

Regular Bond School PTA Meeting Set For March 19

The Bond School Parent Teachers Association will meet at 8 p.m. Monday, March 19, at the school. All parents and other interested residents are welcome and are urged to attend.

Guest speaker for the meeting will be Miss Smith, a child psychologist from the Pontiac Child Guidance Clinic.

At the meeting, a slate of officers for the coming year will be announced. P. T. A. officers will be elected in April.

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Botsford PTA To Discuss Sponsoring Cub Pack

Discussion will be conducted Thursday, March 15, by the Botsford Parent Teachers Association on whether or not the organization should sponsor a Cub Scout Pack.

All members of the P. T. A. are urged to be present and express their opinions on the matter. A film on Cub Scouting will be shown, followed by a question and answer period. The meeting will start at 8 p.m.

The period between one annual time of settling accounts and the next is called a fiscal year.



PUBLIC LETTER BOX

Letters submitted to the Editor for publication must be signed. Names will be withheld upon request. Opinions expressed in this column are those of the writer and do not necessarily represent the policies of this newspaper.

Parochial Student Transportation

Dear Sir:

A great deal has been said in the past few weeks both for and against the transportation of private and parochial school children on public school buses.

Since the request was made by James Randolph to the Farmington School Board that children attending Our Lady of Sorrows Schools be granted the same transportation privileges as public school children, I think that several things have been generally agreed upon. First, that private and parochial school children can be transported on public school buses; secondly, that the state will reimburse for these children providing that rules as established by the state are complied with; and, third, that the matter is left fully in the hands of the local school board and school administrators to decide upon.

I disagree very strongly that this decision should be left to be decided at a local level. It should be decided at a State or even a National governmental level to be a sound and lasting policy. This, at least for the present, is not the case, however, and therefore it is up to the Farmington School Board to decide on a policy here.

It is my only hope that before any decision is made the five members of the Farmington School

Board, assisted in arriving at their decision by school administrators, will take all the facts mentioned in this letter into consideration.

Approximately 1,500 Catholic families registered at Our Lady of Sorrows Church at this time. It is safe to assume that between 1,000 and 1,200 of these families are property owners and therefore are taxpayers. They like all other taxpayers in the Farmington School District, pay school taxes annually. It would be conservative to estimate that each family owning property pays between \$100.00 and \$150.00 per year for school taxes.

Based on the above estimates, the Farmington School District is thus receiving between \$125,000 and \$150,000 per year from Catholic families in school taxes. Only a handful of Catholic students attend the public schools, however, to receive benefit from these taxes. The rest are attending Our Lady of Sorrows or other Catholic Schools outside the area and are paying tuition to do so.

Primary school money is also paid to the Farmington public schools based on the number of school age children in the district according to census, and not actual enrollment. A total of \$25,000 is allotted in primary money for each school age youngster. This means that the Farmington schools realize another \$23,250 yearly from students attending other than the public schools.

Latest enrollment figures indicate that there were 970 students enrolled at the Our Lady of Sorrows Schools. A total of 845 of these are enrolled in grades one through eight and the remaining 125 are in the ninth grade. As the tenth, eleventh and twelfth grades are added in the Our Lady of Sorrows High School, its enrollment will increase rapidly. It would be safe to assume that within the next three years total enrollment at Our Lady of Sorrows Schools will swell to over 1300 students.

If the Our Lady of Sorrows Schools were not in existence, then approximately 900 grade and junior high school students and 400 high school students would be compelled to attend the Farmington public schools. The cost of constructing these classrooms alone would be over \$1 million, not to mention the tremendous additional operating and maintenance costs which would result yearly.

After studying all the facts, my only hope is that the Farmington School Board will make its final decision on transporting Our Lady of Sorrows School children without yielding to outside pressure or religious bias.

Sincerely yours,
A TAXPAYER

Where's The Dump?

Dear Sirs:

In last week's issue of The Enterprise under the "Around the Block" column, you named three men arrested for dumping rubbish along the road - a fine and good.

I have been dumping at a public dump about 15 miles northwest of here. It has now been closed by the State. The man on the Farmington pickup truck told me where he dumped but also said I wasn't allowed to dump there. The Livonia dump is also closed to me. The tax collector at the Township Hall told my wife that there is a dump out by Wixom someplace.

The trash trucks are supposed to come by here every two months. By that length of time I have a pickup truck full and it is much easier to go to a dump to get rid of it than to try to leave it at my driveway.

On my last trip I drove about 50 miles trying to find a dump. I found one but I don't know if it is a legal dumping place.

You would be doing me a favor and other like me if you would tell me where we can legally dump rubbish in this area.

Yours truly,
Jack Mason
31690 Twelve Mile Road

Race Track

Dear Sirs:

I read with concern the proposal to amend the zoning ordinance in order to permit a race track in Farmington Township.

No doubt the Township Board is hoping for increased tax revenue from such an enterprise. Before paving the way for a race track in Farmington, I hope the Township Board, the Planning Committee and the Zoning Board give serious consideration to all the factors involved. I would like particularly to raise the following questions:

(1) In order to realize much additional tax revenue from the race track at Middlebelt and Schoolcraft Road, was it not necessary for Livonia to change from a township to a city? (2) Are not Livonia property taxes still high despite the race track and several industrial plants within its borders?

ders? (3) Will a race track not be likely to bring with it increased traffic problems and perhaps attract undesirable people to our community, adding to our police and road problems? (4) Will a race track benefit the community at all, financially or otherwise, in the long run?

A study of race tracks in the east revealed that in taxes was far more than offset by the social and financial burdens the race tracks placed upon the public.

For instance, considerably more money had to be paid out to race track employees in unemployment compensation than the track paid into the state fund. The seasonal nature of work at the track brought in a lot of people who were then unemployed a large portion of the year, creating a serious problem for the community and the state.

Very truly yours,
Farmington Parent

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— (Author's Name Below) —

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Six From Area

During February, six young men of the local area were enlisted into the United States Army through the Grand River and Southfield Recruiting Station. All have been transferred to Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri, for basic training. After completion of eight weeks of this training they will return home on leave prior to advanced training and schooling.

The February enlistees in the Regular Army were: Duane W. Furrow, Edward G. Harshfield, Ernest Smith, Donald J. Thompson, and Gerald L. Barrette. In addition to the above, Ronald Taylor

Enlist In Army

land was enlisted for attendance at the Army Airplane Mechanics Technical School. All were enlisted for three or more years.

Presently, many openings are available for enlistment in Technical Schools. The Army recruiting office disclosed, "In addition, it is possible during March to enlist for the Army's famous 8th Division, which will transfer to Germany late this summer."

Indonesia officially became an independent republic when it was released from Dutch control in 1949.

The pressure in the stratospheric chamber at the Naval Air Test Center changes from sea level to 70,000 feet above in six minutes. Temperature ranges from -50 to 50 degrees Centigrade in 45 minutes. The chamber is used to test aircraft instruments.

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1. Be sure your car is in good operating condition at all times;
2. Obey all traffic laws;
3. In planning a trip, don't schedule more miles per day than you can comfortably and safely drive;
4. On long drives, stop now and then to rest and relax;
5. Never pass on a hill;
6. Courtesy and patience are two very necessary ingredients of safe driving;
7. Don't follow too closely the car ahead of you;
8. Accident statistics continue to rise speed as the number one cause of automobile accidents — so keep it down.

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