

Twp. Schedules Pay Increase Vote on Feb. 15

Mayor Tells Of City's Progress

ROBERT LINDBERT
 Mayor City of Farmington
 The theme for the year 1964 in the City of Farmington has been one of economic growth and improved business climate. Nine new industries moved into the community during the year, plus fourteen new commercial establishments with a valuation of over a million dollars.

This has generated increased business activity, job opportunities, purchasing power and increased tax base. The downtown area has been revitalized through adequate off street parking and diversification of stores and services that provide a well rounded shopping area for the community and its environs. The paving of a new industrial drive in our Eight Mile Industrial Park has provided facilities for future expansion of light industry which is so vitally needed by the community.

Residential and apartment



Robert Lindbert

construction was at a very high level during the year. More than 200 units were completed at a valuation exceeding two million dollars. His increased population density affords greater purchasing power for local business and enhances our tax base.

Needed improvements to our park and recreation facilities were given high priority during the year. Additional land was acquired for the City Park and recreational facilities including Magic Square and park equipment was installed. Civic Center expansion was accomplished through acquiring and razing of substantial buildings to improve the aesthetics and the general image of the community.

Planning was highlighted by the development of new General Development Plan for the community which is in its final stages prior to publication. The Master Plan has been a two year effort on behalf of the Planning Commission and provides the guidelines for the future development of the community. The Planning Commission should be commended for its dedication in completing this excellent project.

Services were broadened in our Public Safety Department through employment of additional personnel, establishment of a Detective Division and initiation of a new report and records system. Law enforcement has increased more than 100%, and our shifts have been strengthened to provide stronger emergency service to the community.

1964 has been a year of progress with Farmington being on the move forward. We are looking forward to further economic growth and community improvements during the year 1965.

Township Sets Saturday Hours To Pay Taxes

As a convenience to the taxpayers of Farmington Township, the office of Township Treasurer Elise Avery will be open on three Saturdays: Jan. 9, Feb. 6, and Feb. 27, from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Those who pay in March will have to come in, and get a revised statement and pay it at the Office of the Oakland County Treasurer.

School Head Cites Growth

G. V. Harrison
 Superintendent Farmington Public Schools
 Growth has been the word for the Farmington Public Schools in 1964—growth in numbers of students and teachers, growth in facilities and growth in the quality of the curriculum.

In 1963 the total student population in the system was 11,736. Twelve months later we number 12,623 students.

To serve these additional 829 young people we added 35 teachers to our professional staff and opened 12 additional classrooms—six at Eagle School and six at Gill School.

In elementary education we look back with satisfaction to participating in an Oakland County Research Study of Beginning Reading.

A first grade classroom at Longacre School is working with the new 44-character Initial Teaching Alphabet, provocative British innovation that appears to give beginning readers superiority over those taught by conventional methods. This alphabet is based on the 44 sounds in our spoken language.

It permits first graders to have a broad reading experience and minimizes their confusion in relating letter sound to letter symbol.

Emphasis at Ten Mile School has been the ungraded approach through the Language Arts. Individual expression of ideas is encouraged. The program is designed to help children improve his language power through listening, speaking, reading and writing.

A Basal Approach is being used in a first grade classroom at Shawasssee School. The program follows a careful sequence of reading and workbooks keyed to the development of individual reading skills.

In another study at Flinders School an ungraded approach termed "Programmed Reading" is being used by a first grade. The program contains elements of both the phonics and whole word method of teaching reading. The student moves at his own pace without holding up the rest of the class.

The elementary staff and administration has continued the study of modern mathematics in 1964. Some 100 teachers entered in a formal college level class staged in Farmington by Dr. David Wells, director of mathematics in the Oakland County Board of Education. Our objective is a well-trained teaching staff in the new math before we launch the program in the classroom.

At the secondary level, the Farmington Public Schools graduated more than 1,000 students in June 1964. Farmington Senior High School offers its 75th Commencement, granting diplomas to 255 seniors.

North Farmington High School held its first graduation exercises for a class of 245. Prior to the graduation of this class, North Farmington High School was granted full accreditation by the University of Michigan and the North Carolina Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools.

An exciting work-study program was launched after the length of the community study. The Co-operative Training Program, initiated in September, will serve double the original number of students in the first semester of 1965. Business, trade and industry have joined with the schools in providing youth with on-the-job training opportunities.

We look ahead to continued growth in 1965. A steadily climbing enrollment is expected—some 12,575 students by September. We are prepared to house them with a new 20-room elementary school, Lakeshire, and by adding classrooms to existing buildings.

Additions include 24 rooms at North Farmington High School, 24 rooms at East-Ten Mile High School, 8 rooms at Bond Elementary School and 6 rooms at Middlebelt Elementary School.

To secure the additional competent teaching staff we will need to meet our growth, Farmington Public Schools is participating in a Directed Teaching Program with Michigan State University, the University of Michigan and Wayne State University.

This program brings education students in their final semester of study to a full-time supervised teaching experience in many Farmington classrooms. Most of the collegians take up residence in the community and many of them become candidates, upon graduation, for teaching positions in our schools.

The Board of Education continues to study improvements in salary schedules and we maintain vigorous contacts with numerous colleges and universities, selling Farmington as a community to prospective teachers.

Our goal for 1965 is the continuous study of new methods, techniques and teaching materials in order that the children of Farmington might have the best possible education to prepare them for an ever more complex world.

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EYES ON THE FUTURE, this eight-month-old suburban youngster will mark his first New Year's Day this week, with most Plymouth, Livonia, Redford and Farmington residents hoping that 1965 will bring him and his generation a world of peace. The baby is Michael Dziurgot, Jr., 32431 Maryland, Livonia.

Farmington Man Dies In Crash

Howard James Lock, of Farmington, who survived the war in the South Pacific, died after his car struck a light pole on Grand River, just west of Lahser Rd. Lock, 41, lived at 28071 Ridgebrook. He is survived by his wife, Gloria, and their three children.

The accident took place at 2:55 a.m., on Thursday, Dec. 24. He was rushed to Redford General Hospital, where he died 12 hours later, of internal injuries. The funeral was held at St. Fabian's Church, in Farmington. Arrangements were handled by Van Valkenburg Funeral Home.

Lock was employed as a plant engineer at the Chrysler Corp. He was discharged from the Army, in 1946, as a Tech Sgt. Among his citations were the Victory Medal, the Asiatic Pacific Theatre Ribbon with two Bronze Battle Stars, and four Overseas Service Bars.

H. G. REICHHARDT of Farmington (25351 E. Newell Circle) has been appointed vice-president in charge of sales of the Automotive Division of American Metal Products of Detroit. He joined the company four years ago.

Farmington School Board Acts to Improve Reading

The Farmington School System was given approval by the Board of Education to hire a reading resource person to work with the teachers in an effort to improve reading instruction in the schools.

The action was taken at the regular Board of Education meeting held last Monday evening.

Approval was given only after heated debate at a previous meeting followed by a closed executive study session of the school system's entire reading program in Fontic next semester.

Primary function of the resource person for the 1965-66 school year would be to help teachers analyze children's abilities, identify students with specific problems as well as those who are fast readers and locate and secure materials for them, contribute to the planning of a total school program for all children and be available for parent-teacher consultations when necessary.

Other action before the Board included an amendment offered by Herbert R. Neal to the library selection policy. It called for a complaint to go before the Board of Education for final authority when it couldn't be resolved satisfactorily at a lower level.

Under present conditions, when the complaint on offensive material can not be solved

What's Inside

The Farmington Observer

- Business Directory 12
- Church Directory 12
- Classifieds 12-15
- Dine Out 7
- Kruger Food News 16
- Sports News 10
- School Lunch Menu 9
- Theatres 6
- Women's News 5

Judge Turns Down Taxpayers' Suit

At a meeting of the Farmington Township Board of Trustees, on Saturday morning, Dec. 26, a date was set for a referendum on the pay raises which the Board voted to the members of the Township administration.

The question will be settled on Feb. 15, along with the special primary election for 14th District State Senator, necessitated by the death of Senator-elect Paul M. Chandler. By so scheduling, the Board saved the Township the expense of having to set a special election on the pay raises.

Those opposing the raises had received a setback on Thursday, when Circuit Judge Philip Pratt ruled that the raises were legally permissible.

They based their suit on a clause in the Michigan Constitution that says: "No salaries shall be raised within 60 days prior to an election." The law also states that pay raises shall be determined at the last meeting of the Township Board.

The raises were voted at a special meeting, on Nov. 2, the day before the Township election. Judge Pratt ruled that to have applied the 60 day clause would have meant no meetings for 60 days prior to the election. Further, aspects of the law have been antedated by the state's new Constitution.

Bernard S. Kahn, attorney for those who started the suit, indicated he would advise against appealing Pratt's decision.

In another decision, the Board accepted Town and Country Dodge's bid for the sale of two new police cars. The Michigan Supervisor Curt Hall said:

"Our experience with another make of car has been so good that we were a little loath to change, but we are certain that the new police cars will measure up to our requirements."

"Despite the criticisms raised in a recent letter to the editor in one of the local papers, it is not our usual practice to set on bids for new cars at the meetings when they are presented."

"We normally appoint a committee to check on the specifications and make recommendations to the Board. Town and Country's bid happens to be low in this case; but the low bid is not necessarily the best bid, in all cases, when buying automobiles which take the kind of punishment our police cars do."

Group Asks Vote On Apartments

The question of whether builder Thomas Duke should be permitted to build his multi-million dollar Village Green apartment development, at Grand River and Halsted may go to the voters of Farmington Township.

A group of citizens has submitted petitions to Township Clerk Floyd Cairns, containing slightly more than 1,400 signatures. They are being examined by Township Attorney Joseph T. Brennan.

The Village Green, as envisioned by Duke, would include a motel-restaurant and an 18-hole golf course.

It has been the subject of considerable controversy in the Township. When it passed the Zoning Board, on Sept. 24, about 100 people crowded the hearing room. When it passed the Board of Trustees, on Nov. 23, there was only a handful present.

But a petition drive began suddenly this month. And now there is a good chance that "Village Green" may find itself on a ballot.

Ekey Gets Red Cross Appointment

John M. McCoy, Chairman, Wixom County, Ill., Chapter, American Red Cross, today announced that the Chapter has employed Glen A. Ekey, of Farmington to co-ordinate the Chapter's Safety Services program, and assist in co-ordinating other Chapter activities.

Ekey has been employed by the American National Red Cross, and took his "In-Service" training in the Red Cross Chapters Wichita Falls, Dallas, and Amarillo, Texas, prior to assuming his position with the Wixom County Chapter. He graduated from Farmington High School, and holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Recreation Administration from Michigan State University.

Named Top Soldier

A Farmingtonite, PFC Jerry H. Antle has been named soldier of the month, for December, by the 325th Airborne Engineer Battalion, 101st Airborne Division, Ft. Campbell, Ky. He is the son of Mrs. Gladys Clark, 21294 Ontago, Farmington.

Neal felt that a further authority was needed—such as the Board who are legal representatives of the people—so that their complaints could be given final judgment.

Favorable results from the fluoride program were announced by Nicholas A. Abid, Elementary school.

He said that approximately 58 per cent of the students had the treatments. This is an increase over the past possibly due to a reduction in the cost per child from \$4 to \$3 this year, he said. Statistics showed that at Cloverdale, 80 pupils received fluoride for a total of 54.1 per cent. Longacre, 235 pupils for 63.4 per cent; Kenbrook, 104 for 72 per cent; Alameda, 104 for 65.1 per cent; Shawasssee, 62 for 36.3 per cent; William Grace, 161 for 53 per cent; and Our Lady of Sorrows, 170 for 59.6 per cent.

A total of 16 children received free fluoride on recommendation of the school principals, he added.

Key Observer Posts To Smith, Thompson

A new alignment of duties to fill the breach created by the death of Editor-Publisher Paul Chandler was announced Monday by Directors of the Observer Newspapers Inc.

Previously the directors announced the operations and policies of the chain, which includes the Livonia, Plymouth, Farmington and Redford Observers, would continue without change.

Milton Smith, longtime associate of the late Mr. Chandler, has been elevated from business manager to the post of General Manager.

Richard T. Thompson, news editor of the four publications and managing editor of the Plymouth Observer, will take over the duties of editor-in-chief. The changes are effective at once.

Mrs. Myra Chandler, widow of the late publisher, will remain as Women's Editor.

The remainder of the staff will remain unchanged and includes: Raymond Sase, advertising director; Mrs. Shirley Sussette, classified advertising manager; Larry Darnall, circulation manager; Sue Shaugnessy, church editor.

David Elsie, managing editor of the Redford, and Livonia Observers; Allen Rosenfeld, managing editor of the Farmington Observer; George Maskevich, sports editor; and William Mann, superintendent of the Observer job shop.