

# In Our Opinion . . .

## What Makes A Really Fine Community?

Time and time again over the past several years The Farmington Enterprise has been commenting editorially on the importance and value of having Farmington City and Township retain its own individual community identity.

Oldtimers and newcomers alike have been urged and pleaded with to become a part of the community and take an active part in community organizations, activities and projects. The Enterprise has had little good to say about those citizens who have moved to Farmington and seem only interested in the small parcel of land with a home on it they have bought here and would be perfectly content to see Farmington become a part of the mass area referred to as Detroit suburbia.

As a member of the Enterprise administrative staff I have shared wholeheartedly these feelings on the importance of Farmington's retaining its own individual community identity. The reasons for our feeling this way personally have always been surmised. But, a column written by Free Press columnist Judd Arnett on Tuesday of last week made at least one of our personal reasons for feeling as we do on this matter quite clear.

Arnett wrote about Standish, a small town with a population of 1,215 situated in northeastern Michigan on U. S. 23 approximately 30 miles north of Bay City. He had some very kind words to say about the community and its people and expressed the feeling that he felt it would be a very fine place to live.

The noted columnist attributed much of Standish's success in being considered not only by him but many, many others as a very satisfactory community in which to live, to the pride of citizens in the community and their willingness to work diligently (oldtimers and newcom-

ers alike) on community projects and for community improvements.

I took a very personal amount of pride in having such fine words said about Standish by a man of Arnett's note since this small community happens to be my hometown and the place where I grew up.

The interest of citizens, young and old alike, in working together on projects and programs on behalf of the community and its betterment is the most characteristic of the town. Neither is the pride which the citizenry has in their community and their willingness to show it. These conditions prevailed back many years ago when we were growing up there.

Our urging for the same kind of community effort and togetherness on the part of Farmingtonites, as exists in several communities, large and small, and a feeling that there is value for every citizen to retain pride and identity probably stems from my earlier upbringing and training in the small northern Michigan community of Standish. It is a very satisfying kind of community in which to live and raise a family or even grow old in.

Some have argued and continue to argue that retaining community identity when you are situated very close to a large city such as Detroit is impossible. We disagree wholeheartedly. Any community can retain community identity and enjoy all the advantages of small community living rather than having to become a part of the mass metropolis if the citizenry in general really wants it that way.

All that it really takes is a community-minded general citizenry with oldtimers and newcomers alike working together in and for their own fine community.

Michael J. Kiley.

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## Whole Community Should Be Congratulated

Almost 850 young men and women either have already or will be graduating from the four high schools in the Farmington area and we along with their close friends and family wish them the greatest possible success as they embark on a life of adulthood.

It is heartening to know that the citizenry of the Farmington community have seen fit to come up with the necessary tax money and the support of the school systems, both public and private, to make it possible for so many to get the exceptionally fine type of educational training they are receiving to prepare them for adulthood. Each of the graduating seniors owe a real vote of gratitude not only to their parents and teachers but also to all the taxpayers of the community.

Most of the young graduates will more than likely not appreciate the sacrifices many have had to make to meet their school tax payments and support the school systems in other ways to see that they received the above-

average type of education they did.

We are reasonably certain, however, that in years to come each of the graduates as adults will become property owners and taxpayers or become affiliated in the business world will appreciate more fully what was done for them during their years of public school educational training.

Some would argue that we are spending too much to operate our local school systems today but we can not agree with them. The most important educational training that anyone has or will receive comes in the formative years of one's life from kindergarten through the 12th grade; and we need the best possible teachers, school facilities and training programs we can possibly provide.

Again we wish to extend our best wishes to all the local graduating seniors and would also like to add our congratulations to the parents of the graduates for the guidance and help they provided their boys and girls while going through school.

## Looking Back in the Files

### 5 YEARS AGO

**JUNE 16, 1960**  
Zoning Board  
The Farmington Township Board appointed three members to the Township Zoning Board at their last regular meeting. The new Zoning Board members are Thomas A. Duke, Floyd R. Jaye and Donald Harlow.

**School Election**  
The three candidates elected to the Farmington School District Board of Education Monday were Mrs. Barbara Brown, Richard Peters and George Nahstoll, Jr.

**Honor Graduates**  
A total of 14 graduating seniors from Farmington High School received scholarship awards at Swingout exercises held last Friday. One of the coveted scholarships, presented by the Michigan State University Trustees, was awarded to Mulene Dowling.

**Downtown Center**  
The re-development-project in the southeast quadrant of the downtown Farmington business section is moving ahead swiftly with final grading plans now settled.

### 10 YEARS AGO

**JUNE 16, 1955**  
Melody Circus  
James Read, President of the Farmington Exchange Club, announced this week plans for the Farmington Night at the Melody Circus showing of "Showboat" on the Boisford Inn grounds is progressing very well.

**117 to Be Graduated**  
Farmington High School will award diplomas to 117 graduating seniors at commencement exercises this week. Clareville High School will have a graduating class of 87.

**School Census**  
According to the annual school census, there are a total of 7,633 children in the Farmington Township School District or 23 per cent more were reported in the 1954 census figure.

**School Millage**  
Voters of the Farmington Township School District went to the polls on Monday and approved a new 2 mills tax levy to allow for the acquisition of more land for school sites.

### 15 YEARS AGO

**JUNE 15, 1950**  
Field Defeated  
The proposal for a lighted athletic field for Farmington High School went down to defeat by a narrow 63-vote margin in the school election held Monday. Bayard Dew Tupper and Wendell Brown won the two seats up for contention on the Board of Education.

**Honor Award**  
George Barrows was presented with the Keith Johnson Memorial Award at Swingout exercises staged Friday at Farmington High School. The award is presented annually to the outstanding citizen in the graduating class at FHS. 103 seniors will be graduated from FHS.

**165 to Start School**  
A total of 165 children have been registered for kindergarten classes in Farmington next year.

**Trim Budget**  
Mayor Delos Hamlin of Farmington announced the proposed 1950-51 fiscal budget for the City of Farmington has been trimmed down to \$118,476 to come within the expected income of the City.

## City Council Aires Safety, Road Problems

Highway safety and road condition problems came in for some rather lengthy discussion at the regular City Council meeting Monday night, June 7.

Councilman Hugo Peterson questioned whether any word had been received regarding city efforts to get a traffic ward officer for Farmington Road and Nine Mile.

The fact that no word had been received from the county on this being made known to Councilman John Allen. He expressed the feeling that a lot of foot dragging was being done by county and state road officials on problems called to their attention for study and felt that more pressure should be brought to bear.

**CITY MANAGER** John Dittin stated that traffic count studies had been made by the county and that he was confident word should be forthcoming soon.

Also brought up for discussion was the poor condition of the roadway which is the approach to the ramp used by motorists to get onto the freeway east of Farmington Road. The city manager stated that he had been in contact with the county on this matter and that they were considering some filling and blacktop work on this stretch of roadway if the city would be willing to share in the cost.

At least some of the councilmen did not feel that this would satisfactorily correct the situation and that concrete should be used.

**RALPH YODER** questioned what had been done regarding the safety problem at Shawansee and Prospect. The city manager stated that he had written the school board on this matter and that he expected it would be turned over to the safety committee for a study and determination as to what corrective actions might be taken jointly by the city and school system.

Yoder also expressed the feeling that bumping blocks should be put around the small parking area triangle at the corner of Shawansee and Power Road.



At a dinner party on Saturday evening, June 5, Mr. and Mrs. Colman O'Shaughnessy of 27800 Wellington Road in West Oak Farm, Farmington, announced the engagement and forthcoming marriage of their daughter, Delirda Llan, to David Timothy Bagdon, son of Mr. and Mrs. Timothy John Bagdon of Toledo, Ohio. Miss O'Shaughnessy attended Siena Heights College, Adrian, Michigan, and graduated from Mary Manse College, Toledo with a B.S. degree. Mr. Bagdon is a graduate of the University of Toledo with a B.E. degree and is presently attending their College of Law. They are planning an August wedding in St. Colman Church, Farmington.

**Mrs. David Mills at Bryn Mawr Reunion**

The Alumnae Association of Bryn Mawr College in Bryn Mawr, Pennsylvania, held its annual Reunion Weekend June 4-6 at the College. Mrs. David Mills, 24300 Locust Drive, Farmington was among members of reunion classes, who returned from as far away as Europe, Mexico and Canada. They were entertained at luncheons and dinners by Miss Katharine E. McBride, President of the College.

## LEGAL NOTICES

No. 4734  
No. 3735  
STATE OF MICHIGAN,  
THE PROBATE COURT FOR  
THE COUNTY OF OAKLAND,  
Estate of LEONELLA P. ST. JOHN, Deceased.  
It is Ordered that on July 10, 1960, at 10 a.m. in the Probate Courtroom Pontiac, Michigan a hearing be held on the petition of Margaret R. Presson for the appointment of an administrator of said estate and to determine who are or were at the time of death the heirs at law of said deceased. Publication and service shall be made as provided by Statute and Court Rule.  
Dated: June 8, 1960  
Albert P. Herzig, Attorney  
23220 Farmington Road  
Farmington, Michigan  
DONALD E. ADAMS  
Judge of Probate.  
June 16, 23, 30



## REPORT from LANSING

State Representative

Raymond L. Baker

Now that the first two deadlines have passed, the pace of legislative activity has slowed some. This is expected to be only a temporary lull, however, since the final deadline is only a few weeks off.

Because the range of legislation is now defined, this is a good opportunity to reflect on where we stand. From a financial point of view, the picture is not too bright. It appears that, although the majority party strongly began to realize the need to find revenue sources to cover their increased expenditures, our present fiscal outlook continues to be poor.

**BASED ON LEGISLATION** that is almost certain to pass in its present form, the final budget for fiscal 1965-66 will reach a total of \$646 million which is \$58 million over the amount recommended by Governor Romney.

If this budget is permitted to stand without increases in revenue, there is no doubt that by this time next year the state would be rapidly approaching a deficit situation.

On the final day for passage of bills in the house of origin, this danger became readily apparent and the majority party in a last minute move passed three stop-gap tax measures.

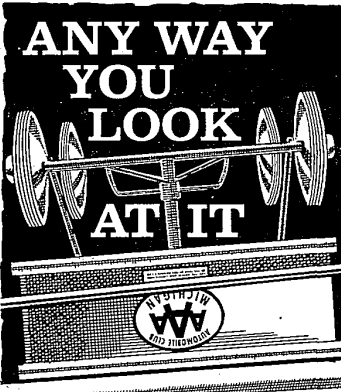
**BUSINESS INCOME TAX** — This alters the present Business Activities Tax by placing

a 5 per cent levy on net business income with a \$7500 exemption. This is a more equitable tax for business in terms of its application, but it does nothing to relieve the unfair share of the total tax bill picked up by business.

**PROPERTY TRANSFER TAX** — This is a tax of 1.1 mill on each dollar's worth of real estate transferred. It is surprising that such a tax which basically amounts to a property tax increase would be offered when what is needed is property tax reduction. Further, the yield to the state is only expected to be about \$2 million.

**BEER TAX** — Here the tax was reduced, decreasing yearly revenues by about \$14 million. Any tax reduction at a time when the search is for increased revenue sources seems unnecessary, particularly this one which probably will never be realized by the consumer.

The net effect of this patchwork tax program will be the production of about a \$3 million increase in revenue for fiscal 1965-66 and about \$37 million for fiscal 1966-67. Despite this and an expected \$24 million increase in current tax collections, the state will still wind up in the red within two years unless expenditures are cut now or unless present tax structures are revised to produce more revenue.



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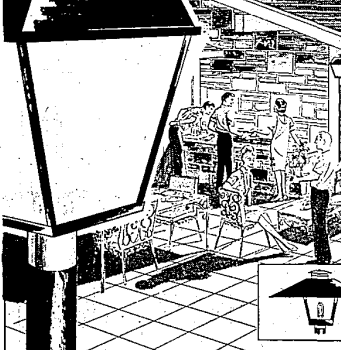
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Mrs. David Mills at Bryn Mawr Reunion

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## Hold Right Bridge Night

Despite American Contract Bridge League tournaments in Windsor over the weekend, Mayfair Players came out strong to play in a two section Mitchell Master Point Game on Friday, June 4, at 32305 Northwestern Hwy., the Mayfair Bridge headquarters.

Winners were: Dr. Wm. Barron and Bruce Corryell (N-S); J. Loomis and Tom Rutherford (E-W); Bert and Arlene Heck and John and Audrey Tormala tied for (E-W); and Bill and Margaret Aho (E-W). Games are held at the above address on Tuesday evening at 7:45 p.m. and on Friday's at 8 p.m. For further information,

call MA. 62109. Games are directed by Al and Marian Collins.

## Wallet Size Birth

Regis. Available

John D. Murphy, Oakland County Clerk-Register of Deeds has announced that as of last week his office is issuing wallet size certificates of Birth Registration.

They have been issued by Wayne County and the Detroit Department of Health for several years, and the Oakland County Clerk's Office has had many requests for them.

**John Says:**

JOHN CLAPPISON

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## The Farmington Enterprise

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