

Prize Winner  
MICH. PRESS ASSOC.  
General  
Excellence  
1954

# The Farmington Enterprise

LEADERSHIP--OUR PURPOSE SERVICE--OUR GOAL

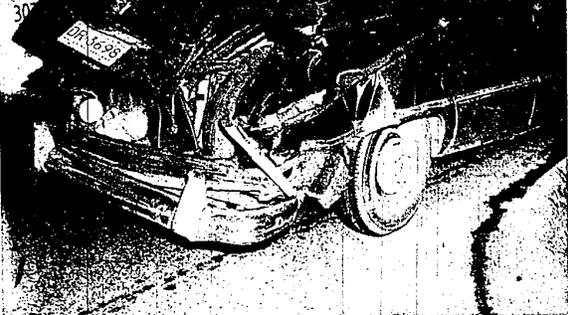
SINGLE COPY  
10c  
\$3.00 PER YEAR  
Wayne and Oakland Counties

SIXTY-EIGHTH YEAR - NUMBER 43

FARMINGTON, MICHIGAN, THURSDAY, JULY 26, 1956

EIGHTEEN PAGES

24 HR WRECKER SERVICE



**DAMAGE** was not heavy to the auto shown above, but four persons in it were injured, including two adults and two young children all from the same family. The auto, owned and operated by Dan Farr, Sr., was one of the cars involved in a three-car pile-up on Grand River Avenue at the Middlebelt Road intersection early Saturday evening. Injured in the Farr auto were Mr. and Mrs. Farr and their two children, Dan, Jr., and Mike. John Hamilton, driver of the auto which struck the Farr vehicle, was also hurt. Ivan Clarke, operator of the third auto involved, was uninjured.

## Five Injured In 3-Car Crash Saturday Night

Two Hurt In Pile-Up On Orchard Lake Road

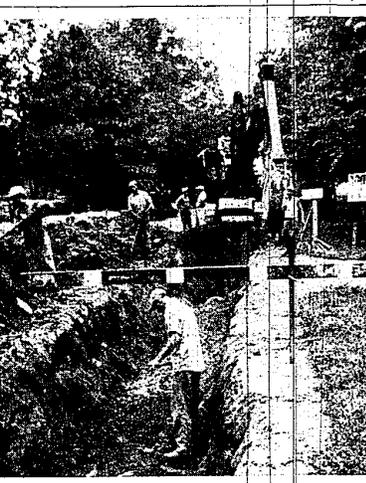
Five persons were injured about 7:30 p.m. Sunday in a three-car collision at the intersection of Grand River Avenue and Middlebelt Road.

Autos operated by Ivan B. Clarke of Farmington and Dan Farr of Detroit had stopped for a traffic light at the intersection when a third vehicle, driven by John R. Hamilton of Wyandotte, struck the rear of the Farr auto. The car was, in turn, driven into the rear of the Clarke auto. Police indicated that Hamilton had apparently either fallen asleep or passed out at the wheel of his car.

Injuries in the Farr auto were: Dan Farr, Sr., back and knee injuries; Mary Farr, laceration on the left leg; Mike Farr, 3, injuries undetermined; and Dan Farr, Jr., injuries undetermined. Hamilton suffered head injuries and a possible leg fracture. Clarke was not hurt. All five injured were taken to Redford (Receiving Hospital) for treatment.

SUNDAY, shortly before 6 p.m., two persons were injured in a four-car pile-up at the intersection of Orchard Lake and Twelve Mile Roads.

## Race Track Question Still On Ballot Despite Reported Plans To Drop Site



**CITY SEWER** laying operations which got under way last week were reported progressing rapidly. The photo above was taken last Friday on Shiawassee Road just west of Eight Mile Road in Southfield Township as workers were engaged in filling in another section of the line. The sewer line will continue along Shiawassee Road westward to Nine Mile Road and thence along Nine Mile to a connection with the City of Farmington sewer. The line will be tied into the City of Detroit sewer system at Hassell and Berg Roads.

## Developers State Change Of Plans, Consider New Location In Novi

Township officials reported this week that the referendum vote on the rezoning of 24 1/2 acres in the southwest section will be held on Tuesday, August 7, as planned, despite statements from the developers that they have abandoned plans for a proposed race track in the Township.

During a discussion at the Novi Township Board meeting last week, it was reported that the developers of the track would not come into Farmington Township, regardless of the outcome of the referendum vote. Floyd A. Cairns, Township Clerk, stated that similar statements had been made to him by one of the group, but that a written request for withdrawal of the proposal had not been submitted. Frazer Staman, Novi Township Supervisor, stated that he had been approached by the same group of businessmen regarding a possible race track site in Novi Township. The exact location of the site is being withheld pending completion of option negotiations.

## Board To Discuss City School Sites Thursday Evening

Proposed elementary school sites will be the principal topic of discussion at the regular meeting of the Farmington School Board this Thursday evening, July 27.

The results of a joint conference with the City Council, scheduled for Thursday afternoon, are expected to be reviewed at the Board meeting. The conference is being held in an effort to secure an elementary school site in the City. The Board has formally requested the Council to consider the sale of the City-owned land on South Farmington Road to the District for a school site. However, the Council has questioned the advisability of allotting any additional land for school sites in the City. Several members of the Council have suggested that this property be set aside for future private development in order to improve the City's tax base.

At the present time the 244 acre site in Section 30 is zoned as commercial by action of the Township Board. However, the change can not be made effective unless approved by the voters. If the electors reverse the action of the Board, the property will revert to its original residential status. The proposal to be voted on by the electors involves the question of whether or not the property shall be zoned commercial. (Continued on Page 2A)

## Schedule Hearings Organize Staffs Of Election Workers On Street Projects For Primary Vote On August 7

A large turn-out of property owners from Violet and Lilac Streets are expected to attend the public hearing Monday evening on the proposed establishment of special assessment districts for paving work on the two streets.

The hearing on the Violet Street project has been set for 8:00 p.m. Monday, July 26, while the Lilac paving project will be discussed at 9:00 p.m. on the same day. Both hearings will be held in the Municipal Building, under the plan approved by the Council, all of Violet Street will be paved as well as that portion of Lilac located between Shiawassee and Elm Street. The Council explained that only the northern part of Lilac could be paved this year because of the limitation on the amount of special assessment work that can be done each year.

Preliminary cost figures place the estimate for the Violet Street project at \$49,000. Of this total, \$7,600.62 is to be paid for by the business owners and \$41,399.38 by the property owners. It is estimated that the total cost to the property owners will be \$808 per front foot. The Township Clerk and Clifton Coopers, Township Treasurer, were the other officers answering to roll call.

Cairns stated that a fourth meeting has been held to prevent the meeting but was called out on Tuesday morning. Eagle stated that efforts would be made to arrange a meeting next week.

## New Precincts In Both City And Township Require Additional Election Board Personnel

Election workers in both the City and Township are now being briefed in preparation for the Biennial Primary Election which will be held on Tuesday, August 7.

An increased number of election officials will be used in both areas because of the addition of four new voting precincts, two in the Township and two in the City. Some extra personnel will also be required in the City to acquaint electors with the use of the voting machines, which will be used for the first time. The Township has been using machines for several years.

During the Primary Election, voters of both the City and Township will nominate candidates for Circuit Judge, Judge of Probate and Democratic County Conventions will also be elected in each precinct.

A SPECIAL PROPOSAL will appear on the Township ballot involving the rezoning of 24 1/2 acres of land in the southwest section of the Township as a proposed race track site. This is a referendum vote, petitioned by the electors following the zoning of the (Continued on Page 8A)

## ADJOURN TOWNSHIP MEETING FOR LACK OF QUORUM

The regular meeting of the Township Board was adjourned Tuesday evening a few minutes after it opened because of a lack of a quorum.

Immediately following the roll call, Ward Eagle, Township Supervisor, declared that no official business could be transacted as only three representatives of the seven-member Board were present at the meeting. Floyd A. Cairns, Township Clerk, and Clifton Coopers, Township Treasurer, were the other officers answering to roll call.

Cairns stated that a fourth meeting has been held to prevent the meeting but was called out on Tuesday morning. Eagle stated that efforts would be made to arrange a meeting next week.

## TAX COLLECTIONS REACH 26% MARK IN CITY

Approximately 26% of the total \$120,594 City tax statement has been collected to date, according to Kathryn Cotter, City Treasurer.

The total represents approximately \$31,620 in payments made to the City Treasurer thus far. The annual tax statements are payable in full on August 31. Taxes paid after the deadline date are subject to a 2% penalty.



**AROUND THE BLOCK**

A NUMBER OF INQUIRIES... have been directed our way regarding current discussions on the development of the master plan for Farmington Township. We have been asked why those discussions have not been covered by The Enterprise. It is important to emphasize that the Planning Board and Consultant are in the process of developing a "proposed" master plan. The powers of the Planning Board are limited to recommending only, with final action resting in the hands of the Township Board. Upon completion of its work, the Planning Board will turn over the recommended master plan to Township officials. Any proposed changes in zoning or land use will be subject to public hearing prior to adoption and possible referendum vote. If the seriousness of the problem. The Enterprise has also been assured by the Planning Board that the final text of the proposed master plan will be available for publication upon completion. For these reasons, we have been concentrating our efforts at the focal point of action in an effort to best serve the general public.

**DURING THE PAST FEW DAYS**... we have been wading through a multitude of facts and figures on the extent of the parking problem in Farmington Township. The information contained in a detailed survey report just completed by the Oakland County Planning Commission. While it is recognized that off-street parking is inadequate in the central business area, it takes facts and figures to point up the seriousness of the problem. It is our intention to publish various phases of this report in an effort to better acquaint all citizens with the seriousness of the problem. We also plan to emphasize the advice and recommendations included in the study with the hopes that it will stimulate a united effort toward improving shopping facilities in the City of Farmington.

**THE TIME IS DRAWING NEAR**... community must make an informed, qualified election of this majority have already made that decision and are ready to take action. If you are among the group who are determined to vote on Tuesday, August 7, the balance of this column is not for you. We are interested primarily in those citizens who have not yet made a decision to vote in the coming election. To you we make this plea... don't sell yourself short. Your vote is worth just as much as the other fellow's, if you use it. So, vote a wall flower, cast your ballot on August 7 and join the group of important citizens who are doing more than just talking about democracy!

## Amend School Bond Resolution

The Clarenceville School Board, at a meeting Monday evening, approved a number of minor changes in the recently adopted \$175,000 bond sale resolution as requested by the Municipal Finance Commission.

School officials stated that the principal change involves the maturity schedule for the bonds. Under the new resolution a larger due of a bond are to become due and payable during the mid-years of the issue than was originally planned. Officials emphasized that the change will have no effect on the amount of the total issue. It merely revises the schedule of bond payments.

The Board has expressed the hope that the Municipal Finance Commission will take action on the Clarenceville application at its July 31 meeting. If the Commission approves the application at that time, the Board will meet August 2 to proceed with the sale (Continued on Page 2A)

## Workmen Install Over 2,500 Feet Of City Interceptor During First Week

Construction of New Sewer Along Shiawassee Progressing On Schedule In Spite Of Delays

Work on the City Sewer Interceptor is progressing rapidly with approximately 2,500 feet of main being installed during the first week of construction. City officials reported Monday.

Operations were halted for about two hours on Friday at the request of the Oakland County Road Commission when a question was raised regarding the type of backfill being used in the trench along Shiawassee. The Road Commission requested that sand and gravel be used as back fill instead of merely regrading the original base. Following some discussion, it was agreed to move the trench from the edge of the road surface onto the right-of-way, thus eliminating the necessity of special back filling.

In addition to the laying of the new main, work is being started on tunneling operations along Eight Mile Road from Shiawassee east to the Hassell - Berg Road Outlet and at the intersection of Shiawassee and Middlebelt Roads. The tunneling is being done to avoid the tearing up of improved roads and to meet the requirements set up by the City of Detroit where deep excavating would otherwise be necessary.

## City Offers Voting Machine Training

Special instructions on the operation of the new City voting machines will be held each day from Monday, July 30, through Friday, August 3, at the Municipal Building, Kathryn Cotter, City Clerk, announced this week.

The purpose of the program is to familiarize all City electors with the function and operation of the machines prior to the Primary Election on August 7. Mrs. Cotter stated that instructions will be given during the regular business hours. Electors are encouraged to visit the Municipal Building Monday through Thursday from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and on Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

A sample machine has been set up in the lobby of the building for purposes of instruction and demonstration. If there is sufficient interest, members of the various election boards will be invited to assist with the instruction in (Continued on Page 8A)

## NEW BOTSFORD SCHOOL ADDITION NEARS COMPLETION

Final construction work on the new addition to the Botsford Elementary School is expected to be completed within the next two weeks, Clarenceville officials reported Monday.

As soon as the work is finished, custodians will begin moving in equipment and supplies in preparation for the opening of the school in September. The addition includes five classrooms as well as a kitchen and multi-purpose room. The total cost of the project has been set at \$172,338.

## Inside Features

Classified Ads 4A, 5A, 6A  
Correspondence Pg. 3A  
Pg. 3B, 4B, 5B, 6B, 10C, 4D  
Pg. 2B  
Looking Back Pg. 2B  
Michigan Mirror Pg. 2B  
Sports Pg. 3A

## City Lets Contract For Paving Work

Construction work on the paving of portions of Power, Shiawassee, Prospect and North Farmington Roads is expected to get under way next Monday, July 30, Earl Scherffus, City Manager, reported this week.

A contract for the paving project was signed by the City Manager on Friday. The City Council authorized Scherffus to sign a contract with the Detroit Concrete Products Company for the street improvements at a bid price of \$21,397.74. This was the lowest of two bids received by the Council.

The project includes the installation of bituminous concrete surfacing on Powers Road from Ten Mile to a line 600 feet south of Shiawassee, North Farmington Road on both sides of McGee Hill, and Shiawassee for a distance of 650 feet each side of Powers. A fourth section includes the surfacing of Prospect from the Bel-Aire Subdivision to Shiawassee. This portion of the project will be paid for by the developers of the subdivision.

## Zoo Visit Draws 425 Youngsters

A total of 425 youngsters were taken on a visit to the Detroit Zoo last Friday under the Farmington Summer Recreation Program, Warren Piche, director, disclosed.

Monday a swimming achievement program was started which will be continued through next week. Youngsters are being qualified according to their swimming abilities. Those swimming 50 feet are qualified as "minnows," those swimming 100 feet are to be called "sharks," and those swimming a distance of 200 feet will be known as "borecauses."

Metal plates engraved with the qualifying names are being awarded to each child successfully swimming the prescribed distances. The plates were engraved by the John R. Cahill Engraving Company at 22434 Orchard Lake Road and donated for the program.



**YOUNGSTERS** anxiously awaited their Friday morning to board the school bus at the City Park which would take them on an all-day visit to the Detroit Zoo. Scenes similar to the one above were taking place simultaneously at various summer recreation program playgrounds through the Township. A total of 425 youngsters were taken on the trip to the Zoo, the second field trip of the summer recreation program. This Friday children will take part in another round of contests and races at the school playgrounds. The last field trip of the summer program will be the annual excursion to Bob-Lo Island, concluding the Farmington Summer Recreation program for another year.

## Committee Reviews Study Recommends Course Of Action In Solving City Parking Problem

Specific recommendations for the improvement of off-street parking facilities in the central business area of the City have been forwarded to the Council, it was announced this week by John Allen, Chairman of the Special Parking Committee.

The recommendations are based on the results of a Farmington Parking Study just completed by the Farmington Planning Commission. The study, consisting of 42 pages of figures, graphs, maps and recommendations, was turned over to the Committee last week. A meeting of the group was called immediately to analyze the report.

It was recommended to the Council that a permanent committee be appointed to assist with the development of the off-street parking program. The present committee was appointed for a 90-day period to work with the Council in formulating plans for the parking study. Since this phase of the work has been completed, the Committee is no longer in effect.

The Committee also recommended to the Council that immediate steps be taken to contact the owners of the property bounded by South Farmington Road, Orchard Street and Grove Street in an effort to secure cost estimates on the land. This is a follow-up on the suggestion of the Oakland County Planning Commission that a shopping area, including off-street parking facilities for approximately 835 cars.

It was pointed out in the parking study that there is a current need for approximately 200 additional vehicle parking spaces to meet current peak demands. The report suggests that improvement of the city-owned parking lot west of the Precise Tool Company would help to absorb part of this deficiency. During the two days when the parking survey was conducted there was a peak deficiency of 225 parking spaces on Friday, May 4, and 109 spaces on Saturday, May 5. There are a total of 485 usable parking spaces in the central business area at the present time.

The report concludes that Farmington will continue to lose a large percentage of its potential market until such time as adequate parking facilities are provided and a greater variety of retail outlets are established.