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The Farmington Enterprise

Farmington's Own
Community Newspaper
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LEADERSHIP-OUR PURPOSE SERVICE-OUR GOAL

FARMINGTON, MICHIGAN, THURSDAY, JANUARY 27, 1955

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Request Approval Of Plans For New School Addition

Seek Federal Aid State OK On Edgewood Rooms

Construction plans for an addition to the Edgewood Elementary School have been forwarded to the State Department of Public Instruction for approval. Louis Schmidt, superintendent, reported on Monday.

Plans for the proposed four classroom addition were approved by the Clarenceville School Board two weeks ago. As soon as the State has approved the plans they will be forwarded to the Federal Housing and Home Finance Agency for inspection and approval. The Board must receive authorization from both the State and Federal Agencies before work can be started.

THE BOARD has expressed the hope that construction can be started early in March so that the addition will be ready for use by the start of the school year. As soon as approval has been received by the State and Federal Agencies, procedures will be set up for the advertising and awarding of construction contracts.

Schmidt reported Monday that the District has received the first 10% of the \$58,500 Federal Aid to be used for the construction of the four classroom addition. The additional funds will be appropriated at various stages of planning and construction. The plans for the addition have been drawn by the Detroit Institute of Technology. They provide for the construction of four additional classrooms as well as office and storage rooms and lavatory facilities.

Plan New County Health Center

The Oakland County Board of Supervisors has approved the construction of a new county health center building located in Pontiac, Kenneth R. Loomis, Board member, announced this week.

Loomis, who is one of the city representatives on the Board of Supervisors, stated that the new building will cost an estimated \$250,000. The cost of the construction will be paid with county funds. Loomis stated that the county share will be approximately 50% of the cost. The building will be located on a site near the Oakland County Infirmary.

The new center will contain offices, clinics and laboratories. Loomis stated that the initial unit will include about 10,000 square feet of space and will be constructed in two additional expansion stages. The proposal for the new health center was prepared and presented to the Board by the Health Committee, of which Loomis is a member.

Rescued At Sea



LT. JAMES G. MEASEL

Among the seven crewmen of a Navy aircraft rescued from a stormy sea in the central Pacific last week was Lt. James G. Measel, pilot, the son of Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Measel of 21012 Collingham, Clarenceville.

Measel, along with six other crewmen, was picked up last Monday by the USS Kasaan, a minesweeper. According to reports, the plane was ditched when it developed engine trouble on a flight from Kawailei to Johnston Island.

Despite the ordeal, Measel and the rest of the crew were unharmed physically.

Following graduation from the Plymouth High School in 1949 and a short period of study at the Detroit Institute of Technology, Measel was called into service with the Navy and has served ever since.

After training at Notre Dame and Corpus Christi, Texas, he received his Navy wings at Pensacola, Florida. Since then he has been stationed at Norfolk; Corpus Christi, Texas; Key West, Florida; and Memphis, Tennessee.

ADD NEW CLASS TO FARMINGTON ADULT PROGRAM

A new craft art class is being added to the Farmington Adult Education program beginning Tuesday, February 1, James Reed, assistant superintendent, announced this week.

The class will open at 7:00 p.m. in the room at the Farmington high school building on Shiawassee. Robert Benjamin, elementary art consultant, will be in charge of the new class. The instruction in crafts will be provided as well as lessons in water colors and work with marbles. Other crafts of interest to members of the class will be included.

Residents interested in the course are requested to call Farmington 1220 for information and registration.

TOWNSHIP TAKES STEPS TO HIRE BUILDING INSPECTOR

Board Starts Action To Administer Newly Adopted Building Ordinance

The Farmington Township Board Tuesday evening initiated action to secure a building inspector for the administration of the newly adopted Township Building Code, which became effective on January 22.

The Board unanimously approved a motion authorizing the Clerk to proceed with the securing of applicants for building inspector. According to the motion, the inspection board should be composed of three members. Applications must be in the hands of the Township Clerk no later than Saturday, January 22. The Board also authorized the printing of 500 copies of the new code.

Two representatives of Melody Circus, Inc., appeared before the Board to discuss plans for the establishment of a summer theater on the Hotsford Inn property. It was explained that the theater will feature outstanding Broadway musicals, including "The King and I" and "Carousel." A large (preproof) tent will be used for the theater and adequate parking area will be provided. It was explained that a special tent for the circus is both portable and safe. The Board approved a motion favoring the program.

Check List Of New Township Voters

Although the deadline for registration for the coming Township Primary Election is passed, the work of tabulating and filing names on the voter lists is still being done by the township clerk.

THE ESTIMATED cost of the entire project, including engineering, legal and financial expense as well as the system itself, would be approximately \$100,000. The system would contain about 40 miles of main ranging in size from 6-inch to 24-inch. It was estimated that approximately 300,000 gallons of water would be conserved according to the City of Detroit code so that (Continued on Page 6A)

Over 200 New Vote Registrations Added To Township Record Books

Addition Of New Names Increases Qualified Voter List In Township To About 6,411

A total of over 200 new registrations have been added to the books of Farmington Township for the February 21 Primary Election. Harry McCracken, clerk, reported at the deadline Monday evening. The new registrations bring the number of qualified electors in the township to about 6,411. McCracken stated that the new registrations are surprisingly high in view of the large number of names which were added to the books prior to the general election last fall. Officials had predicted earlier that this registration period would probably be fairly light.

McCracken stated that in addition to the large number of persons who signed at the Township Office, many more were recorded at group registrations attended by the clerk. The mass registrations were held at the request of individuals in the township area.

Plan New Store Building In City

City officials were advised Tuesday morning that plans are being drafted for the construction of a commercial building on the vacant property on the southwest corner of State Street and Farmington Road.

The site is presently being used as a public parking lot. The project will include one large building in addition to adjacent parking space. The property extends from State Street south to the Farmington Post Office Building. James Tennant, city manager, stated that the city will be allowed to use a portion of the property for public parking during the construction period.

It was not disclosed who would erect the building. It is expected that an application for a building permit will be filed within the next few weeks. Plans will be submitted with the application.

ASK COOPERATION OF RESIDENTS ON RUBBISH PICK-UP

City residents living on the north side of Grand River are being requested this week to place their rubbish and garbage containers at the curb early Saturday morning to insure pick-up.

Officials stated that some residents are not getting their containers out early enough with the result that they are not emptied on a second trip is required. Rubbish and garbage collection is made on Friday morning in the area south of Grand River.

Answer Inquiries School Bus Safety Regulated By State Law

Ed. Tennant, this feature, covering traffic regulations pertaining to school buses, is being published in answer to numerous requests received by school officials. The public department which has attempted to bring attention to the Vehicle Code of the State of Michigan, the driver of an auto shall not overtake and pass any school bus proceeding in the same direction when the bus is stopped for the purpose of receiving or discharging passengers.

The Code also requires that "All school buses shall display such signs on the front and rear thereof, with respect thereto, as shall be approved by the state highway commissioner. The driver of a vehicle overtaking any school bus which has stopped for the purpose of receiving or discharging any passenger shall bring such vehicle to a stop at least ten feet in rear of such school bus and then proceed with caution: Provided that at an intersection where traffic is controlled by an officer or a traffic signal and a vehicle need not be brought to a full stop before passing any such school bus, but may proceed past such school bus at a speed not greater than is reasonable and proper and in no event greater than 10 miles an hour and with due caution. . . . Provided, however, this section shall not be applicable to buses inside incorporated cities and villages."

James Reed, assistant superintendent, Farmington Township School District, stated that the school bus which has stopped on the school bus on the school bus is extended, passengers are either being picked up or discharged. Drivers of cars approaching the bus in the opposite direction also have a responsibility to proceed with caution. Reed added, "Youngsters are instructed on the highway in front of the halted bus, except on Grand River, inside the city limits or where there is a curb. In the latter instance, they are to remain at the side of the road until the bus has passed."

The three elementary schools now under construction are located at Turk Road and Shiawassee, Middlebelt and Fourteen Mile Road, and Gill Road between Eight and Nine Mile Roads.

James Tennant, city manager, reported Monday that contacts are being made in an effort to secure an engineer to draft a layout for additional off-street parking in the city business district. The City Manager stated that he felt it would be the most efficient method of handling the problem. The Council has directed Tennant to proceed as quickly as possible on the development of a proposal for off-street parking.

It is proposed that a parking area be established north of the Thomas street near the eastern corner of the block bounded by Warner Street and Farmington Road. This would place the parking area in rear of the stores facing the north side of Grand River. Tennant reported to the Council that some preliminary study has already been completed on layout, cost, and methods of financing.

Plan On Proposed Township Water System Revealed

Propose Using Wells To Supply District

A proposal for the construction of a self-contained water system for the southern and eastern portions of Farmington Township was submitted to a joint meeting of the Township Board, and the Water Committee Monday afternoon by Walter Tate, city engineer.

The proposal provides that the system be supplied by wells to be located in the vicinity of Eleven Mile Road between Middlebelt and Orchard Lake Road. Tate stated that this area is favorable from a standpoint of water source and is approximately 150 feet higher than Eight Mile Road, which would provide a natural flow of water through the system. Because of legal and physical limitations on the City of Detroit system, Tate advised that a local source of water be secured.

THE ESTIMATED cost of the entire project, including engineering, legal and financial expense as well as the system itself, would be approximately \$100,000. The system would contain about 40 miles of main ranging in size from 6-inch to 24-inch. It was estimated that approximately 300,000 gallons of water would be conserved according to the City of Detroit code so that (Continued on Page 6A)

U.F. Elects New Board Members

Seven new members were elected to the Board of Directors of the Farmington Area United Fund and Community Chest at the Annual Meeting of the organization held Thursday night at the Farmington High School.

The new members, who will serve for terms of three years each, are: Robert Clark, Ralph R. Martin, John Hundert, Mrs. Hogue Stevens and Mrs. Samuel Turner. Mrs. Harrison and Hunt are being re-elected to the Board. Sanderson was campaign chairman for the 1954 drive.

Sanderson reported at the public meeting that a total of \$17,275 was subscribed during the 1954 Farmington United Fund Campaign. The chairman added that although this was somewhat short of the \$24,000 goal, it was the largest sum ever collected in a Farmington United Fund Drive.

Following the public meeting, the Board re-elected A.J. Benson as president of the organization for the 1955 year. Dr. James Cunningham was re-elected vice-president. Other officers elected were Mrs. Donald Bates, secretary, and Robert Clark, treasurer. James Sanderson was elected chairman of the campaign committee.

Sewage Group To Meet Tuesday

Legal aspects on the possible formation of a sewage disposal authority for the southwest section of Oakland County will be the principal purpose of a meeting to be held Tuesday afternoon at the Farmington Municipal Building.

The meeting will be attended by members of the countywide Detroit-Southwest Sewage Committee, composed of representatives of the City of Farmington as well as the Townships of Farmington, Southfield, West Bloomfield and Waterford. Ralph Mann, County Board Commissioner, is also expected to attend the session.

The Committee is engaged in the process of establishing a public sewer authority to administer a disposal system using facilities of the City of Detroit. It has been proposed by James Tennant, Farmington City Manager, that work begin as soon as possible on the main trunk line sewer along Grand River from Orchard Lake Road east to either Six or Seven Mile Road. The next steps of this proposal will be investigated at the Tuesday meeting, along with the financial phases of the proposed sewer. Participants, who are now engaged in an analysis of the needs of the district in order to determine the necessary size of the proposed trunk sewer.

It is proposed that the City of Farmington initiate construction of the main sewer as soon as possible with the other municipalities which have their share at the time they hook into the system.

TOWNSHIP HIRES NEW GENERAL OFFICE CLERK

The Farmington Township Board at a special meeting Friday evening, approved the promotion of Margaret Verbanic to head office clerk in the township office and authorized the appointment of Eileen MacDonald as general clerk.

Mrs. Verbanic has been a general clerk in the township office for several years. She replaced Mrs. Betty Murray, who resigned about a month ago because of ill health. Mrs. MacDonald will assume the duties previously performed by Mrs. Verbanic.

New Councilman

Newly appointed City Councilman V. O. Bates will be sworn in by Kathryn Cotter, City Clerk, prior to the next Council meeting set for Monday, February 7, city officials announced this week.

Bates was unanimously appointed by the Council to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Kenneth Loomis. He will serve for the balance of the term, which expires in April of this year. Bates, who lives at 33113 Thomas Street, is married and has three children, two in college and one in the armed services.

The new Councilman is employed by the Detroit Edison Company and has been a resident of the city for approximately 11 years. He served as principal of the Farmington High School prior to his joining the Detroit Edison Company.

A second bid was submitted to the Board on the development of a subdivision on the southeast corner of Hagserty and Ten Mile Road. Plans for the subdivision include the construction of 195 homes, with allowance for a small shopping center at the corner of Hagserty and Ten Mile. Because of the zoning change from R-1 to R-3 zoning was required. The Board members stated that they were not agreeable to changing the zoning for the subdivision. It indicated that lot sizes would be increased to comply with the requirements.

The Board turned down an application for a building permit for a building on 2115 1/2 Center, for a building (Continued on Page 6A)

School To Receive Building Report

A special meeting of the Farmington Township School Board will be held Friday evening for the purpose of hearing a progress report on the construction of three new elementary schools as well as the gymnasium - auditorium addition to the high school building.

Representatives of Eberle Smith and Associates, school architect, will be present to discuss the construction program. It is expected that the three elementary schools as well as the gymnasium addition will be completed by September of this year. Officials stated that with the expected increase in population during the summer, all of the schools will be needed for the opening of school this fall.

The three elementary schools now under construction are located at Turk Road and Shiawassee, Middlebelt and Fourteen Mile Road, and Gill Road between Eight and Nine Mile Roads.

CITY TO SECURE ENGINEER FOR PARKING PROJECT

James Tennant, city manager, reported Monday that contacts are being made in an effort to secure an engineer to draft a layout for additional off-street parking in the city business district.

The City Manager stated that he felt it would be the most efficient method of handling the problem. The Council has directed Tennant to proceed as quickly as possible on the development of a proposal for off-street parking.

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Christmas Mail Sets New Record

Postal officials reported this week that the 1954 Christmas season produced the largest volume of incoming and outgoing mail in the history of the Farmington Post Office.

Charles Dearamont, Assistant Farmington Postmaster, stated that during the two weeks preceding Christmas a total of 630,000 incoming letters were processed compared to 540,000 in 1953. This represents an increase of approximately 14% over 1953. Dearamont stated that December 17 was the heaviest single day as far as incoming mail was concerned with 84,000 letters and cards being processed.

There was a 15% increase in the volume of outgoing mail during the 1954 Christmas season as compared to the previous year. Dearamont reported that 320,000 letters and cards were dispatched during the two weeks prior to Christmas of 1954 in comparison to 280,000 during the same period in 1953. There was an average of 72 outgoing mail on December 16 when about 45,000 letters and cards were processed. The Farmington office during the Christmas season totaled approximately 7,500.

A total of 34 temporary employees were used to reinforce the regular staff during the holiday rush.

Inside Features

Classified Ads Pgs. 4A, 5A
 Correspondence Pgs. 1A, 5A
 Pgs. 2B, 3B, 6B

Editorials Pgs. 5B
 Farm Features Pgs. 2A
 Looking Back Pgs. 2A
 Michigan Mirror Pgs. 2A
 Sports Pgs. 4B

AROUND THE BLOCK

THERE'S A GROWING TREND in the Farmington area toward more frequent public meetings. It is one of the oldest and most democratic institutions in the area and one that is well worth continuing. The increased number of public meetings stems from both the growth of the community and the new interest being displayed by the people. These public sessions not only provide a source for first-hand information but afford citizens an opportunity to express their views. Each an opportunity to present their views and to give constructive criticism to the Town Hall when a public hearing will be held on proposed amendments to the Township Zoning Ordinance will be discussed. The amendment would ban the moving of structures into and within the township. This would return the question to the voters. We will know Thursday evening.

ONLY A FEW DAYS remain in which you can join the fight against Polio! On January 31 the Annual Farmington Area March of Dimes Campaign comes to a close. Within the next few days you will be given plenty of opportunity to assist. Probably the best opportunity will present itself this Thursday evening during the Annual March of Dimes "Mother's March." Just turn on your heels and help to give generously to the solicitor you call. Remember! She is a volunteer who is devoting her time and effort in the crusade against the dreaded disease of polio. If you are planning on being away from home on the "first" night of the evening, you will not be able to contribute. The job is big and every dime and dollar is needed if we are going to win the battle.

THE DEADLINE on the Township Primary is now passed and the big task of voting is just ahead. In an effort to stimulate interest in the election and at the same time help to better inform the voters, The Enterprise has mailed biographical questionnaires to all candidates. These questionnaires are to be returned by Saturday, January 29. In order that the information may be prepared for publication, the first biographical sketches will appear in next week's issue and will continue until the Thursday prior to the election, which is set for Monday, February 21. It is hoped that all of the candidates will return the questionnaires by the deadline so that the voters will have an opportunity to study the individual qualifications and background and thus make a more informed decision.

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