

# The Farmington Enterprise

"A Continuing Journal of Progress" Established 1888

P.O. Box 455 23623 Farmington Road, Farmington GR. 4-6225

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REPRESENTATIVES

## In Our Opinion . . .

### A Citizens Committee on Salaries

Last week we voiced criticism editorially over the Farmington Township Board's failure to wait until the evening before election day to make a decision on pay raises for the three top township administrators — the supervisor, clerk and treasurer.

The Enterprise also made it clear, however, that we did feel these township officials were deserving of additional salary as the community continued to grow and their duties and responsibilities continued to increase in number and scope. Our position on this statement has not changed.

The size of the pay hikes did come as somewhat of a shock to us but this shock was tempered somewhat after we had considered the fact that no increases in pay had been awarded to these three key township officials in the last four years. It has never been our feeling that pay increases should be awarded in exceptional big chunks like \$8,000 a year and then wait for several more years to be made before granting another raise.

It is our feeling that pay increases for all governmental employees, and employees of any other business operation,

### Interest in Homeowners' Rights Does Exist

On a number of occasions we have heard people in the community say that our city and township officials are catering to industry and business to the detriment of nearby residential homeowners.

The Enterprise has never felt that our community officials have deliberately done so. Perhaps some rezoning has been done and some building permits granted a little too hastily in our officials' zeal to bring into the community industry and commerce that would help our continually declining tax base. Yet we don't feel, however, that any action has been taken in recent years by our planners or governing boards with a "homeowner be damned" attitude as some citizens have implied.

The City of Farmington's strong stand against the Quigley Machine Products Co. infringement on residential homeowners property rights and violations of city regulations serves as a good example.

City officials did not permit requested rezoning for expansion of the Quigley plant on Grand River because they determined that it would be detrimental to nearby residential homeowners. Neither did they back down on their contention that regulations were being violated presently and take action to halt the violations stopped.

Court action by the Quigley plant management against the city resulted. A lot of time, effort and research was required by city employees and the city attorney to win out on the Quigley suit. This was not done for personal gain or prestige by our elected city officials. It was done in the interest of protecting the right of homeowners in the vicinity of this manufacturing plant's operations.

Many a lament has been heard about how this or that piece of property in the township or city was rezoned and allegedly to be detrimental to nearby residential property owners. Little commendation ever seems to be given when a rezoning request or the granting of a building permit is denied in our city or township because it would be detrimental to nearby homeowners, however.

Let's give words of praise every once in awhile instead of always criticism.

## Looking Back in the Files

### 5 Years Ago

NOVEMBER 12, 1959

**U-F Fund**  
Farmington went more than \$1,000 over the top of its quota in the United Foundation Torch Drive fund-raising campaign. A total of \$19,480 was collected in the Farmington U-F campaign.

**Grid Rivalry**  
The annual gridiron clash between the two junior high schools in the Farmington School District, Farmington and O. E. Dunckel, resulted with the Dunckel eleven earning a 27-14 Falcons Win.

**Falcons Win**  
The Farmington High School football team closed out their 1959 grid season with a hard-fought 50 victory over Belleville last week. It was the sixth win against two losses for the Falcons. EHS tied for second place in the Inter-Lakes Conference race.

**School Closes**  
Figures released this week reveal that the operating budget for the Farmington School District are now annual reaching the 25 million dollar mark and indications are that costs will increase with the added growth in the community.

### 10 Years Ago

NOVEMBER 11, 1954

**FHS Grid Finale**  
The Farmington High School football team closed out a dismal season last Friday by defeating 24-0 Whitefish Bay from the Bentley Bulldogs. The Falcon eleven failed to win a single gridiron encounter during the 1954 campaign.

### 15 Years Ago

NOVEMBER 10, 1949

**To Head Kiwanis**  
Wendell Brown has been elected President of the Farmington Kiwanis Club for the coming year.

**Cape Candidates**  
A total of 80 boys turned out for the opening of drills for the 1949-50 basketball season at Farmington High School.

**FHS Gridders**  
The Farmington High School football team closed out its 1949 season by taking it on the chin from the Bentley eleven, 28-0. The Falcons posted a record of five victories against three defeats this fall.

**Torch Drive Quota**  
Farmington is within \$100 of reaching their 1949 United

**THE ELKS TURKEY** Shoot was staged Sunday afternoon, November 8, behind Mickey's Restaurant in Farmington Township. Young and old alike showed up to try their skill at winning a nice Thanksgiving turkey. More than 80 turkey winners were decided in Sunday's competition. The event is sponsored annually by Farmington S.P.O.E. 1885.

### PUBLIC LETTER BOX

Letters submitted to the Editor for publication must be signed. Names will be withheld upon request. Opinions expressed in this column are those of the writer and do not necessarily represent the policies of this newspaper. Maximum length is 1,000 words.

#### Use the Money for Better Charity

To the Editor:  
Drive into Farmington this holiday season and see the new lights. And remember that for every 5 or 10 of these new lights a child could have had a new Christmas toy or a needy family a last minute decision to have a "traditional" football classic this year. I was pleased that they had joined other communities in a fine fund raising project. These games heighten interest in local athletics by providing a mythical city champion who is more important they offer the chance for local charitable organizations to receive some assistance. There has been similar games with their Soup Bowl and Goodwill games — all for good causes. But what use does Farmington plan for the extra money raised with their game?

Will it help the Farmington Old Newsboys who sell newspapers to raise money for the food baskets Goodwill distributes? Will it help the dolls the Girl Scouts dress each year? Will it help repair and distribute the toys the Elks club sell — all these so-called "Christmas" child shall be without a Christmas?

No. They are going to use it for an important project — to put up new Christmas lights in the community.

I am not against the practice of "lighting up" the town. I look forward to it because it heralds the beginning of the holiday season with all its attendant joys and excitement. But the reason for lighting the town or shopping centers, whether it be Northland or Farmington, is still the same: it is primarily a business to please the dedicated people — a business it is probably justifiable, certainly it is an enjoyable practice, but it still is a promotion, and as such, I believe it should be paid for by the people it benefits most — the Board of Commerce members or the charitable organizations.

Perhaps there is no charitable need for this "extra" money in Farmington. If this is true, then why not keep the money where it is earned, and use it to improve the facilities that earn it instead of using tax money for this purpose.

If the Board of Commerce is not going to buy lights, why not use the money toward lighting one of the high school athletic fields? Then Progressive Farmington wouldn't be the only community in this area without a lighted field. (The increased attendance at night games would probably quickly pay for the lights.)

Or the money could be used to provide more seating so that the many people who do attend the regular season games would not have to stand for two hours as so many did a week ago at N.F.

It could even be used to remedy the disgraceful situation that exists at N.F. After nearly four years, there still is not a single American flag or flagpole on the whole athletic field. I am sure the response in coming years will be greater if the cause is lasting and worthwhile.

Sincerely yours,  
W. H. Bopp,  
26328 Hidden Valley Court,  
Farmington, Michigan

#### Getting Too Much

To the Editor:  
In regard to your editorial "Getting Too Much Necessary" one of the thoughts included was: "It requires the best possible men and women to run the city, manager and set policies in our governmental operation."

Well, you won't get much of an argument with this sort of thinking. On the other hand, it certainly would be extremely refreshing to someone, at some time, have the "best possible" men and women to run our township; instead of the same bunch of entrenched politicians who have been in office for so many years and who have been so successful in their insatiable greed for fatter and fatter salaries.

In our rapidly growing community with its increasing population, it is likely that the Township Officers do have added work at this point, when it comes to work. The high school salaries — whether the taxpayers like it or not. Anyhow, it seems that our politicians would like to have us believe that they are such valuable assets to the community that they can't get along without them and if they can't get along, then they must go elsewhere.

Oh boy! What garbage! Let's be sensible. If at any time a politician was offered a better paying job with shorter hours, then he now has to leave his job; his salary would be a big old striped bird a long time ago.

Consider a salary of \$5,000 a year. What a person gets into this bracket it means he puts in a lot of arduous hours driving to and from work; plus long hours of strenuous labor at his job; plus years of sweat and training in his chosen field; so how many taxpayers in the township are in this bracket? The township are in such a need of waiting until the eve of the election to announce what the salary increases would be enough to decide well enough in advance so, that the voters could have been informed on what the pay of the town officials was going to be before going to the polls to vote on the following day.

#### A Petty Issue?

To the Editor:  
After reading the Nov. 5, Farmington Enterprise, it is my opinion that the article "In Our Opinion" is a little confused.

First you say that the Board of Trustees gave raises to the Township's elected officials at the last minute. Then you go on and say that the officials gave themselves a raise. Now you want the Board of Trustees to announce publicly the reason for waiting till the last minute to make their decision on the salaries of top administrators.

So now you got me confused. Are you making an issue of the date or salaries? I reread the article and I am sure that the Board of Trustees gave raises to the Township's elected officials at the last minute. Then you go on and say that the officials gave themselves a raise. Now you want the Board of Trustees to announce publicly the reason for waiting till the last minute to make their decision on the salaries of top administrators.

Nothing will raise your standard of living faster than a credit card — until next month.

#### TRY A CLASSIFIED AD

### In Michigan... after bowling, beer is a natural

After you've bowled a game or two, or when you're winding up the evening at the neighborhood bowling center, it's good to relax with friends and compare scores. What better way to add to the sport and the sociableness than with a refreshing glass of beer? However you take your fun—skiing, skating, or at your case in the game room—beer always makes a welcome addition to the fun.

Your familiar glass of beer is also a pleasurable reminder that we live in a land of personal freedom and that our rights to enjoy beer and ale, if we so desire, is just one, but an important one, of those personal freedoms.

In Michigan...beer goes with fun, with relaxation

UNITED STATES BREWERS ASSOCIATION, INC.

### EDITOR'S REPLY

The "In Our Opinion" writer did not intend to confuse anyone. We only questioned the need to wait until the eve of the election to announce the size of salary increases to be given to the top three administrators in the township. The Enterprise questioned the need of waiting until the eve of the election to announce what the salary increases would be enough to decide well enough in advance so, that the voters could have been informed on what the pay of the town officials was going to be before going to the polls to vote on the following day.

### LEGAL NOTICES

**NOTICE OF HEARING ON SPECIAL ASSESSMENT OF SEWER IMPROVEMENT TOWNSHIP OF FARMINGTON OAKLAND COUNTY, MICHIGAN**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN: 1. That the Township Board of the Township of Farmington, Oakland County, Michigan, has tentatively declared its intention to make the following improvement:

Construction of sewers to be located in the Township as follows: Middlebelt from Nine Mile to Eldon. Albion from Nine Mile to Eldon. Colgate from Nine Mile to Eldon. Grayfield from Nine Mile to Middlebelt. Astor from Purdue to Middlebelt.

2. That plans showing the location thereof and an estimate of the cost thereof, are on file with the Township Clerk for public examination.

3. That the Township Board has tentatively designated the following special assessment district against which the cost of said improvement is to be assessed: Lots 25 through 105 both inclusive, and lots 120 through 629 both inclusive of Wadwell, Wilcox, Rymal Company's Kenilworth Park Subdivision, part of E/4 of SE/4 of Section 26, T1N, R9E, Farmington Township, Oakland County.

4. That the Township Board will meet in the Township Hall, 31355 Eleven Mile Road, Farmington, Michigan, on Friday, November 19, 1964 at 8:00 o'clock P.M., Eastern Standard Time, to hear and consider any objections to the said improvement and to the special assessment district.

5. That, in the event that written objections to the making of said improvement, or to the special assessment district, are filed with the Township Board as provided in said Act.

THIS NOTICE IS GIVEN BY ORDER OF THE TOWNSHIP BOARD.

FLOYD A. CARNS  
Township Clerk  
Mailed: 11-13-64  
Published: 11-12-64, 11-9-64

### LEGAL NOTICES

livery of such notes must be paid by the purchaser at time of delivery.

Note the purpose of awarding the bid will be computed by determining, at the rate or rates specified therein, the total dollar value of all interest on the notes from December 1, 1964, to their maturity and deducting therefrom any premium. The notes will be awarded to the bidder whose bid on the above computation, produces the lowest interest cost to the school district. No proposal for the purchase of less than all of the notes or at a price less than their par value will be considered.

The loan is in anticipation of undistributed state appropriations for the school year 1964-65, and the full faith and credit of the district is pledged.

A certified or cashier's check in the amount of 2% of the value of the notes drawn upon an incorporated bank or trust company and payable to the order of the treasurer of the school district must accompany any bid as a guarantee of good faith on the part of the bidder. Checks of unsuccessful bidders will be promptly returned.

Bids shall be conditioned upon the unqualified opinion of the purchaser's attorney approving the legality of the notes, and the purchaser's expense. The purchaser shall furnish notes ready for execution at his expense. Executed notes will be delivered at the Office of the Treasurer, 25500 Shawwassee, Farmington, Michigan.

The right is reserved to re-bid any and all bids.

Envelopes containing the bids should be plainly marked "Proposed Notes".

BARBARA ANN BROWN  
Secretary  
Nov. 5, 12

Mrs. Raymond Goyt, Norfolk Ave., reports a most pleasant trip to southeastern Ohio Sunday, when she visited her eldest son, Richard.



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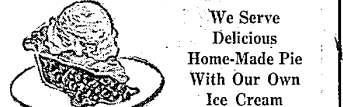


### Auto-Owners INSURANCE

## LA VERTY INSURANCE AGENCY

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