mrs. Rudolph Leidig, 28395 Orchard Lake Road, demonstrates the basic duties of an air spotter and at the same time illustrates the critical nature of the job. In the picture at the right Mrs. Leidig scans the sky in search of planes from the observation post in the tower of the Leading Engine Company. At the left, Mrs. Leidig phones a report to the Air Force Defense Filter Center in Grand Rapids.

Ground Observer Corps Issues Urgent Plea For More Volunteers

Request Cooperation Of Men's Organizations
In Handling Post During Night Time Hours

The future of the Farmington Ground Observer Corps is hanging in the balance, according to officials, because of a critical shortage of volunteer air spotters.

At the present time the Post is unmanned during certain times of the day and night in spite of efforts to fulfill the 24-hour schedule. In many cases volunteers are standing watch two and three times a week. This seems highly unnecessary, in view of the large number of persons in this area.

The most urgent need is for men volunteers to operate the post from the hours of 6:00 p.m. to 6:00 a.m. The schedule is broken down into three hour shifts, with two people working together during the watch. Only one training period is required to qualify as an observer. The Air Spotter Post, located in the tower of the Leading Engine Company building on Orchard and Lake Road, is enclosed and heated.

Officials pointed out that if every organization in the community would volunteer to take a specific watch, the future of this vital defense program would be assured, and with no hardship to anyone. Only one men's organization, the Oakland Lions Club, has volunteered its services as a group. (Continued on Page 8A)

CITY TO CLOSE OFFICE WED. NOON FOR THANKSGIVING

James Tennant, City Manager, announced that the offices in the Municipal Building will close Wednesday noon for the Thanksgiving holiday.

All city offices will close at that time with the exception of the police department. An emergency crew of the department of public works will be on duty also. The offices will reopen Friday morning.

City To Mail Tax Bills Saturday

Statements representing a record total winter tax will be mailed out by the City Treasurer on November 30.

Kay Cottoy, City Treasurer, stated that due to the increase in new building in the city, the total tax revenue will be up considerably over last winter.

Only county and school taxes are collected during this billing. The total tax is \$154,031.61. Of this total, \$27,122.34 goes to the county and \$126,909.27 to the school district for operation and voted increase.

Taxes are payable up to January 19 without penalty. From January 19 to March 1, a 4% penalty will be added on all unpaid taxes. After March 1, persons must pay their taxes at the Oakland County Treasurer's office in Pontiac.

Board Takes Step To Open New Westbrook School

Let Contract For Work
On Crock Water Well

Action was taken by the Clarenceville Board of Education at a special meeting Thursday evening to facilitate the opening of the new Westbrook Elementary School in the near future.

The Board approved a motion to proceed with the installation of a creek water well on the property so that the new school can be opened. The contract for the installation was awarded to the Menietti and Panti Company of Allen Park, low bidder on the project. The action was taken at a special meeting called specifically for consideration of the water problem at the new school.

CONSTRUCTION WORK on the creek well is expected to be started this week. Louis Schmidt, superintendent, stated that the Board would like to open up the building for classes not later than January 2. However, it is hoped that the project can be completed in advance of that date. The Superintendent on Page 8A)

County Outlines Road Proposals

The Oakland County Planning Commission this week issued a report on past, present and projected studies which deal with or affect the road development in Oakland County.

Included in the report are two proposals which concern the Farmington area. One has to do with the possible development of Fourteen Mile Road from the City of Birmingham west through Farmington Township. The other concerns the recommendation to change Northwestern Highway from county to state jurisdiction.

The Fourteen Mile Road proposal was recommended by the Birmingham City Commission in August and by the City Planning Commission in September. In the meantime, an organization known as the Fourteen Mile Road Commission has been organized.

Members of the two teams, the coaches are invited to take part in the banquet and program. Jack Tucker, chairman of the activity, stated that approximately 80 boys, coaches and club members are expected to attend the banquet.

Dinner will be served by the Edgewood Mothers' Club in the high school cafeteria. Jack Cotton, backfield coach, and Richard Brown, freshman coach, both of Wayne University, will be present at the banquet. Football films will also be shown.

Municipal Owned Land Offered For Possible Industrial Development

The City Council, at a regular meeting Monday evening, approved a motion authorizing the City Manager and the City Attorney proceed with the advertising for bids on the sale of the city-owned property near Gill and Nine Mile Roads for possible industrial development.

Action on the motion followed a discussion by the Council regarding the advisability of the sale as well as the legal aspects of the proposal. Paul Purel, City Attorney, pointed out that the City Charter requires the taking of bids on property valued at \$1,000 or more. The city-owned parcel includes approximately 30 acres. The motion stipulated that the property would be sold as one unit or in parcels of 10 acres each.

Previously the Planning Commission had recommended that the entire area bounded on the north by the Grand River Cut-Off, on the east by Farmington Road, on the south by Nine Mile Road and on the west by Gill Road, which includes the city-owned property, be rezoned from suburban to industrial. The Council, upon the recommendation of the Zoning Board of Appeals, decided to delay action on the rezoning until after the opening of bids on the sale of the property. The Council maintains the right to reject any or all bids. The proposals are expected to be presented to the Council at the January meeting of the Council.

Clerks Wait Call On Possible Special Election

Resignation Of Estes
May Require Vote

Clerks of both the township and city reported at press time that they have received no official notification as yet on whether or not a special election will be called to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of State Representative Howard R. Estes of Birmingham.

Estes announced last week that he will resign as a member of the State House of Representatives effective December 16, in order to devote full time to his position as manager of the Oakland County Infirmary and Convalescent Hospital. Estes has represented the Third Oakland County District, which includes Farmington City and Township, since 1948. His present term still has a full year to go before expiration.

THE QUESTION of whether or not a special election will be called is up to the Governor. If Governor Williams should call a special election to fill the vacancy, notification will be forwarded to the Oakland County Clerk, who in turn will advise city and township officials of the District. Notification is expected to carry the date of the primary as well as the period allowed for candidates to file nominating petitions.

U.F. Collections Reach 30% Mark

During the past week the Farmington United Fund and Community Chest total has jumped from 21.1% to 30%, according to the latest report issued by the Twenty-Township United Fund Organization.

Joseph Koehler, chairman of the Farmington campaign, stated that solicitation in all phases of the drive are being stepped up. The campaign is due to officially close in two weeks. However, it may be extended to allow sufficient time for complete coverage of the city and township.

The campaign got a real boost last week end when Star Cutter Company turned over a check for (Continued on Page 8A)

Star Cutter Boosts United Fund Total

FARMINGTON UNITED FUND DRIVE FOR 1954

30% To Date

N. B. Lawton, left, president of the Star Cutter Company, turns over a check for \$1,000 to Bernard Adams, chairman of the Farmington United Fund Industrial Committee, as the management's contribution to the current drive. In addition to the management's check, the Star Cutter Company employees contributed \$500.50 to the Farmington United Fund and Community Chest. According to the latest report, the Farmington campaign has collected 30% of its \$18,800 quota.

AROUND THE BLOCK

WE HAVEN'T HAD A CHANCE. . . . We use very many statistics on the current deer season as far as Farmington area hunters are concerned, but our eyes tell us that many families will have venison on the table this winter. More and more cars have been coming into town with a deer or two proudly displayed on the fenders. A brief trip through Conroy's Food Locker will add more convincing evidence to the fact that this has been a successful season for a good many Farmington hunters. But more important than the deer itself will be the stories of that thrilling moment when the trophy was won. They will be told and retold long after the last steak or roast has been consumed. They are the real trophies of the hunting season!

WE GIVE THANKS. . . . This Thanksgiving Day, as we have in the years gone by, for the blessings of freedom and fortune of a bountiful harvest. As we sit down to a full table this Thursday, let us bow our heads, as our Pilgrim Fathers before us, in solemn gratitude to Him, who has made it so. Through His guidance and inspiration, we have preserved our liberty and enriched our way of life. Each of us will find his own personal blessings for which to be thankful, but all of us share in the common blessings that come to us as Americans. Let us give thanks this day to God, from whom all blessings flow.

OUR BOY SCOUTS. . . . will have "their day" on Wednesday, November 25, thanks to Eddie Hohler, manager of the Civic Theatre. Eddie has invited all of the Farmington Boy Scouts and their leaders to be his guests at the Civic Theatre evening for the showing of "Mr. Scoutmaster". The various troop leaders have gladly accepted the invitation on behalf of their boys and they will be in uniform for the occasion. We think this is a wonderful gesture in view of the many fine contributions which the Boy Scouts make regularly to our community. It is an invitation well offered and a tribute well deserved.