

How The Farmington Festival Was Founded

By W.W. EDGAR

FARMINGTON

Along about this time each year, as "Rounders Festival time approaches" insurance man Bill Conroy suffers a few pang of nostalgia.

No matter how busy he may be, he can't help recall-

ing how the event got its start in 1965 and he smiles with satisfaction when he recalls how it has grown.

"Would you believe," he asked over a glass of iced tea, "that the festival was started to build up the prestige of the chamber of com-

merce? Usually it is the other way around."

He recalled that the chamber of commerce was having a difficult time of it - and twice just about failed.

"We tried everything - even to changing the name from the chamber to the board of commerce. We wanted a new image.

"We didn't raise peaches, so we couldn't be like Romeo. We didn't raise cherries either, so we couldn't attempt to match Traverse City."

Here Bill's face broke into a snarl as he said: "We finally got a break - and it came in the most unusual way."

"It was a letter from the state telling us that Farmington had been singled out as the site of the first Quaker settlers in the area and a bronze plaque would be forthcoming to mark the site."

Up to then, several organizations held individual events with little success. But when the Founders Day Festival was approached, all joined in making it a success.

"From the outset," Bill stated, "we agreed that the event would be a prestigious affair and no outside concessionaires would be permitted. There were to be no profit-making outsiders coming in to take advantage of our work. It proved a wise move as the event has grown in stature through the years."

As president of the chamber, he became chairman of the first festival committee and he shudders at the thought of all the work that had to be done.

But it was done - with the help of many others, he said. It was a team effort.

"And just think," he said in parting, "we did it without watermelons, peaches or cherries."



THE HIGHLAND FESTIVAL in Alma provided a showcase recently for the talents of Farmington's Explorer Band Post 389. The group is the only Explorer band and one of only two Scout bands in the country. They leave this month for Washington, D.C. for a tour of the capital before performing at the 1973 National Scout Jamboree at Moraine State Park near Pittsburgh. During their 15-day Washington tour, the boys will stay at the Army's Ft. Belvoir in Virginia. After its stay at the jamboree Aug. 3-9, the band will travel to Mackinac Island to serve for a week as governor's honor guard at Fort Mackinac.

38 Make Honors List

ROCHESTER

Thirty-eight Farmington residents were among Oakland University students qualifying for university grade honors during the 1972-73 term.

Qualifying for university scholar (3.9 grade point or higher) were Theodore Braude, 27366 Skye Dr. E.; and Betty White, 32860 Ardwick.

Qualifying for student of great distinction (3.5 to 3.9) were Ann Barbour, 25309 Briarwyke; Alice Englebrecht, 28303 Forestbrook; Janet Greene, 32361 Biddlestone; William Kelsa, 25552 Springbrook; Richard Lucas, 33535 14 Mile; Karlene Meixner, 31185 W. 13 Mile; James Moffet, 29450 Glenarden; and Martha Schlossberg, 31843 Kingswood.

Also, Mary Ann Bruno, 28105 Bellocrest; Gail Cepnik, 33574 Colony Park; Barbara Jeske, 35329 Drakebush; Susan Reiger, 24171 Elizabeth; and Susan Zeldman, 32543 Sprucewood.

Qualifying for student of distinction (3.0 to 3.49) were William Betts, 26281 Westmeath; Carolyn Bridges, 33787 James Ct.; William Crompton, 25445 Wykeshire; Florence Dennis, 28225 Dresden; Cynthia Gullion, 27684 Forestbrook; Joseph Kolbasa, 21669 Middle Belt; Diane Krassnick, 26559 Greythorne; Werner Matson, 28553 Elders; Laura McCoy, 26120 Pleasant Valley; Janice Mitiello, 30654 Orchard Lake; and Catherine Proctor, 26526 Badalament.

Also, Robert Schaeck, 33690 Old Timber Rd.; Dale Seckrak, 29971 Beacontree; Daniel Sibears, 30029 Shawassee; Marc Smith, 29630 Gilchrist; William Smith, 26402 Old Homestead; Janet Smittlerbergh, 30043 Eastfield; Susan Steiger, 29971 Beacontree; Margaret Sutherland, 27523 Kingsgate Way; Janis Tatum, 30856 Woodstream Dr.; Wendy Zamler, 32044 Olde Franklin; Jeffrey Fishman, 32201 Olde Franklin; and Christopher Smith, 31858 Staman Circle.

Write Your Lawmaker

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Hon. Philip Hart, D-Mich.
Washington: Senate Office Building, 202-225-4822.
Detroit office: 438 Federal Building, 226-3164 or 226-3188.
Hon. Robert Griffin, R-Mich.
Washington: Senate Office Building, 202-225-6221.
Detroit office: 1035 Federal Building, 226-5020.

CONGRESS

17th District-Hon. Martha Griffiths, D-Detroit. Includes Redford Township, Farmington City and Township, Lathrup Village and Southfield.
Washington office: 1536 Longworth Office Building, 202-225-4961.
District office: 14615 Grand River, Detroit, 273-6991.

STATE SENATE

14th District-Carl Pursell, R-Plymouth. Includes Farmington, Livonia and Plymouth.
Lansing office: State Capitol, 517-373-7908.
Residence: 670 S. Sheldon, Plymouth, 455-0646.

STATE REPRESENTATIVES

64th District-Raymond Baker, R-Farmington. Includes Farmington City and Township and western Southfield.
Lansing office: State Capitol, 517-373-1793.
Residence: 32718 Grand River, Farmington, 476-0776.

OAKLAND COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

15th District-Lillian Moffitt, R-Birmingham. Includes western Southfield, northeast Farmington Township, Wood Creek Farms, Franklin Village and eastern Bingham Farms.
Office: 1200 N. Telegraph Rd., Pontiac, 338-4751.
Residence: 6928 Cathedral Dr., Birmingham, 625-9783.

24th District-Lew Coy, R-Wixom. Includes western Farmington Township and Quakertown.
Office: 1200 N. Telegraph Rd., Pontiac, 338-4751.
Residence: 2942 Loom Dr., Wixom, 624-1058.

25th District-Patrick Nowak, R-Farmington. Includes north-central Farmington Township.
Office: 1200 N. Telegraph Rd., Pontiac, 338-4751.
Residence: 33742 W. 12 Mile, Farmington, 476-8515.

27th District-Wilbur Brotherton, R-Farmington. Includes Farmington City, southeast Farmington Township and southwest corner of Southfield.
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PBK Names 2 Students

FARMINGTON

Two Farmington students have been elected to the Wayne State University chapter of Phi Beta Kappa, the national honorary scholastic fraternity.

Inducted into the honorary were Mark Weingarden, 25266 Arden Park Dr., and Donna Wilkinson, 32357 Newtlewood.

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Mrs. Renich Is Nurse

FARMINGTON

Mrs. Fred C. (Jill) Renich of Farmington gave the commencement address as her daughter Rosalie received her nursing diploma recently from West Suburban Hospital School of Nursing in Oak Park, Illinois.

The commencement took place at Wheaton College, with which the nursing school is associated. Mrs. Renich, a Wheaton graduate, is founder and president of Winning Women, Inc., and a frequent lecturer to women's groups.

Her daughter was chairman of the school's student missionary project and a member of the choir.

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