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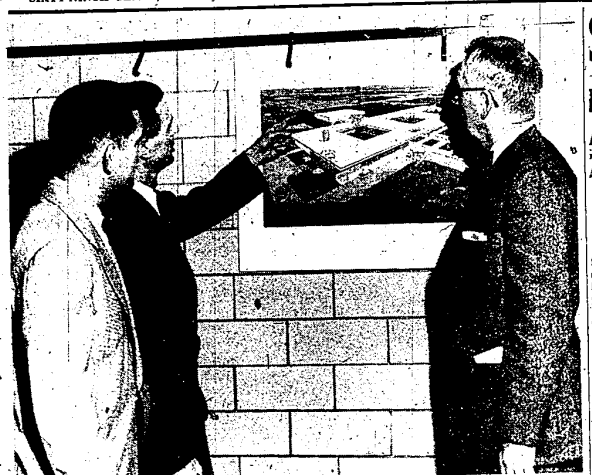


PROPOSED PLANS on future building needs in the Farmington Public School District is the current topic of conversation at public meetings being sponsored by various PTA groups and before civic organizations in the community. Chief attention is being focused on a $4,000,000 bond issue proposed by the School Board to finance the construction and equipping of additional classroom facilities to satisfy immediate needs. Participating in a discussion or a phase of the expansion program which the School Board proposed at the Middlebelt School last Monday night were: left to right, Clifford Terry, president of the Middlebelt PTA; Douglas Hammial, School Board Trustee, and Bayard Tupper, School Board President.

SUPERINTENDENT O. E. DUNCKEL TO RESIGN

Planners Delay Action On City Zoning Proposal

Seek Additional Facts On Commercial Plan

The City Planning Commission, following a public hearing Thursday evening, agreed to conduct a further investigation into the proposed rezoning of the northeast corner of Farmington Road and the Cut-Off before submitting its recommendations to the City Council.

The investigation will include talks with officials of F.H.A. as well as property owners in the Warner Farms Subdivision. Several members of the Commission stated that they wanted more information before making any recommendations to the Council. It is being proposed that the northeast corner of Farmington Road and the Cut-Off be rezoned from Residential to Commercial for the purpose of developing a shopping center on the site.

APPROXIMATELY 50 persons attended the Planning Commission hearing which was held in the Municipal Court Room on Liberty Street. Donald Thompson, 33325 Cloverdale, representing the property owners of Warner Farms, presented a petition signed by 247 residents voicing opposition to the rezoning. Thompson stated that the signers were in favor of a school site in the area but not on a barter basis. The Farmington Development Company have agreed to sell an adjoining parcel to the School District at a very reasonable price with the condition that the corner area be rezoned to commercial. Thompson added that the residents are willing to appoint a committee to discuss an alternate plan with the developers. He stated that we do not want to deprive the owners of a just profit from their property.

C. A. Ralston, 22856 Mayfield, representing the Warner Farms Improvement Association, also voiced objection to the rezoning. He stated that this objection is based on a recent vote conducted by the Association in which 75 members opposed the plan compared to only eight in favor of it. Several individual residents voiced objection to the proposal on the grounds that it would de-valuate their property.

(See PLANNERS DELAY, P. 8A)

Vote Registration Deadline Monday

Floyd A. Cairns, township clerk, reported this week that registration activity in connection with the coming Township Primary is running extremely light in spite of the fact that the deadline has been set for next Monday.

The clerk emphasized that the registration is open to all eligible electors of the Township whose names do not appear on the books at the present time. Persons must be registered on or before 8:00 p.m. on Monday, January 21, to be qualified to vote in the Township Primary, February 18.

New registration applications will be accepted at the Township office in the Town Hall on Thursday from 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and on Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. On the final day of registration, Monday, January 21, persons may register at the Township office from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Cairns stated that persons having any questions about their registration status should contact the township clerk's office prior to the deadline. At the present time, there are approximately 8,800 registered voters in the Township.

Blue Crutch Day Saturday To Aid Polio Campaign

Prepare Final Plans For Mothers' March

One of the main activities of the Farmington Area March of Dimes campaign will be conducted this Saturday, January 19 when members of the various Boy Scout Troops take part in the Annual "Blue Crutch Day."

The entire proceeds from the project will be used in the continuing fight against polio. The Boy Scouts will conduct their campaign in the various business sections throughout the community. Each person who contributes to the project will receive a miniature "Blue Crutch" pin.

In the meantime plans are being completed for the second major project of the campaign, the Annual Mother's March, which will be held on Thursday, January 31. At a special committee meeting held last week at the home of Mrs. Mary Leggs Township Chairman, Mrs. Polly Schan, 33995 Harlow and Mrs. Marion Morgan, 22660 Middlebelt were named co-chairmen of the Mother's March. Captains, to head up the March in the various subdivisions of the Township, are now being selected.

THE CO-CHAIRMEN stated that additional volunteers are needed in many subdivisions of the Township. Persons who wish to volunteer an hour of their time in this important project are requested to call Mrs. Morgan at GR 4-8934 or Mrs. Schan at GR 4-1288. Volunteers in the City should contact Mrs. Kathryn Cotter, chairman, at GR 4-5145.

According to reports the "polio night" project, held in cooperation with the Civic Theatre, was a huge success. Mrs. Edward Bradley, chairman of the project, stated that a record number of contributions were received at the January 12 and January 13 showings at the Theatre.

Proceeds from a bake sale, to be held January 25 at the Detroit Edison Company Office, will be turned over to the March of Dimes committee. Mrs. Lou Schaupeter, chairman of the sale, stated that any donations of baked goods will be appreciated. Persons who have no way to get their items to the Edison Company office are asked to call GR. 4-3941 and arrangements will be made to collect them.

Submits Letter Of Resignation To School Board Tuesday Night

Superintendent O. E. Dunckel made public his intent to resign as head of the Farmington Public School System at the end of the current school year in a letter of resignation submitted to the School Board Tuesday night.

Dunckel's contract as superintendent will expire in June.

Action on the letter of resignation was deferred by the Board until its next regular meeting on January 28. Dunckel stated that he had no immediate plans for the future but indicated that he would retire from the field of school administration and teaching.

In his letter of resignation to the Board, Dunckel stated:

"I assure you that this is not an easy decision to make when I think of the splendid support given by the Board of Education, the citizens of the community, and a loyal and professional teaching staff. I shall always recall my experiences in Farmington with pleasure and sincere appreciation for the cooperation which has existed. As you and members of the board well know, the tremendous growth of the school system has created problems of school facilities, finance and personnel. Without the sympathetic understanding and support of the Board of Education, the task of developing and maintaining a satisfactory education program would have been not only most discouraging, but impossible.

WHEN a successor has been appointed, I shall be most happy during the remainder of the year to render any desired assistance. I am confident of the continued development of the school system under the forward planning of the Board of Education."

Superintendent Dunckel was named head of the Farmington Public School system in May of 1939 and took over duties in this capacity in September of the same year. Except for a three-year period between May of 1943 and September of 1946, he has served continuously as Superintendent of schools in Farmington since 1939. In 1943 Dunckel accepted a commission as lieutenant in the U. S. Naval Reserve.

Prior to his appointment as school superintendent here, Dunckel held positions as Superintendent of Schools in Sand Creek and Manchester, Michigan, respectively.

Dunckel holds a Life Teaching Certificate from Western State Teachers' College, a Bachelor of Science degree from Michigan State University and a Master of Science degree from the University of Michigan.

Council Accepts Bid For Purchase Of City Property

Sign Contract With Federal Industries

The City Council, at a special meeting Thursday evening, formally accepted the bid of Federal Industries Incorporated, for the purchase of 10 acres of city-owned land on the north side of Nine Mile between Farmington and Gill Roads.

Authorization was also granted by the Council to the City Manager to sign the purchase agreement for the site. The Council, at its regular meeting last week, offered Federal Industries a contract for the property at a bid price of $22,000. The contract was offered subject to the arrangement of a satisfactory purchase agreement between the two parties. Such an agreement was prepared and submitted to the Council Thursday evening.

Earl Scherffius, City Manager, reported Monday that the agreement has been signed. Work on the construction of the new Federal Industries plant is expected to begin as soon as weather permits. It is estimated that the new plant will employ as many as 400 workers and will have an estimated valuation of one and one-quarter million dollars.

ACTION was also taken by the Council approving the final plat for

(See COUNCIL ACCEPTS, P. 8A)

Discussion On Township Planning Emphasizes Need For Cooperation

Committee To Work With Other Governmental Units And Public In Draft Of Future Plans

Approximately 40 persons braved a king-sized blizzard last Wednesday evening to take part in a spirited discussion on community planning, sponsored by the Farmington Township Civic Association.

The principal debate centered around a discussion between John Spicer, attorney and resident of the Township, and Robert Carpenter of the Detroit Metropolitan Area Regional Planning Commission, regarding the question of Planning Board vs. Planning Commissions. Spicer, who was a member of the panel, voiced strong opposition to the Planning Commission idea on the grounds that it placed too much power and authority in the hands of a group which is separate from the Township Board. He cited a recent legal opinion to support his argument. Carpenter, who was the principal speaker of the evening, challenged Spicer's arguments and read a second legal opinion which supported the commission plan.

There has been some discussion in the Township relative to changing the present advisory Planning Committee to a stronger Planning Commission. It was indicated at the meeting, however, that no formal action on the question is being planned at this time. Carpenter, in his opening remarks, pointed out the values of a planning program and stated that it is essential to the orderly development of the community. Spicer stated

(See PLANNING, P. 6A

DROP CANDIDATE FROM TOWNSHIP PRIMARY LIST

The name of John Curry, previously announced candidate for Board of Review on the Republican Ticket in the Township Primary Election, has been removed from the list because of insufficient signatures on his nominating petitions.

Floyd A. Cairns, Township Clerk, stated Monday that Curry's petitions contained less than 88 signatures required for nomination. As a result of the disqualification, there will be no name on the ballot for the office of Board of Review on the Republican Ticket.

Cairns added that the complete list of petitions for each candidate has now been checked and that all other names have been certified for the Primary.

Schedule School Bond Issue Talks

A series of talks and discussions on future school needs and a $4,000,000 school bond issue proposed to be placed to a vote of Farmington School District taxpayers sometime in March or April were begun by the School Board last week.

These talks will be continued at public meetings and before interested private organizations through January and February, school officials indicated. The program being presented by the Board is designed to show in detail what anticipated future school needs in Farmington will be, the steps which are proposed to meet immediate needs and what the proposed program outlined to satisfy these needs will cost.

The next talk and discussion on the proposed bond issue and future school needs to be given by members of the School Board in conjunction with school administrative personnel will be held at the Farmington Senior High School cafeteria on Shiawassee Road on Monday, January 21, starting at 8 p.m. Arrangements for the presentation have been made by the Ten Mile PTA who have extended an invitation to Junior-Senior High PTA members as well as any other interested parties to attend.

On February 7, a talk and discussion on the bond issue and future school needs will be given at the Bond School to members of the Bond School PTA, Kendallwood Civic Association and other interested residents of the area. The same program will be presented at the Gill Road School on February 18.

GIRL SCOUTS PLAN HUNGARIAN RELIEF CLOTHING DRIVE

Members of Girl Scout Troop 116 and their leaders will sponsor and conduct a special collection of clothing for Hungarian relief this Saturday, January 19, throughout the Farmington area.

Persons who have clothing which they wish to contribute to the Girl Scouts for this project are requested to contact Mrs. Dorothy Bennett, troop leader, at GR. 4-9323, or Mrs. Gloria Denkhauft, assistant leader, at GR. 4-1360.

Seek Suggested Names For New Clarenceville H.S.

Urge Citizens To Take Part In Project

The Clarenceville School Board is requesting the help of the community in obtaining suggested names for the new high school building, according to a resolution approved by the Board at its regular meeting Thursday evening.

The resolution provides that since there is a great deal of community interest in the new school building, that notices be published, posted and mailed in order to inform the public that the Board is interested in securing suggested names for the high school. It is further suggested that the names be forwarded to the Board of Education in written form as early as possible so that a selection can be made in the near future.

Action was also taken by the Board authorizing the securing of bids on classroom furniture for the new high school building. The bids are to be secured on combination chair-desks, with metal frames and solid wood base. Alternate proposals will be secured op plastic table tops, book racks and arm rests.

THE BOARD approved a motion to increase the cost of Type A lunches by 2 cents, effective January 28, 1957. Under the new program, the cost of Type A lunches will be 27 cents for the elementary school students, 87 cents for junior-senior high school students and 42 cents for staff members. Action was also taken to increase the salary of the cafeteria supervisor by $100 effective December 1, 1956 and to make provision for a $100 per year increase, when approved by the administration, up to a maximum of $3,500. A 5 cent per hour increase was granted to all cafeteria employees, except the head

(See SEEK NAMES, P. 8A)

Award Contracts For New School

At a special meeting of the Farmington School Board last Thursday evening bids were received and contracts awarded for the construction of a new elementary school at the old William Grace school site on Shiawassee Road just east of Middlebelt Road.

The contract for general construction on the building was awarded to the Wallace Construction Company at the lowest bid of $317,000. Eleven firms submitted bids. The mechanical contract for the building was awarded to the Great Lakes Power Piping Company at a low bid price of $97,700 and the electrical contract to the Stanley Electric Company at the lowest bid of $28,869.

In other action the Board authorized the acceptance of options on two new school sites. Approval was given for the payment of $2,300 for option on an eight acre parcel just west of the city of Farmington. Also approved was the payment of $5,000 for an option on a ten acre parcel south of the new expressway and east of Farmington Road.

Seek Subdivision Controls In City

Earl Scherffius, City Manager, has suggested to the City Planning Commission that they consider immediately the drafting of a set of subdivision regulations.

Scherffius, who is also a member of the Planning Commission, stated that the regulations are necessary to insure the orderly processing of future subdivision plats. He suggested that the Commission call a special meeting as soon as possible to discuss the proposal. It was also suggested that a planning consultant be invited to attend the meeting as an advisor on the matter. Scherffius stated that he had a number of sample regulations, adopted by other communities, which might serve as a guide.

A proposed plat for the subdividing of McGee Hill, North Farmington Road between Ten Mile and Shiawassee has been submitted to the Planning Commission. Action on the tentative plat is being delayed pending further study. The subdivision, located on both the east and west sides of Farmington Road would include 78 lots. It is proposed that a small lake be developed on the west side of Farmington Road along the river bed and that a pumping station be constructed in connection with the sanitary sewer system.

Board To Receive Subdivision Rules

The final draft of the proposed subdivision regulations for Farmington Township are expected to be presented to the Township Board at its regular meeting next Tuesday, January 22.

Members of the newly organized Planning Committee have been reviewing the proposed draft preparatory to filing it with the Board. The regulations, first drafted by the Planning Committee and revised by the Township Attorney and Planning Consultants, would establish a set procedure for the submitting of future tentative subdivision plats.

One of the principal objections to the revised regulations, as voiced by citizens at various Board meetings, has been the omission of direct reference to requirements on water and sewage disposal. A member of the Commission indicated at the last Board meeting, however, these items were being included in the guide.

Auto Accidents Claim Two Lives

Vincent B. Harrington of Berkley was fatally injured Sunday afternoon on Farmington Road at McGee Hill when he lost control of his auto and ran off the road.

The car, after going out of control, rammed into the bridge abutment at the base of the hill and rolled over into the branch of the Rouge River below. Harrington, 38, who suffered a fractured skull, injuries and fractures to the jaw, leg and ribs died shortly after being admitted to William Beaumont Hospital.

The accident occured around 3:45 p.m.

George W. Leiter, 59, proprietor of the Saratoga Farms Restaurant between Farmington and Novi was fatally injured last Thursday in a two-car collision at Seven Mile and Newburg Road, Livonia. Leiter who made his home at 42050 Grand River Avenue was dead on arrival at Mt. Carmel Hospital.

According to William D. Tippett of 12031 Cardwell, Livonia, driver of the second auto involved in the crash, Leiter failed to stop coming off of Newburg Road and rammed into his car. Tippett was not held.

Shortly before 6 p.m. last Friday afternoon Ivan Towns of 28227 Thorny Brae, Farmington, was in

(See AUTO ACCIDENTS, P. 8A)

CONSIDERABLE damage was done to the front portion of the auto above last Friday afternoon when it smashed into the side of another vehicle at the Middlebelt-Twelve Mile Road intersection. Ivan Towns of 28227 Thorny Brae, Farmington, driver of the car, suffered only minor injuries. The driver of the second vehicle involved, which pulled out in front of him from Middlebelt, was not hurt.

Board Authorizes Revisions In Plan For Grade School

Changes Designed To Cut Building Cost

Authorization was given for the drawing up of revised plans for an elementary school at the Kendallwood School site Monday night by the Farmington School Board, following a study of proposed revisions as suggested by representatives of the Earl Meyers architectural firm.

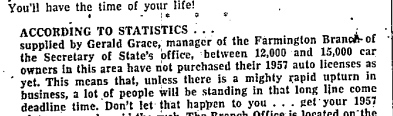
A revised school plan for this site was determined necessary by the Board when bids received for the elementary unit originally planned ran considerably higher than anticipated. Meyers expressed confidence that the proposed revisions in the original plan would result in considerable savings in the cost of construction and would be more in line with the amount which had been earmarked for the erection of an elementary unit on the site.

He agreed to have the revised plans ready for final approval by the Board at its regularly scheduled meeting on February 11 and advertise for new bids immediately following approval.

A report on the progress of construction work now underway on the new junior high school building on 12 Mile Road between Farmington and Power Roads was made to the Board by Peter Tarapata, architectual firm representative. He indicated that extreme difficulties were being encountered in obtaining necessary steel units for the building but that every effort would be made to have it delivered

(See BOARD AUTHORIZES, P. 6A)

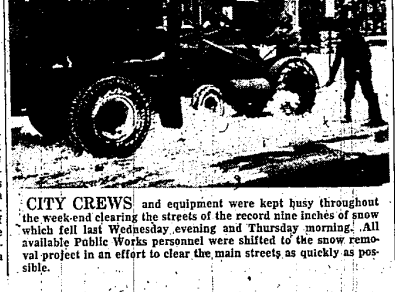
AROUND THE BLOCK



THIS WINTER WEATHER . . . we've been having may be rough on Dad and the "old family bus." but it's a real picnic for the kids. The big pile-up of white stuff coupled with some downright good freezin' weather has turned Farmington into a haven for winter sports lovers. In addition to the skating rink and snow-covered hills north of Shiawassee and west of Powers, a new rink has been added down at the American Legion Home on Grand River at Lakeway. According to Legion members, the ice is fine, as of now, and everyone is invited to take a spin, on your feet of course. So, Dad and Mom, get out the long socks, the scarfs and the heavy jackets and take the kids on a real winter outing right here at home. You'll have the time of your life!

ACCORDING TO STATISTICS . . . supplied by Gerald Grace, manager of the Farmington Branch of the Secretary of State's office, between 12,000 and 15,000 car owners in this area have not purchased their 1957 auto licenses as yet. This means that, unless there is a mighty rapid upturn in business, a lot of people will be standing in that long line come deadline time. Don't let that happen to you . . . get your 1957 plates now and avoid the rush. The Branch Office is located on the north side of Grand River, just east of the Davis and Lent Men's Store. By the way, if you own a commercial truck or trailer, remember that you must have a new weight slip before you can get your 1957 plates. So let this be a warning to you, unless you want to join the line-up, get into the Branch Office today!

THIS SATURDAY . . . you'll have a golden opportunity to join your friends and neighbors in the continuing fight against polio. Maybe we should say a "blue" opportunity, since this Saturday will be "Blue Crutch Day" throughout the Farmington community. Members of the various Boy Scout Troops will be stationed at key locations in the business areas for the purpose of enlisting your support in the Farmington March of Dimes campaign. Each person who contributes to the program will receive a miniature "Blue Crutch" pin as a symbol of his or her donation. But, more important, each person will receive the undying gratitude of some unknown individual who is waging an up-hill battle against the effects of this crippling disease. Watch for the Boy Scouts this Saturday . . . give generously and be thankful that your crutch is only a pin on your lapel.



CITY CREWS and equipment were kept busy throughout the week-end clearing the streets of the record nine inches of snow which fell last Wednesday evening and Thursday morning. All available Public Works personnel were shifted to the snow removal project in an effort to clear the main streets as quickly as possible.

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