

Legion Auxiliary Presents Flag



An American flag for use in the Judge's chambers was presented to Farmington Municipal Judge John J. Schulte, Jr., on Friday, December 3, by the Groves-Walker Unit 346 of the American Legion Auxiliary. Pictured above Mrs. Mary Markell, left, presents the flag to Judge Schulte as Mrs. Trena Quinn, a past president of the organization, looks on. The presentation, said Mrs. Markell, is one of the civic services that members of the Auxiliary are proud to perform for the good of the community, state and nation.

Farmington Goodfellows To Hold Annual Newspaper Sale Friday

Farmington's Goodfellows will be on the streets again this Friday selling their special newspapers in order to bring Christmas to every family in the community.

The special Goodfellow edition will be sold Friday only in Farmington, Clarenceville and Novi. Fred Menke, chairman of the 1953 drive, stated that plans have been completed for the sale. Members of the various civic and service organizations in the community will participate in the annual paper sale. Menke stated that the quota for this year's campaign has been set at \$1,800. This is the amount which is expected to be necessary for the providing of needy families in this area at Christmas time.

LICENSE SALES PROCEED FASTER THAN LAST YEAR

The first week's sale of 1954 automobile license plates seems to be stepped up from last year's sales, according to Marjorie Burger, who manages that department at the Secretary of State's branch office in the Curt Hall building. First day sales on December 1 reached a total of 144 and as of Monday, December 7, some 375 plates had been sold.

Many of the customers have expressed a liking for the new colors and appreciate the "Water Wonderland" motto.

According to Miss Burger, the license plate sale is the same as that of last year, but holes in the plates have been drilled circular rather than oblong. Answering comment that the plates do not fit certain brackets, Miss Burger stated that some brackets do cover up either the "1954" at the top or the "Water Wonderland" at the bottom of the plate.

Board To Study Possible Revision Of School Plans

New Facts On Program To Be Heard Monday

Possible revision of the proposed Farmington School District building program will be the main topic of discussion at the regular meeting of the Board of Education, to be held Monday evening at the Junior High School building.

O. E. Dunkel, superintendent, stated that new information regarding classroom construction costs as well as population trends and anticipated enrollment will be presented to the Board. The superintendent added that the information has been secured from school architects, education consultants and administrators in other nearby districts who have recently completed building programs.

The information is being presented to the Board as a guide on possible revision of the present program submitted to the Citizens' Advisory Committee. The continuing study is the result of comments made by members of the Committee at the last meeting. It has been a long time since the question of the estimated cost of classroom construction as presented by the Board.

RECENT development of new homesites in the township has resulted in a change of population density. These developments have taken place since the original draft of the Board proposal, thus some revision in the location and size of proposed buildings may be necessary. Dunkel stated that under the present proposal four classrooms will be built.

(Continued on Page 8A)

City Lets Contract For Fire Truck

The contract for a new fire truck has been signed by the city with the Peter Pirsch and Sons Company, Kenosha, Wisconsin, at a total price of \$14,000. The contract was announced this week by City Manager, announced this week.

According to Tennant, the price includes the entire package. The chassis, however, is being sectioned by the Pirsch company. The truck will be delivered to the city by Vivier, Farmington G. M. C. dealer. The contract was tentatively awarded to Pirsch at the last regular meeting of the Council with the provision that the chassis be purchased locally.

The new equipment will include a 750 gallon pump as well as the standard related equipment. It will be delivered to the city by Vivier, Farmington G. M. C. dealer. The contract was tentatively awarded to Pirsch at the last regular meeting of the Council with the provision that the chassis be purchased locally.

ST. MARY HOSPITAL COMMITTEE TO MEET THURSDAY

A meeting of the volunteers of the St. Mary Hospital Building Fund Community Appeals Committee will be held Thursday evening at 8:00 p.m. in the Farmington Town Hall.

The meeting is being called to complete plans for the residential solicitation phase of the campaign. A final meeting of the committee will be held on January 6 just prior to the opening of the solicitation.

Post Office Braces For Deluge Of Christmas Mail This Week End

The calm before the storm has set in at the Farmington Post Office, according to Henry Trombley, Postmaster.

Trombley stated that mail during the first part of the week was running just about normal, but it isn't expected to stay that way for long. Extra employees will be called in to handle the mail during the week-end. The Postmaster stated that every effort will be made to eliminate line-ups at the customer windows this year. Residents can help by purchasing their stamps now and doing their mailing early.

Most of the activity at the post office thus far has been outgoing mail and packages. The expected inflow of incoming mail will start pouring in this week-end, Trombley predicted. "We expect to handle more Christmas cards and gifts this year than ever before," the Postmaster added. "Residents are urged to check all letters and cards being mailed out to be sure that stamps are securely fixed and addresses completely legible. In some cases have fallen off before they reached the corner mailbox. Christmas cards with names but no street number or city in the address have been received. Precious time has been lost at the service windows, returning poorly-wrapped packages. Trombley added. Check and double check the address. Include the zone number if possible and print both the return address and the recipient's address plainly on all envelopes and packages.

St. Mary Hospital Fund Gets Boost



The St. Mary Hospital came a little closer to reality this week when the Star Cutter Company contributed \$6,000 to the Building Fund Campaign. This is the largest single industrial contribution to be made to the Drive in the Farmington community.

B. Leavitt, center, president of the Star Cutter Company, fills out the check as Joseph DeNies, left, and William Conroy, right, members of the Commerce and Industry Committee, look on. Solicitation in the various phases of the campaign will continue into the new year.

It's Christmastime And Tax Time, Too

Bringing up the subject of taxes at this time of the year may not be too popular an idea, but, like Christmas, it is very sure indeed.

City tax statements have already been distributed with township statements to go out on December 15. The current statements cover general county taxes as well as school voted increase taxes. No local taxes are involved in the winter statements.

Taxpayers of the city are reminded that taxes are payable from now until January 15. Taxes paid after January 15 will be charged a penalty of 4%. Beginning on January 15, the city will be charged a penalty of 4%.

SANTA COMPLETES DETAILS FOR VISIT DECEMBER 20

Cecil Roberts, chairman of the Junior Chamber of Commerce Christmas Program, announced Tuesday that he has received another telegram from Santa Claus stating that he is winding up last minute details in preparation for his December 20 visit to Farmington.

Santa added that he had just completed checking over the candy and Golden Hour books he will be handing out to each boy and girl that visits him at the Town Hall. In the meantime, the Jaycees are hard at work getting things all set up for the annual visit of Santa. He will arrive at the Town Hall about 2:00 p.m. (Continued on Page 8A)

Post Office Braces For Deluge Of Christmas Mail This Week End

The calm before the storm has set in at the Farmington Post Office, according to Henry Trombley, Postmaster. Trombley stated that mail during the first part of the week was running just about normal, but it isn't expected to stay that way for long. Extra employees will be called in to handle the mail during the week-end. The Postmaster stated that every effort will be made to eliminate line-ups at the customer windows this year. Residents can help by purchasing their stamps now and doing their mailing early. Most of the activity at the post office thus far has been outgoing mail and packages. The expected inflow of incoming mail will start pouring in this week-end, Trombley predicted. "We expect to handle more Christmas cards and gifts this year than ever before," the Postmaster added. "Residents are urged to check all letters and cards being mailed out to be sure that stamps are securely fixed and addresses completely legible. In some cases have fallen off before they reached the corner mailbox. Christmas cards with names but no street number or city in the address have been received. Precious time has been lost at the service windows, returning poorly-wrapped packages. Trombley added. Check and double check the address. Include the zone number if possible and print both the return address and the recipient's address plainly on all envelopes and packages. The Postmaster predicted that the volume of Christmas mail will pick up sharply this week-end and will continue through the holiday. All cards and packages going outside of the Farmington community should be mailed at once to insure delivery before Christmas. Mail going to home addresses should be sent out at least a week before Christmas.

Propose Changes In Township Health Ordinance

Board To Investigate Extension Of Water

A number of major changes in the present Township Health Ordinance were proposed at a special meeting of the Township Board held Monday evening.

The meeting was called by the Township Board which is also the Board of Health under the provisions of the ordinance. A. G. Leonard, Township Attorney; Dr. Joseph Gadaw, Township Health Officer; and Melvin Goodman, representing the Oakland County Health Department, were present at the special meeting.

One of the main subjects of discussion centered around the problem of securing water in certain sections of the township. Leonard pointed out that there are still a great many out-houses in the township in spite of a provision in the ordinance making them unlawful. Goodman stated that in many cases they can be eliminated now, while in others lack of water constitutes a serious problem. The Board agreed that where water exists, residents should be required to comply with the ordinance at once.

IN THE MEANTIME the Board agreed to step up its investigation of the possibility of securing water in dry sections of the township. Ernest Blanchard, Township Supervisor, stated that some study has already been made in this direction. He added that the main problem is one of engineering and financing. Efforts will be made to secure preliminary survey in order to determine approximate costs.

The health officers suggested that some provision be made in the ordinance for the appointment of a deputy with authority to act in behalf of the Township Health Officer. Leonard agreed to check the legal aspects of the proposal and notify the Board of his findings. (Continued on Page 8A)

Complete Plans For Polio Drive

Plans are now being made by the Southwest Oakland County Chapter of the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis for the Annual March of Dimes Campaign, to be held in January. Mrs. James Lillie, campaign director, stated Monday.

March of Dimes canvassers have been selected and will be placed in stores and business places throughout the community early in January. Other plans are expected to be completed in the next week. The balance of the equipment will be moved from other buildings. The major installation will be the setting up of the kitchen equipment.

At the present time the students who will go to the new school building are attending classes in other buildings.

United Fund Total Climbs To 40%

A total of 40% has been collected to date in behalf of the Farmington United Fund and Community Chest according to the latest report from the Twenty-Townships United Fund Organization.

The annual campaign for funds is scheduled to close this week-end. However, the Farmington drive is expected to be continued in order to complete the canvass of the community. Joseph Koehler, chairman, stated that the solicitation of business and industrial establishments as well as residential areas is continuing.

Only about 75% of the combined goals of the Twenty-Townships organization has been reported to date.

Inside Features

- Classified Ads Pgs. 4A, 5A
- Correspondence Pgs. 6A, 6B
- Editorials Pg. 2A
- Farm Features Pg. 5B
- Looking Back Pg. 2A
- Michigan Mirror Pg. 2A
- Sports Pg. 6A
- Trojan Banner Pg. 4B

Manager Drops Formal Objections During Closed Session Of Council

It was announced, following an executive session of the City Council Tuesday afternoon, that the charges made against Police Chief Joseph DeVriendt by City Manager James Tennant last Saturday had been withdrawn.

The action took place at a two-hour closed-door session in the Municipal Building. Tennant stated after the meeting that he withdrew the charges on the basis that all of his information was not true or factual. The City Manager also conceded that he had not allotted a proper amount of time to the supervision of the Police Department. "There was probably a misunderstanding," he stated, "and instructions were not fully complied with to the effect that my desires and intentions were not fully complied with."

Three main charges were filed against DeVriendt in a letter issued by the City Manager on Saturday. Tennant charged that the Police Chief's personal and public relations were unsatisfactory, that necessary cooperation with other agencies and departments was lacking, and that the Chief had not kept pace with the increased weight of the duties. Tennant pointed out that the special meeting was called to air the charges and to determine whether there were sufficient grounds for action. THE MEETING was called to order at approximately 4:15 p.m. by Mayor Kenn Loomis. Two members of the Farmington Enterprise staff were permitted to enter the chamber. All members of the City Council, City Attorney Paul Ford, Police Chief DeVriendt and his attorney, Sylvester Phenev, were present at the opening of the meeting. Loomis stated that the attorneys had suggested that the Council go into executive session. Ford said that he was not making any recommendation or suggestion, but pointed out that the Council had a legal right to close the meeting. Loomis then asked the Council for a decision and a motion was made and unanimously approved closing the meeting. (Continued on Page 8A)

Clappison Elected Little League Head

John Clappison was elected president of the Farmington Little League at the annual meeting of the organization held Monday evening at the Ten Mile Road Elementary School.

Other officers elected for the year 1954 include: Arch MacDonald, vice-president; William Parsons, secretary; and Harry Chapman, treasurer. Harvey Chapman is retiring president of the Little League. Reports of the various Little League officers were presented, including a review of the 1953 activities. It was announced at the meeting that applications for managers should be filed by January 1. Persons interested in managing the positions are requested to file a written application with William Parsons, 25345 Ridgewood.

Christmas Fair Set For Saturday

"Merrie Melodie" of WWJ-TV's "Play School" will headline the program scheduled for the Gay Nineties Christmas Fair to be held Saturday at the Middlebelt School.

Farmington school T-shirts and dolls dressed in hand-made clothes will be among the many Christmas gift items offered for sale at the Country Store under the chairmanship of Mrs. James Lanham.

The annual Christmas Fair is sponsored by the Middlebelt P. T. A. In addition to "Merrie Melodie," the Birmingham-based band will be on hand to entertain the guests. A fish pond, game room and movies will be available for the small fry, and of course Santa Claus will be there to visit with all the youngsters. "Bluebird's Chamber of Horrors" and the "Green Thumb" booths, as well as the candy and needlework booths, are expected to attract large crowds. A special make-up booth will get everyone in the gay nineties mood.

A smorgasbord dinner will be served from 2:00 to 8:00 p.m. by Mrs. S. M. Santo and her committee. Mrs. Alex Ramsey and Mrs. George Mullin are co-chairmen of the Fair. Other chairmen are: Mrs. H. Green, Mrs. F. Keck, Mrs. Samuel Turner, Mrs. W. Taylor, Mrs. Wesley Orr, Mrs. Donald Harlow, Mrs. T. Young and William Wilson.

Animals Saved As Barn Burns

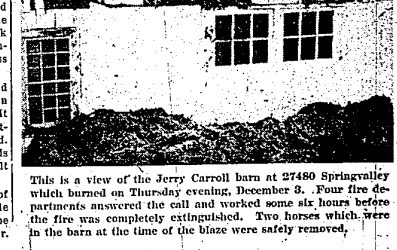
Fire of an undetermined origin swept through a barn at the residence of Jerry Carroll at 27480 Springvalley in Farmington Township on Thursday, December 3, and caused damages which will necessitate replacing the entire structure.

Two horses which were in the barn at the time of the fire, were removed without injury. Two automobiles, saddles, trophies and other paraphernalia were removed from the building by firemen who answered the call.

The central point of the fire was located on the second floor where hay and grain were stored. Six tons of hay were rendered useless by the flames and grain valued at approximately \$50 was destroyed.

Firemen from Farmington, Franklin and Southfield answered the call at approximately 2:30 a.m. and worked until 3:30 the following morning to completely extinguish the blaze.

Fire Damages Barn In Township



This is a view of the Jerry Carroll barn at 27480 Springvalley which burned on Thursday evening, December 3. Four fire departments answered the call and worked some six hours before the fire was completely extinguished. Two horses which were in the barn at the time of the blaze were safely removed.

AROUND THE BLOCK

SURE LOOKS PRETTY... around town these days with the brightly decorated store windows and colorful street decorations. Makes one believe that it is Christmas time here again, and that it is! The evergreen boughs, colorful candy cane ornaments and cheerful window displays make a perfect backdrop for the annual visit of Santa Claus. The happy fellow will make a couple of pre-Christmas trips to Farmington, in the next few weeks so you had better look down in your "must" book. This Saturday, Santa will be at the Middlebelt School to visit with all the boys and girls as the guests of the P. T. A. Then, on Sunday, December 20, he will make a last minute trip back to Farmington to talk with youngsters in the Farmington Town Hall at the invitation of the Jaycees. So, kids, memorize that "want" list and tell Santa all about it!

WE HAVEN'T HEARD... of any long lines forming at the right in response to the urgent plea of the Farmington Ground Observer Corps for volunteers. Maybe this isn't a good time to bring the subject up when most of us are concentrating on Christmas. But the need is now... and the safety and protection of all of us is at stake. Just 12 years ago last Monday, most of us were thinking of Christmas too. We were, at least, until a load of bombs dropped on Pearl Harbor. Right then and there we, as a nation, vowed that never again would we be caught unprepared. Is our memory so short? Have we forgotten already? Air spotters are needed now... in Farmington... to prevent such a thing happening again. But unless we wake up it can happen, suddenly and terribly. The answer is up to us!

WE REGRET... that it is necessary to mention the fact that the press and the public were denied the privilege of hearing the discussion at the special meeting of the City Council Tuesday. By going into executive session, the Council has made it extremely difficult to give a fair and equal account of the happenings. The action only accelerates the rumors and falsehoods which are bound to crop up. During the past 12 years, The Enterprise has attempted to be honest and objective in its news coverage, with the sole purpose of giving the people the facts without color or personal interpretation. This is more than a policy, it is a responsibility which we believe must be shared by all.