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The Farmington Enterprise

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Wayne and Oakland Counties

SIXTY-NINTH YEAR — NUMBER 3

FARMINGTON, MICHIGAN, THURSDAY, OCTOBER 18, 1956

TWENTY PAGES

CITY LETS CONTRACT FOR PAVING OF MUNICIPAL PARKING LOT

Township Property Owners Petition For Annexation Of Parcel To City

Seek Action On Strip Of Land Along East Side Of Farmington Road From 8 Mile To 9 Mile

Petitions are now being circulated for the proposed annexation to the City of Farmington of a strip of land along the east side of Farmington Road from Eight Mile to Nine Mile Roads.

The circulation of petitions actually began last Wednesday evening following a conference between city officials and affected property owners held at the Municipal Building. During the meeting Edward Moseman, attorney representing the Time Land Company, explained that his clients, owners of a parcel of land at the northeast corner of Farmington Road and Eight Mile, had contacted the city regarding possible annexation. In the meantime, the owners of adjoining land south of Nine Mile Road had indicated some interest in the annexation.

As a result a conference was called, at which time representatives of the Time Land Company, interested property owners and City Manager Earl Scherffius were invited to attend. Moseman outlined the proposal for annexation and Scherffius answered questions from property owners. It was pointed out that land involved is owned by 12 property owners. Time Land Company proposes to install sewer and water mains along Farmington Road from the city to Eight Mile Road, without cost to the present property owners. They also plan to construct approximately 300 homes to the north of a proposed light industrial zone along Eight Mile Road.

OFFICIALS reported Monday that one hundred per cent of the affected property owners have signed the petitions. The next step is to secure the signatures of 100 freeholders in the city. As soon as this has been accomplished a petition will be filed with the Oakland County Board of Supervisors requesting that a special election be held.

If authorized, the election will involve the qualified electors of the city as well as those in the area to be annexed. Several property owners present at the conference asked if the proposed area could be extended to take in additional territory to the east and west. Scherffius stated that he has been assured by the engineers that there is sufficient water available to take care of the area under discussion, but that no information was obtained on possible expansion of the proposed annexation.

NEW LIBRARY BOARD TO ASSUME DUTIES NOV. 1

The control and operation of the Farmington City-Township Library will be transferred from the present board to the new district library board effective November 1, according to joint resolution approved by the City Council and Township Board.

The new district library board is composed of two members from both the city and township.

Property Damage Suit Involves City

A suit has been filed in Oakland County Circuit Court against the City of Farmington; Earl Scherffius, City Manager, and the S & S Construction Company by Mr. and Mrs. Willard G. Adams for alleged damages to their property in connection with the construction of the new sewer interceptor pumping station.

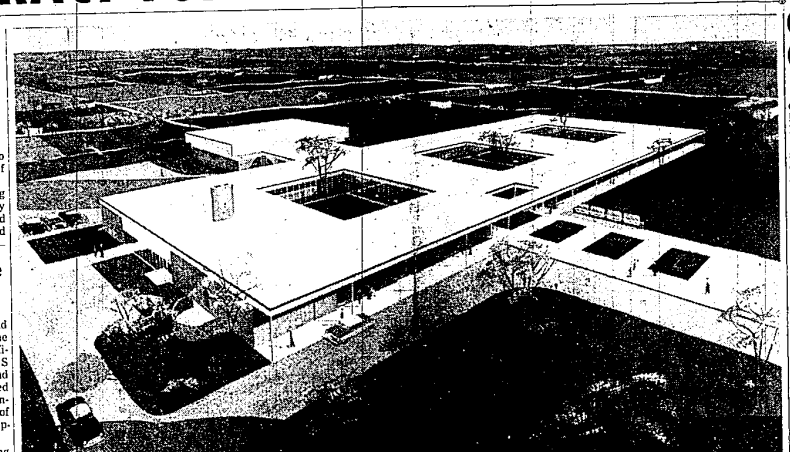
The pumping station, now being constructed on Nine Mile Road just south of Grand River, is located on a site recently purchased from Mr. and Mrs. Adams. The site is adjacent to property presently owned by the Adams. According to the complaint, the defendants appropriated a greater portion of the property than was specified in the sale. In addition they excavated and piled dirt on the plaintiff's land causing considerable damage to trees and shrubbery. The Adams also alleged that the defendants built a road in and through their property to service the construction to the pumping station.

According to the complaint, the Adams are seeking damages in the amount of $14,200. City officials stated that they will file an answer to the complaint in Circuit Court within 15 days as prescribed by law. The City's defense in the suit has not been disclosed as yet since the answer is now in the process of preparation. Details of the answer will be published as soon as it is released by city officials and the city attorney.

PLAN NO PARKING ZONE ON U.S. 16 EAST OF CUT-OFF

In a letter to city and township officials, the State Highway Department has advised that effective July 1, 1957, all parking will be prohibited on U. S. 16 from Berg road west to the Farmington Cut-Off.

A copy of the letter mailed to City Police Chief Joseph De Vriendt stated that recent surveys have shown that the congestion problem is growing in intensity. This has resulted in the decision to remove parking on both sides of Grand River with the Berg Road-Cut-Off section. It was explained that the lapse of time between the present and the effective date of July 1, 1957, will allow in some measure an orderly transition from the practice of parking on the trunk-line.



A BIRD'S EYE VIEW of the new Farmington Junior High School to be constructed on 12 Mile Road between Farmington and Power Roads is given in this architect's drawing of the building. Bids have been received for construction of the building and contracts are expected to be awarded shortly. The basic unit of modern design, shown above, will accommodate approximately 600 students but will be constructed in such a manner as to be easily expanded to an ultimate 1200 student classroom school. Incorporated in the basic rectangular unit besides regular classrooms will be a library, cafeteria, conference room and administrative offices. Jutting out to the back is a combined gymnasium-auditorium. The building has been so designed, as shown in the drawing, to provide adequate outdoor lighting into all classrooms in the building. Located on a site approximately 20 acres in size, there is afforded plenty of playground area and sufficient room for expansion.

Stockholders OK Farmington State Bank Merger

Join National Bank Of Detroit November 1

Stockholders of the Farmington State Bank and the National Bank of Detroit have approved the merger of the two institutions, Howard M. Warner, president of the Farmington State Bank and Charles T. Fisher, Jr., president of the NBD, announced in a joint statement released this week.

The merger will become effective with the opening of business on November 1. The executive and other personnel of the Farmington State Bank will remain unchanged, with the bank's directors becoming members of a local advisory board. Howard M. Warner and Byron E. Lapham were elected vice-presidents; Harry L. Lapham, assistant vice-president and George C. Gildemeister, assistant cashier. Donald L. Jesulale was appointed manager.

THE ADVISORY committee will consist of Warner, chairman; Byron E. Lapham, Floyd H. Nichols and Bayard dew Tupper. Six prominent local businessmen will also serve on the committee. They are Frank B. DePodesta, president, Paragon Construction Company; Delos F. Hamlin, owner, Farmington Recreation; Lawrence J. Kelly, president Kelly Coal Company; Norman B. Lawton, president, Star Cutter Company, Inc.; Robert B. Lindbert, owner, L & H Wood Manufacturing, and Maurice R. Twomey, president, LaSalle Wines and Champagne, Inc.

Under the provisions of the merger, National Bank of Detroit will exchange 22,000 shares of its stock on a basis of 11/15 of one share for each share of Farmington State

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Record Group Of Volunteer Workers Open 1956 United Fund Campaign

Solicitors Begin House To House Canvass Of Area In Effort To Reach $28,000 Goal

The 1956 Farmington Area United Fund and Community Chest Drive officially opened on Monday and volunteer solicitors are now methodically combing the city and township area in quest of funds to support the more than 45 local, county and state agencies included in the campaign.

The drive moved into high gear this week following a special kick-off breakfast last Wednesday at Himmelspach's Dining Room. A total of fifty fund drive leaders attended the breakfast, which was contributed by Howard Warner of the Farmington State Bank.

Speaking at the kick-off breakfast, Duane Partain, Assistant City Manager, said the City of Farmington stands whole heartedly behind the Community Chest as the most economical and effective means of meeting our responsibilities to our community and our less fortunate fellow men. He urged everyone to give as much as possible to put Farmington over its' $28,000 goal.

Albert Gain, Farmington Township Supervisor, extended the official township approval of the United Fund effort. Gain pointed out that the concept of one united drive per year instead of a separate drive for each agency is a truly democratic expression of concern for human needs, effectively administered in a business-like manner. He urged Township residents to support the fund-raising effort to the greatest possible extent.

THE REVEREND James Guinan of Farmington's Trinity Episcopal Church delivered the invocation and in later remarks explained that the principals embodied in the United Fund drive are basically Christian doctrine long practiced and supported in churches everywhere. He pointed out that, speaking for his own church, the united charities plan is recognized in the tithing program.

Campaign Chairman Roger Walker introduced Mrs. Dan Guy, Mrs. Ray Bodinus and Mrs. Farrel Weber, the chairmen of the residential solicitation; Jack Cotter, business committee chairman and Miss Joanne Hoffan, representing Lloyd Smith, professional committee chairman. Walker urged the fund drive leaders to wage an all-out effort to reach the $28,000 goal

County To Assist Sewer Projects

The Oakland County Board of Supervisors has authorized the Drain Commission office to proceed with the hiring of a coordinator to facilitate action on the proposed Farmington and Evergreen Sewer Interceptor projects.

The Board has also pledged the full faith and credit of the County in an effort to assist the sale of the necessary bond issue. The action came as a result of a series of conferences between state, county and local officials. According to Delos Hamlin, Chairman of the Board of Supervisors, most of the details have been ironed out and work is now being concentrated on financing the projects. Hamlin stated that adequate facilities are available through the City of Detroit system to handle both the Farmington and Evergreen Interceptors. Hamlin and Lynn Allen, County Clerk, also signed contracts Tuesday for the selling of bonds to finance the extention of Northwestern Highway from Orchard Lake Road to M-59 near Fenton. The program is being worked out in cooperation with state officials. Hamlin stated that immediate steps would be taken to sell the bonds as soon as the project has been approved by the State Administrative Board.

Four Persons Injured In Two City Accidents

Accidents Occur On U.S. 16 And McGee Hill

Four persons were injured last week in two separate auto accidents in the City of Farmington.

The first of the two accidents occurred last Wednesday evening shortly after 9 p. m. on Farmington Road, when Gerald Waroway of 16229 Lawton, Detroit, lost control of his car while going down McGee Hill. The car ran off the road and into the creek at the bridge.

Gerald, 18, suffered head injuries. His passenger, Martha Williams, 15, of 21140 Renselear, Farmington, suffered injuries to the head, chest and legs. Both were taken to Receiving Hospital for treatment.

EARLY Sunday morning around 7:10 a.m. two persons were injured in a single-car accident on Grand River Avenue at Lakeway.

Fred Davis, 28, of Lansing, driver of the car, suffered a broken left arm and Ray Fountain, Jr., 32, also of Lansing, bruises and abrasions about a knee. Both were taken to Redford Receiving Hospital for treatment.

Davis, who was proceeding west on Grand River, apparently fell asleep at the wheel of his auto. The car hit a telephone pole and proceeding about 30 feet, then backing off and traveling all the way across the highway to the south side of the road, the accident report indicated.

City police also reported five property damage accidents during the past week and the Township Police department an equal number during the same period.

Contractor Expected To Start Work On Surfacing Project Immediately

A contract for the surfacing of the city-owned parking lot, south of Grand River and east of Precise Tool Company, was awarded to Detroit Concrete Products at the regular meeting of the City Council Monday evening.

The contract calls for the laying of a two-inch bituminous concrete surface on the lot at a bid price of $4,294. The Detroit Concrete Products bid was the lowest of two proposals received by the Council. Earl Scherffius, City Manager, stated that work on the surfacing is expected to begin late this week. Grading and drainage of the lot has already been completed by Public Works personnel.

The Council also approved a motion awarding a contract to Kenower, MacArthur and Company for the purchase of $69,000 in Special Assessment Paving Bonds. Only one proposal was received on the bond sale. According to the proposal the bonds are being purchased at a net interest rate of 3.65379 percent with a premium of $93.70. The bond money will be used to finance the paving of Alta Loma Drive, Violet Street and a part of Lilac Street. The Alta Loma project was completed this summer, with the other two streets scheduled for completion this fall.

TWO BIDS were received for the construction of the underground drain between the Bel-Air Subdivision and the property facing on the north side of Shiawassee Street. The City Manager was instructed to contact Rose Hill Builders regarding the low bid of $3,960 with the idea of giving them an opportunity to secure additional bids or authorize the added expenditure of $960. At the present time the city has $3,000 in escrow from Rose Hill Builder to pay for the cost of the drain. It was suggested that a specific date be set for the starting and completion of the project.

A letter was received from the Farmington Area Recreation Commission asking the Council to consider the possibility of taking over the recreation program as a joint function with the Township and the School District. The letter pointed out the increased demand for recreation in the community as well as the difficulties of securing funds to operate the program under the existing organization. Scherffius was instructed to contact the Township Board, School Board and Recreation Commission in an effort to arrange a joint meeting to discuss the problem.

A request was filed with the Rex Building Company for the rezoning of a parcel of land on Gill Road south of Grand River for multiple dwellings. Included with the request were letters from various businessmen pointing out the need for such facilities. Although the request had previously been recommended by the Planning Com-

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Let Construction Contract For New Clarenceville H.S.

Work On Building To Start Next Week

The Clarenceville Board of Education, at its regular meeting Thursday, awarded the contract for construction of the new high school building to the Wallace Construction Company of Farmington at a bid price of $513,807.

The Wallace bid was the lowest of nine proposals opened and read by the Board at the Thursday meeting. Officials stated that construction of the initial unit is expected to get underway in about 10 days. According to the specifications the contractor is allowed 300 days to complete the project. Barring any unforseen events the building should be ready for occupancy by the opening of classes in September of 1957.

Officials stated that the first unit will contain 15 classrooms in addition to a library, cafeteria, health room and offices. Heating facilities and office space will be sufficient to take care of future expansion of the building. The school to be built on the west side of Middlebelt opposite the present high school, will initially house the seventh and eighth grades. As additional rooms are added, the junior high school students will be transferred back to the present high school, leaving the new unit for senior high school students.

THE BOARD approved a motion authorizing the immediate invest-

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Franchise Election Date Set By City

Wednesday, December 12, has been set as the date for a special election on the proposed granting of a 30-year franchise to Consumers Power Company for the operation of a gas business in the City of Farmington.

The City Council Monday evening adopted a resolution approving the franchise and setting the special election instead of the regular voting machines. The entire cost of the election will be paid for by Consumers Power Company.

The franchise authorized Consumers Power Company to install facilities and provide services necessary for the operation of a gas business in the City for a period of 30 years.

Board Approves Commercial Plan

The Township Board, in a joint meeting with the Planning Board and representatives from the Vilican and Leman Planning Consultant firm, Monday night, gave a general indication that it agreed in principal with the commercial land use plan for the Township as developed by the planning consultants.

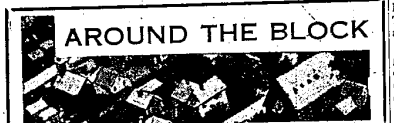
Approval in principal was affirmed by the Township Board following considerable detailed discussion and questioning on specific phases of the text of the plan.

Representatives of the planning firm indicated that they will now begin work on the second phase of the commercial land use plan. This phase, it was pointed out, will deal more specifically with existing commercial property and property now zoned commercial in the Township. It will also be designed to cope with problems of present ownership, the suitability of topography and other practical aspects.

In a separate discussion, it was generally agreed by all at the meeting that immediate steps must be taken to set up specific subdivision regulations before definite commercial planning and master planning can be done. It was agreed to create a committee made up of a representative from

(Continued on Page 8A)

AROUND THE BLOCK



IT HAS BEEN SUGGESTED . . .
by one of our readers, that we say a word or two about the situation of youngsters crowding the paving while waiting for school buses. This is a particularly dangerous practice, especially on heavily traveled roads. We know that school officials and teachers are attempting to impress boys and girls with the importance of safety. We know, too, that many parents are doing their part in this vital education program. Yet none of us can afford to overlook an opportunity to promote further safety. An additional word at school and at home might help to reduce a dangerous situation and avoid a tragic accident. It's certainly worth a try!

• • •

DOORBELLS ARE BEING RUNG . . .
all over Farmington this week as volunteer solicitors take to the road in an effort to raise the $28,000 goal of the Farmington Area United Fund and Community Chest campaign. We hope that you will not only listen to what these volunteers have to say, but that you will help them in this community project. They are contributing their time and effort as well as their money in a campaign to make Farmington a better place in which to live. But they can't do it alone . . . they must have your help. So when your doorbell rings, give a listen and give a hand. Let's put this campaign over the top!

• • •

WE REALLY SHOULDN'T . . .
mention the weather, because everytime we do, it changes. But it's just too nice to be ignored. We have the impression that the weatherman feels a bit guilty about the summer he dished out and has decided to make up for it all at one time. There have been a few scattered complaints from our farmer friends about the lack of needed rain, but we city slickers are sure enjoying the sudden change of pace. However, with the publishing of these words the situation may become quite different. At any rate it has been nice and we're grateful to the weatherman for his consideration.

Plan Special Service

Dedicate New Trinity Church Sunday

The new Trinity Church of Farmington will be formally dedicated this Sunday afternoon, October 21, at 4:00 p.m. with a service of Holy Communion celebrated by the Right Reverend Richard S. Emrich, Bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Michigan.

The new building, located deep in the woods at the end of Lamuera Drive in Springland Subdivision of Farmington Township, is the first unit of a building program which will eventually include an expanded worship center which will seat 400 people as well as an educational unit and an auditorium. The initial unit was designed by Stephen Spencer Page, architect of the Dell, Hewlett and Luckenbach firm of Birmingham. It has already attracted wide acclaim for its uniqueness and beauty. The building is designed to speak the message of the Gospel through the art form of architecture in a contemporary style, still maintaining a reverence for that which has become "the traditional" down through the ages.

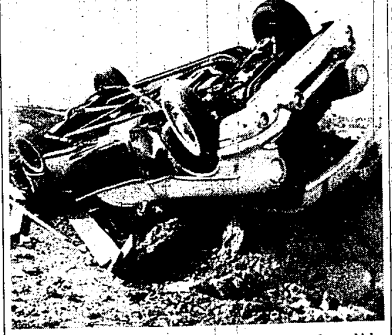
The altar, central in its position between two trancepts and at the head of the Nave and central by the tradition of the Anglican Church, allows the congregation to be a vital part of the Lithurgy of the Holy Communion, by virtue of the fact that no one is seated more than eight rows from it. Among its striking features are large expanses of clear glass looking out to sky and trees. Both ends of the trancept and also the entrance hall are of glass, so placed as to focus light and attention on the central altar.

Reverend William S. Logan III, Dean of the Westside Convocation and Rector of St. Martin's Episcopal Church in Redford will preach the Dedication Service. Trinity Church of Farmington was formerly a Mission of St. Martin's, founded in February, 1952. Following the service there will be a reception and Open House in the Church School of the Church.

WORK ON EXPANDED STREET LIGHTING UNDERWAY IN CITY

City officials reported this week that work is proceeding on the installation of boulevard-type lights along Grand River from Hawthorne Street west to the business district.

Earl Scherffius, City Manager, stated that the installation is part of the over-all program of improved street lighting in the city. According to plans the existing overhead lights are being moved from the center of the street to poles along the curb, and additional fixtures are being installed.



DAMAGE was extensive to the automobile shown above which ran through a road closed sign and over large piles of broken cement before rolling over on Grand River Avenue just west of Halstead Road last Thursday afternoon. Fortunately, no one was injured. The driver apparently ignored the detour signs directing traffic around this point where work is being done on the construction of an overpass bridge for the U.S. 16 Expressway.

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