

# The Farmington Enterprise

LEADERSHIP-OUR PURPOSE SERVICE-OUR GOAL

FARMINGTON, MICHIGAN, THURSDAY, MAY 16, 1957

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Wayne and Oakland Counties

TWENTY-THREE PAGES

NOW BEING READ

BY 4,142 FAMILIES

or 62.5% of the Citizens of the Farmington Area

SIXTY-NINTH YEAR — NUMBER 33

## KENDALLWOOD WATER CONTRACT RULED INVALID

### Board Lacks Power To Take Over Subdivision Systems, Counsel Says

In a letter read to the Township Board Tuesday evening, Charles A. Davis, Chief Assistant to the Oakland County Corporation Counsel, expressed the opinion that the Township had no legal authority to enter into an agreement for the acceptance and operation of the Kendallwood water system.

The opinion was prepared and submitted by the County Corporation Counsel at the request of Board Trustee Wendell Brown. Davis states in his letter that the contract, previously entered into between the Township Board and the Thompson-Brown Company, presents the question "whether a township can accept as a gift a water system for a particular area and then operate it as a township system. There is doubt as to the validity of such a gift; there is also no doubt that a township is without authority to create or establish a department of public works," Davis added.

### Get-Togethers For Pre-School Children Planned

Plans are now being completed for Get-Togethers for Pre-School children at each of the elementary units in the Farmington Public School System the latter part of this month and first part of June. Miss Minnie Zielke, director of elementary education, disclosed this week.

On days designated at the various schools parents will have an opportunity to visit the school and classrooms with their youngsters who will be starting training in the fall and talk with teachers and other school officials.

Get-togethers will be held at each of the schools from 10 to 10:45 a.m. and from 1:15 to 2 p.m. Since these will be the times for the actual meetings it is suggested that parents and children plan on arriving from ten to fifteen minutes earlier than the stated time.

The first get-togethers will be held at the Eagle School on Wednesday, May 22. On the following Wednesday, May 29, get-togethers will be held at the Middlebelt, Gill and Shawassaw Schools. Pre-school children and their parents will be invited at the second and third schools on Wednesday, June 5, with get-togethers also planned at the Ten Mile School the following day, June 6. Students presently attending kindergarten will be dismissed from classes on the day that get-togethers are to be held at the school.

A record kindergarten enrollment is expected in the fall. Over 700 children's names appeared on the list taken in May of the past year. This number has undoubtedly increased considerably in view of the many new residents in the township.

### Clears Supervisor On Tax Remarks

In a statement released last week to the Enterprise, William Gallagher, Township Assessor, cleared the recent controversy between Supervisor Frank Stephenson and Hugh Owen of the Owen Sporting Goods Store regarding payment of personal property taxes. Gallagher stated that the statements were the result of an oversight made in the assessing office.

Gallagher stated, "In order to clarify a situation that occurred at the recent Farmington Township Board meeting, I would like to publish the following statement of the Supervisor, Mr. Frank Stephenson, regarding the personal property statement of the Owen Sporting Goods Store. The result of an oversight made in the Assessing Office, in short it was the result of a report drawn up in the Assessing Office for its own use and was not checked against the tax rolls. Mr. Stephenson was not advised of this and accepted the report as the correct copy which was correct in every detail."

In his remarks to the Board, Stephenson stated that the Owen Sporting Goods Store, a non-profit corporation, had never paid any personal property taxes. Owen challenged the Supervisor's remarks and produced evidence to show that he had paid personal property taxes continuously since 1951. He added that he could show further proof that he had paid such taxes for the past 12 years.

### Board OK's Sale Of School Notes

A resolution authorizing the advertising of bids for the sale of school notes was approved by the Farmington Township Board at its regular meeting Thursday evening.

According to the resolution filed with William G. Lawrason, secretary, at the Board of Education office, 2020 Middlebelt Road prior to 8:00 p.m. on Thursday, May 23, the notes will be dated June 1, 1957 and will mature March 1, 1958. They will bear interest at a rate of 4% per annum.

### Contest Assured In Annual School Board Elections

Contests are assured in both the Farmington and Clarenceville School Board elections to be held this year.

A total of two candidates will be seeking election to the single term on the Farmington School Board. Edmond Karr, 2323 Wesley Drive, will oppose Bayard dew Turner, 33725 State Street, current president of the Board.

In the Clarenceville School Board race a total of four candidates have filed nominating petitions for two vacancies. The candidates are: Regina Beerholm, 20210 Gillman, Livonia; Halley Hayes, 19827 Weyer, Livonia; William G. Lawrason, 24035 St. Francis, Farmington; and Gene Pillar, 18427 Foch, Livonia. Lawrason is presently serving as secretary of the Board while Jimmie Nicholas, treasurer, who term also expires this July, is not seeking reelection. Both terms in the Clarenceville election are for periods of three years each.

IN ADDITION to the election of two members to the school board, Clarenceville will vote on the proposition of whether or not to transfer \$531.50 in the 1956 Debt Fund to the 1955 Debt Fund. The transfer can not be made without formal authorization from the voters.

The final day for registration in both elections has been set for Friday, May 31. All persons, not already registered in their respective school districts, may make application to vote from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Clarenceville voters may make application at their respective city or township office, while Farmington voters may apply at the office of the Farmington School Board, 1000 S. Michigan Street, or at the office of the Farmington City Clerk, 1000 S. Michigan Street.

### Poppy Days Set For May 23-25

Members of the American Legion and Veterans of Foreign Wars will conduct their annual Poppy Days Sale through-out the Farmington community on May 23, 24 and 25, officials of both organizations announced this week.

Proceeds from the sale are used to aid disabled veterans as well as to assist in the purchase of poppies are handmade by disabled war veterans in hospitals and convalescent workrooms. They are sold to the American Legion and Veterans of Foreign Wars. The poppy days sale is held annually just prior to Memorial Day as a tribute to America's war dead.

Mrs. Carl Goers, Poppy Chairman of the Groves Walker Unit of the American Legion Auxiliary, stated that "while honoring those who died defending America, we must also think of those who did not die but sacrificed health and limbs in the service of their country. She added that volunteer auxiliary workers who are still fighting their long and painful battle against wounds and illness in an effort to bring them comfort and cheer. Funds are needed for

### WANT TO FATTEN YOUR PIGGIE BANK?

If you're looking for a quick way to get some money for those "extras" you want, an announcement may be of interest to you.

The Enterprise is about to launch an all-out drive to inaugurate its "Piggie Bank" campaign. May 20 through June 17, is to get just as many city and township residents on our regular mailing list as possible. To do this, we need all the adult soliters we can get.

We'll pay a liberal 75c commission on every new subscriber signed up by a certified soliters during this month-long drive. We will also provide all the help and information necessary to make the job easier and more profitable, including partial guide lists.

So, if you want to fatten your piggy bank in a hurry, call The Enterprise, GR. 4-6225, today for an appointment.



### ERECTION OF NEW TRAFFIC LIGHTS AT INTERSECTION OF GRAND RIVER AND NINE MILE

The anticipated record flow of traffic along Grand River this summer. City officials have expressed growing concern over the traffic problem on Grand River since the closing of the Farmington Cut-Off. It is felt that the new

lights will greatly facilitate the movement of traffic both along and onto Grand River. In addition to the lights, construction is well underway on the extension of Nine Mile south to the Farmington-Brighton Expressway. The extension, pictured in the background, will provide access to the south and west, by-passing the business area.

### Board Approves Plans For Three School Additions

Authorization was given by the Farmington School Board Monday night to proceed with working drawings on three school construction projects following a detailed study of plans submitted by representatives of the respective architectural firms handling these projects.

Peter Tarapata was instructed to proceed with more detailed drawings for the proposed addition at the old junior high school on Thomas Street and J. MacDonald Jacob to proceed with working drawings for the proposed multi-purpose and kindergarten room addition at the Middlebelt School.

Rough drawings submitted by John Allen for an addition at the Gill Road School were also approved with minor changes. A proposed scheme calling for the addition of a multi-purpose room directed in front of the main entrance of the present building joined by a connecting corridor was determined most practical by the Board. Allen was instructed to proceed in the development of this scheme.

A PROGRESS report given by a representative from the Earl Meyer architectural firm indicated that work was progressing satisfactorily on the new William Grace site school and that work is now well underway on the new Kendallwood elementary school.

It was pointed out in the report, however, that the three inch water main originally specified to bring water to the Kendallwood school site did not meet with Township approval. They have requested that a six inch main be laid and that a fire hydrant be installed at the school site. Board members questioned the need for such a large main and asked that future negotiations be conducted with the Township on this matter. It was also requested that a check (See SCHOOL BOARD, P. 8A)

### Council To Take Action On Paving Assessment Resolution Monday

A formal resolution approving the special assessment districts for the paving of Floral and portions of Lilac and Hawthorne Streets is expected to be acted upon by the City Council at its regular meeting next Monday evening.

Approval of the resolution is necessary before application can be made to the Municipal Finance Commission. No special bond issue for the paving project will be sold, unless first approved by the City Manager, has estimated that it will require approximately six weeks for the Commission to process the application.

A public hearing on the special assessment roll will be held Wednesday evening at the Municipal Building, despite the fact that a quorum of Councilmen was not present. While those persons present at the hearing were permitted to ask questions, it was decided to hear any additional comments from affected property owners at the regular meeting next Monday.

"DURING the hearing Wednesday evening, Roy Winter, 2384 Dimes Court, owner of property on Hawthorne Street, asked why the proposed surfacing of Hawthorne was not being extended through to Elm Street. Schurter stated that the petition stated that the requested surfacing was being halted at that point since the City is unable to find a suitable location for building purposes at this time, because of drainage conditions.

### Named Delegate To Girl's State

The American Legion Auxiliary announced this week that Judith Cook will serve as an official delegate at the Wolverine Girl's State to be held June 18 to 27 on the campus of the University of Michigan.

Miss Cook, who was selected earlier as an alternate, will replace Pamela Chapman who is going to Germany this summer under the American Field Service Student Exchange Program. The second delegate from Farmington is Daphne Curtis who is being sponsored by the Farmington Kiwanis Club.

### Village Election Candidates Listed

A total of nine candidates have filed nominating petitions for the special June 2 Woodcreek Farms Village Charter election, Vernon P. Fisher, Charter Commission Secretary, announced Tuesday.

The lone contest will be positions of Village Councilmen with five candidates running for four offices. The qualified voters of the Village of Woodcreek Farms will elect a full slate of candidates in addition to voting on the proposition of whether or not the proposed charter as drafted by the Charter Commission shall be adopted. If the voters approve the proposed charter, a certified copy of the vote must be filed within 30 days after the date of the election with the Secretary of State and the County Clerk. The charter will thus become effective upon the date of filing and the newly elected officials will be sworn into office.

Voting in the special charter election will take place at the home of Alger Clark, 28390 Wellington Road. The polls will be open from 8:00 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. on Tuesday, June 4. Qualified voters of Section 12, Farmington Township will be eligible to participate in the voting.

### Schedule Busy Day Escanaba Official To Visit City Monday During Mayor's Exchange

The City of Farmington will have a new Mayor next Monday. "While his term of office is somewhat limited, there will be no restrictions on the welcome he is to receive from the citizens of Farmington. The official's name is Wesley W. Hansen and he is Mayor of the City of Escanaba. Hansen and Farmington Mayor Robert Lindbert will exchange jobs for the day as part of a four-day observance of "Michigan Week."

Earl Scherffius, City Manager, stated that Hansen will arrive in Farmington Sunday evening. He will begin his brief but busy tenure as Mayor early Monday morning when he visits the municipal office. Hansen will visit the various municipal facilities including the Public Works Department, Police and Fire Stations, Water Department and the new Sewage Disposal System. A tour of commercial and industrial plants is also planned as well as a visitation to various schools of the district.

The regular routine will be interrupted at noon with a special luncheon in honor of the visiting official. Members of the City Council and administrative staff as well as city leaders have been invited to attend the luncheon. During the afternoon, Hansen will have an opportunity to discuss municipal problems with various city officials and to participate in a general exchange of ideas. The visiting official has also been invited to take part in the regular City Council meeting to be held at 8:30 p.m. Monday evening.

While Hansen is taking part in activities in Farmington, Mayor and Mrs. Lindbert will be guests of the City of Escanaba.

### BUSY MOMENTS

were few and far between at the voting booth in the Clarenceville high school on Monday, as less than 10% of the registered electors cast ballots on the special millage proposal. Election officials stated that the vote was one of the lightest in the history of the District. The proposed four mill tax levy for school operation was approved by a substantial majority.

### Voters Approve Four Mill Tax Levy In Special Clarenceville School Vote

Voters of the Clarenceville School District, at a special election Monday, approved by an overwhelming majority an additional four mill tax levy for operational purposes.

The levy, authorized for a period of five years, was approved by a vote of 173 yes to 45 no. The 210 votes represent less than 10 per cent of the registered electors of the District. Officials expressed concern over the poor turn-out of voters for the special election, especially since the proposal involves an increase in tax money. Prior to the election, officials estimated that even though the vote would be light, however, it was hoped that the turn-out would be much larger than actually developed.

The new four mill levy will raise an estimated \$24,000 next year. These additional funds will be used to adjust salaries of employees of the District and provide for additional supplies. Officials stated that the new levy will assist the Board of Education in keeping pace with the ever rising cost of educational materials and salary schedule compatible with other school districts.

OFFICIALS emphasized that even though a feeling of uneasiness had been expressed by the voters, only two mills will be spread in that portion of the District located in Farmington Township and the City of Livonia. At the present time two mills are to be levied in Farmington Township and Livonia while no additional millage is being spread in that portion of the District located in Redford Township.

A proposal for the rezoning of the property between Mooney and Orchard Lake Road from Shawassaw Center and extends through to the end of the light industrial zone along Eight Mile Road. According to the developers the proposed subdivision will contain 270 lots of a minimum size of 66 feet by 113 feet. Following a detailed discussion, the Commission suggested several minor changes. A revised plat is to be filed at the next regular meeting of the Commission.

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### DONATIONS REACH \$2,135 IN ANNUAL CANCER CRUSADE

Collections in the 1957 Farmington Cancer Crusade have reached \$2,135 according to a report issued this week by John Clappison, Campaign Chairman.

The report presents an increase of \$335 over the previous report. Clappison emphasized that the latest figure is still incomplete as not all volunteer collectors have turned in their reports. Efforts are being made to complete the campaign as soon as possible.

### AROUND THE BLOCK

HOW DO YOU RATE... your driving? If you're a teenager, you can get the answer by taking part in the Jaycee Road-E-O this Sunday, May 19, at 2:00 p.m. at the Food Fair parking lot, Farmington Road at State Street. Here's your chance to help the Jaycees prove that teenagers are skillful drivers. It won't cost you a cent and you have a chance of winning a \$25 savings bond besides. All you need is a driving permit and a determination to win. As an added incentive, the winner of the local contest will be eligible to participate in the State Road-E-O, sponsored by the Michigan Junior Chamber of Commerce. So, if you're a teenager, step behind the wheel and test your skill and if you are in the driver's seat, you may be pretty close. Needless to say, Sunday afternoon and watch these boys and girls go through their paces?

CLARENCEVILLE ELECTION... workers had lots of time to catch up on their reading, writing and cracking on Monday as only a handful of voters trekked to the polls during the special millage election. Officials estimate that between 7% and 9% of the registered voters of the District actually cast ballots. We don't know whether this is a new record in voter apathy or not, but it must be pretty close. Needless to say, this lack of citizen interest in the welfare of the Clarenceville School District is discouraging. We sincerely hope that it is not a reflection of things to come, since the important annual school elections are less than a month away. Our schools are our responsibility. It hardly seems necessary to tell Americans on the value of democratic action, yet tell us must if we are to protect the heritage that is ours as free men and women!

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