

The Farmington Enterprise

"A Continuing Journal Of Progress" • Established 1888

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In Our Opinion . . .

Our Hopes for the Community in 1965

In this issue of the newspaper each year it is a practice to try to set down a few of the hopes that we have for the community of Farmington City and Township for the coming year.

What the new year will hold in store for any of us or the Farmington community in general is really hard to say. The Enterprise has no crystal ball included in its inventory of equipment to foretell what happy events or disappointments will be forthcoming in 1965.

We do, however, have some strongly imbedded hopes that the newspaper would like to see fulfilled in the community. Unfortunately, some of them but not all, will be the same hopes we expressed last year. At least a portion of our hopes for 1964, expressed last year at this time; were partially satisfied and a little bit of gain or improvement is better than none at all.

Our hopes for the community in 1965 are:

1. That greater citizen interest in the community as a whole will be shown and that more will join in the effort to promote Farmington as a community to be proud of.

2. That a substantial amount of new industry and commerce will be attracted into the areas presently zoned for commerce and industry to help improve the community's tax base.

3. That our citizenry will take a greater interest in local school, city and township governmental affairs by putting forth extra efforts to attend meetings and learn firsthand what our elected officials are doing and what their problems are.

4. That our elected officials will see fit to appoint special citizen committees to study fully community affairs and problems and make recommendations to them for the betterment of the com-

munity. A particular need for more citizen committees to make studies exists in the township where a lot more growth has yet to come, in our opinion.

5. That each re-zoning request in either the city or township be considered very carefully before being granted to be sure that the zoning change will not be detrimental to the community as a whole in future years. Citizens must also try to understand that some zoning changes are necessary because of changing conditions and the fact that no landowner can be denied reasonable use of his property.

6. That a concerned citizen movement be started to get a year-around, community swimming pool in Farmington and that work also be started to provide better organized recreational programs for our youth.

7. That adequate water and sewer facilities will be able to be extended into a number of other areas in the township in the coming year.

8. That service clubs, subdivisions associations and all other groups in the community will band together more frequently to sponsor and put on programs or conduct projects for the common good of the whole community.

9. That business people in the various shopping districts in the community will work in greater harmony with one another to keep Farmington business in Farmington. Outside centers and individual business establishments are working hard to get a big share of the dollars spent by above average income families living in our community.

10. That all of us try harder to understand that serious problems that must be faced in any rapidly growing community such as ours accept progress rather than fighting it.

★ ★ ★

Better Informed Citizenry Needed

How many people are there who actually know the powers, limitations and duties of the governing boards in our community? How many are there who can say honestly that they know how much of their total tax dollar goes for various phases of operations within the jurisdiction of the three governing bodies among which their local taxes are split?

From the many comments we hear and questions that are raised both at formal meetings and at social gatherings, it seems rather obvious to us that the percentage is quite small.

Some do not really care to know and others can find all kinds of excuses why they can't spare the time to find out. But, many would like to know the answers and become better informed on these matters.

It is our feeling that some well organized community-wide presentations dealing in these subject areas might be well

worth the time and effort of the officials of our community to set up. Outside experts could even be arranged for to set up panels when the topic of discussion was to be rather complex in nature.

It seems that about the only time real interest is shown in presenting information to citizens and taxpayers on the subject of taxes is when they are about to be asked to go to the polls to approve or more likely a tax levy extension for that need or that. The only time that much seems to get said about the powers or limitations of governing bodies is when a controversial subject comes up for discussion or a decision.

Community forums, not only on these but a number of other subject areas of local interest would seem to us to be a good way to get and keep the citizens of our community better informed and thus make all of us better citizens of the community in which we chose to live.

Looking Back in the Files

5 Years Ago
DECEMBER 31, 1956

Lighting Contest

The Farmington Junior Chamber of Commerce Christmas lighting contest this year was won by the Orla Frazers of 27575 Forestbrook in Farmington Township.

Record Mailing

The Farmington Post Office set new records this year in the amount of Christmas mail processed in the 16 days prior to Christmas. First, class mail totaled 1,300,000 pieces, an increase of 15 per cent over last year. Out-going mail totaled 628,000 pieces, an increase of 20 per cent over the year. Postage was heavy this year as a total of 15,800 parcels were delivered in an 11-day period before Christmas.

Holiday Accidents

The Holiday accidents marred Christmas for some families as three persons were injured in highway mishaps. Foggy driving conditions were cited as the prime factor in the Farmington Township highway accidents where injuries resulted to those who came from both political parties.

10 Years Ago
DECEMBER 30, 1951

Install President

The new elected officers of the Farmington Exchange Club were installed at the semi-annual induction ceremonies last week. James Read, Assistant Superintendent of Farmington Public Schools, was installed as the new Exchange Club President.

Lighting Contest

The Farmington Junior Chamber of Commerce this year announced the four top winners of their annual Christmas lighting contest. The winners were Fred Menke, Harry Prithard, Edward Schmidt and Nadine Yankee.

Niwanas Club Head

Dor DeGroot has been installed as the new president of the Farmington Niwanas Club.

Primary Election

The Primary Election to be held in January to the voters of Farmington Township to decide who shall occupy the offices of Township Supervisor, Clerk and Treasurer as well as four Township Trustee positions

open the office of Justice of the Peace is expected to draw out a record number of candidates from both political

15 Years Ago
DECEMBER 29, 1949

Kiwans President

Wendell Brown has been elected President of the Farmington Kiwanis Club to serve for the coming year of 1950. Harley Waters was elected Vice President. Out-going President is Charles Layton.

Mail Service

The Farmington Post Office announced this week the extension of mounted carrier mail delivery service into a large area in the eastern portion of Farmington Township.

Pulled from Stream

A nine-year-old girl was pulled out of the ice-clogged Rouge River tributary between

Eight and Nine Mile Roads by

two boys, Ralph Waters and

Tommy Schmid. The girl had de-

cided to take a short cut home

from school across the creek

and fell through the ice. The

boys were playing nearby.

Win Sixth Straight

The Farmington High School basketball team racked up its

ninth straight case victory of

the season by downing Trenton,

45-32.

John Clappison Sells Insurance

Phone GR. 4-3511



APRECIATION was shown by the students and faculty at the Kenbrook Elementary School last week for the fine job done by head custodian Emil Pyorala (right) as trees were planted in his honor by pupils and a reception was held at the school to wish the custodian good luck during his retirement from the school system. On his retirement, Pyorala, a 22-year veteran employee of the Farmington Public Schools, is pictured above with Kenbrook Principal Jack Cleveland holding up one of the week's big reception. The sign reads, "Thank you for all you have done for us."

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.

Calls for Good Will Towards Fellow Man

To the Editor:

I would like to comment on your editorial in the Dec. 21 issue of the Enterprise, "Special Elections." I am a member of the Farmington Kiwanis Club and do not necessarily represent the policies of this newspaper. Maximum length is 1,000 words.

As you will note this letter is written on Christmas Day. I

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