

EDITORIALS

2B THE FARMINGTON ENTERPRISE

January 10, 1963

An Unnecessary Expense for Townships.

What has partisan politics got to do with running a township?

It's a question which we have raised before and gotten no satisfactory answers to except to be told that it is required under state law that primary elections as well as general elections be conducted in all areas operating under the township form of government.

Even some cities have non-partisan types of primary elections to bowl down the long lists of candidates seeking the various elective offices. We have never quite been able to see the necessity for this either.

Fortunately, the City of Farmington has only the one biennial election and as far as we can determine, it has presented no serious problems in getting qualified officials elected for office.

Nearly everyone identifies themselves with one or the other of the two major political parties in this country and this is as it should be. We can't see, however, that subscribing to one or the other of the two parties' political beliefs on state and national matters has any real significance with regard to the efficient and economical operations of government at the local level.

Conducting elections is a costly process and it is good hard-earned taxpayers' money that is being used to hold them. There are legal notices for each election notice to be published for each election and a certain number of election workers to be paid for a day's work at each of the polling places even if only a handful show up to vote. In addition to this there is a lot of extra man-hours of work required, out of the clerk's office which are hours which could be much better

ter and more profitably spent.

The election of two years ago provides a pretty good example of how we feel about holding both a primary and a general election at the local level is a waste of taxpayers' money.

There were some good contests in the primary election in February two years ago but only on the Republican ticket. Democratic party candidates ran unopposed. In the general election which followed in April it was a clear and decisive election for all the Republican candidates as they outpolled the Democratic party hopefuls by votes of 2 to 1 and more for nearly every position.

The Republican and Democratic candidates names could very well have been included on one ballot for the general election in April and the cost of holding township elections in the spring of 1961 thus cut in half. Those candidates who wished could have easily identified themselves with one or the other of the two parties in pre-election advertising and the publicity they had so desired. We still fail to see, however, that party affiliation has any significance with regard to how or how well any man will do in a township office he is elected to.

A change in state law requiring townships to conduct both primary and general elections is needed. Our newly elected government is looking for ways to save operating costs at the state government level and has appointed a team of experts to come up with some recommendations.

As active citizens let encourage some consideration ways that state officials can also help us in cutting governmental operating costs at the local level as well.

A Favorable Community Image Important

A community develops a name and image for itself by the quality and general appearance of the homes, public buildings and business establishments located in it. The attitudes of the leading citizens in the community are also very important.

Because of this, we have repeatedly urged the tearing down of old buildings which have outlived their usefulness and the remodeling of buildings in Farmington other old buildings in Farmington which still have years of usefulness left. We have also appealed for frequent clean-up, fix-up campaigns and general practices of cleanliness each day of the week the year around.

In addition, we have urged greater community interest and positive thinking on the part of not only our governmental officials and community leaders but also by the general citizenry itself.

Selling Farmington as a good place to work, do business and live in is everybody's job.

Favorable first impressions which people get about a community have an awful lot to do with the image that is created. First impressions are obtained by a drive through that community and by conversations with a few of its citizens.

Numerous times we have driven around the Birmingham area, a thriving community a short distance to the northeast of ours. We have been very impressed with the not in tip-top shape, and neither is Birmingham a community which could be classified as a planner's

dream. But it does impress one as a community that has done something about creating a favorable image for itself within its limitations.

A talk with that community's leaders and business people shows that there is a lot of positive thinking which also creates a favorable image.

Community leaders' business people and residents of Birmingham have long recognized the value of having a good community image and have worked hard over the past years to keep it. They are continuing to work hard at not only keeping their good community image but in repeatedly talking it up.

Farmington citizens must now need to recognize this fact more fully. We need a community-wide interest in getting old buildings torn down or remodeled so as to be an asset rather than a liability to the community. We also need more positive thinking about the advantages our community has to offer and to start talking up these advantages to others more.

Far too many in our community spend more time knocking it because of the things we don't have or aren't doing than they do in selling Farmington as a good place to live and do business in.

An unfavorable image of the community has been created in the minds of many and will continue to be created in the minds of others to come unless we do something about it.

What our community will be tomorrow depends a lot on what kind of a job you and I do between now and then in creating a good image.

Looking Back in the Files

15 Years Ago

JANUARY 8, 1948

Line-Up Change

Fulton basketball coach Bob Fulton has revised his starting line-up for the meeting with undefeated case rival Milford this Friday. The first team will probably consist of Jerry Fisher, Barney Taylor, Fred McLean, Earl Green and Junior Nichols.

James Balog, Jack Klein, Bern, Bob Weaver and Walter Martindale slated to see extension telephone.

Cutover of telephones in the North Farmington area from the Farmington exchange to the newly created Longacre 5 zone will begin next week.

Food Caravan Final plans are being made this week to step-up contributions to the Farmington Friends before Friday drive, sponsored by the Farmington Junior Chamber of Commerce, to feed the hungry people of France.

Join Together Four Farmington boys, Thomas E. Goers, James E. Brodel, Robert E. Fletcher, and George D. Green, all joined the U.S. Navy this week and will soon be under going basic training at the Great Lakes Naval Training Center in Great Lakes, Michigan.

10 Years Ago

JANUARY 8, 1953

Candidates File

A total of 12 candidates for the Township Primary Election to be held Monday, February 16, all 12 of the candidates who filed before last week's deadline were Republicans.

New Subdivisions Tentative plans will be submitted to the City Council at their next regular meeting for a new subdivision development located on the Elly Farm property, an 80-acre parcel of land bordered by Power, Orchard Lake, Shawnee and Ten Mile roads. Construction on 150 homes will begin this spring if the Council approves the plans.

Gambling Charges A motion by the prosecution dropped gambling charges against a man who appeared before Justice of the Peace, C. C. Ingle for examination in Farmington Justice Court. The man pleaded guilty to a lesser charge of loitering on the property at 2506 Middlefield where a large gambling ring was staged by State Police.

First Snowfall The real snowfall of winter finally arrived on the Farmington scene this week. Although it wasn't in time to provide a white Christmas, it did at least the youngsters can now make use of their sleds.

5 Years Ago

JANUARY 9, 1958

Development Study

Farmington's City Council has authorized the hiring of a firm of professional planners to study the city and to prepare a town development plan and a major thoroughfare plan.

Oppose New Lanes The Farmington City Council received 12 petitions containing signatures of Belaire residents who are in opposition to the plan to build a modern 2-lane highway along the corner of Lehigh and Orchard Lake Roads. A request for the rezoning of the land is now under consideration by the Council.

Stage Flag Sale Response was labeled "good" to the flag sale recently conducted by the Farmington Junior Chamber of Commerce. A large number of merchandise will be serviced and put out by the Jaycees.

Little League The Farmington Little League Association will meet this week to determine the merits of expanding the four-team baseball league for youngsters into a six-team baseball circuit for the coming season.

Local Marines At Sea 51 Days

The following Farmington Marines: Lt. Col. Robert R. Stickle, son of Mr. and Mrs. Dallas Stickle of 21270 Osiris st., Private First Class Woodrow J. Buell, son of Mr. and Mrs. Woodrow Buell of 21234 Ontario, and Private First Class Richard P. Kraft, son of Mr. and Mrs. Paul Kraft of 21234 Ontario, have returned to Camp Pendleton, Calif. after serving with the Fifth Marine United States quarantine forces in the Caribbean.

The unit arrived in California on Dec. 16, two months after embarking in 20 amphibious ships and passing through the Panama Canal. The combined Navy and Marine Corps force leaving the Pacific Coast was 18,000.

The force spent 51 days at sea and visited ports in Puerto Rico, Jamaica and Panama.

Public Letter Box

Letters submitted to The Editor for publication must be signed. Names will be withheld upon request. Opinions expressed in the columns are those of the writer and do not necessarily represent the views of the Enterprise. Maximum length is 700 words.

She'll Carry Ball To Save Town Hall

To Whom It May Concern:

As stated in your December 27, 1962 Farmington Enterprise editorial under the title "Hopes for 1963," citizens of Farmington will start showing greater interest in local affairs and begin to understand that good as the citizens themselves make it by active interest and participation in community matters. As an interested citizen, I should like to support morally the preservation of the old Township Hall. It would be a fatal mistake to allow this outstanding example of 19th-century architecture (a study of the civil life of Farmington) to be demolished to make room for another discount store parking lot.

Perhaps this historical building could be used to fulfill your "Hopes for 1963" by being a "home" of year around community recreation program. The Township Hall is the logical answer to a community center for the citizens of Farmington. Therefore, I would be in favor and would support a fund raising drive for its maintenance.

Farmington will become a "better place to live and work" if the citizens of the community take an active part in this issue by creating an interest in this local historical preservation of our great American heritage.

I am in full agreement with the Quakerston Quakers in their plea - "Let's preserve the Township Hall as a significant reminder of Farmington's heritage, and for the perspective it will give us as we continue to live and progress in this town."

Sincerely yours,
Betty J. Davey

A Fine Response

Dear Editor:

Members of our staff at Northville State Hospital join me to express our thanks to the citizens of our communities - your readers - for the many incidents of Christmas generosity and good will noted during the Season just past.

The fine response to our requests for gifts for our forgotten patients, the acceptance of responsibility for special needs of certain of our wards, the contribution by innumerable hours of clerical services by volunteers in our Community Relations Department since the first part of October, the planning of ward parties by groups with Christmas extras added - for all these, please accept our sincere "Thank You." Many of such kindnesses are noted, to be sure, not only during the weeks before Christmas but throughout the year.

These extra efforts, however, contributed by so many during the past few weeks, underline the fact that our wards are well taken care of.

We wish to each of your readers a good New Year.

Sincerely yours,
Philip N. Brown, M.D.
Medical Superintendent

Goodwill Schedules Next Truck Pickup

The next visit of Goodwill Industries trucks to Farmington is scheduled for Tuesday, Jan. 16. Goodwill trucks collect household discards of clothing, shoes, hats, toys, metals, furniture and other household discards.

To arrange for a Goodwill Industries pickup, call the local Goodwill representative Miss Lora Aik telephone number GR 4-2994 or ask the operator for toll-free Enterprise 7002.

MICHIGAN'S PROPOSED NEW CONSTITUTION

To Safeguard Independence Of Michigan Judicial Branch

(EDITOR'S NOTE: This is one of a series of articles prepared by the Michigan Bar Association, a national, non-partisan organization, whose purpose is to promote informed and active participation of citizens in government. The views expressed are not necessarily the policy of this newspaper.)

"How should judges be chosen?" is an important question. The system provided in the old constitution has been criticized for failing to keep judges independent of politics and for confusing the elective and appointive systems.

Our system now is elective in theory, but since the governor fills all vacancies by appointment, no advice and consent is required, much of our system is in fact appointive.

Two-thirds of Wayne County

Civil Defense Crews Survey Shelter Space

Farmington Civil Defense Director, Chief of Police Joseph G. DeVriendt, announced this week that major buildings in the City had been inspected for the purpose of determining if the structures are suited as potential fallout shelters.

DeVriendt said "one which would be acceptable shelter for a two-week period, can keep the total radiation dose within tolerable limits." "Moreover, it should be suitable from the ventilation viewpoint and should be able to accommodate an optimum number of people," DeVriendt said.

DeVriendt listed the following requirements for a public fallout shelter:

(1) A protection factor of 100 - the shelter walls and overhead must reduce inside radiation to one one-hundredth of outside.

(2) Capacity of at least fifty persons.

(3) Adequate space for ten square feet per person, or 500 cubic feet per person, or 500 cubic feet per person.

"Shelters offered meeting these requirements," DeVriendt said, "will be stocked with federally-supplied survival items including food and water, sanitation and medical kits, and radiological detection instruments, following agreement between the owners of the buildings and the government."

All federally designated public fallout shelters will be marked with a distinctive yellow and black sign indicating shelter location and capacity.

DeVriendt urged all those who may have suitable buildings in the community for public shelters to contact him for survey arrangements if they have not already done so or have not been contacted by his office.

John Clappison Sells Insurance Phone GR. 4-3311

Announce Lecture By Museum Curator

The Detroit Society for Geological Research will present a lecture at 2 p.m. Saturday, January 12, in the Detroit-Main Library Auditorium, Woodward at Kirby, Mr. Allan Douglas, Curator of the Hiram Walker Historical Museum, Windsor, Ontario.

Mr. Douglas' topic will be "Geological Resources in the Macdonald Collection." These lectures are free and open to the public.

Among the 50 states Michigan stands first in the production of red tart cherries, dry edible beans, pickling cucumbers, and housewife rhubarb. The Michigan Department of Agriculture reports.

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First Federal Savings Breaks Records in '62

In the face of intensive competition, 1962 set a new record both for savings gains and mortgage loan activity for First Federal Savings of Detroit.

"The inflow of savings started at a much higher rate last January, when all Detroit savings associations increased their earnings rate to 4 percent," said Joseph Floore, Manager of First Federal's office at 23220 Farmington Road at Slocum, just south of Downtown Farmington Center.

"A large inflow of savings continued throughout the year, for a net savings gain of over \$86,000,000 for First Federal. During the same 12 months, we added 8000 mortgage loans totaling \$88,549,576," said Floore. Last year over \$4 million in earnings were paid to savings customers at the current rate of 4 per cent, after allocating \$3,631,822 to reserves and surplus.

The association started construction of a new skyscraper office building in Downtown Detroit, finished and occupied two new branches (in Farmington and in Bloomfield Hills); started construction of another new office to replace an older one at Plymouth, and opened a new temporary office on Greenfield Road near Northland Shopping Center. This Greenfield Road office will be replaced by a new Northland branch, now under construction.

In a year-end statement, it was also revealed that First Federal, in 1962, will start and finish construction of another branch on East McNichols near Hoover Road.

To make sure your 22 rifle is empty of cartridges, point the magazine rod end with a light coat of bright nail polish. When your magazine is empty, the red tip of the rod will be plainly visible.

Incumbent judges of the new court of appeals, the circuit court, and the probate court, will not have to take time from their duties nor depend upon lawyers and others for support, as they would not have to circulate petitions for renomination.

THE INDEPENDENCE of the judiciary was further safeguarded in a section which stated that a judge of a court of record may not seek any elective office, other than a judicial office, during his term on the bench and for one year thereafter. This is a protection for the people, since it prohibits a judge from using his position for political advancement.

The constitution applied this to circuit judges only; the new applies it to all judges.

Another new provision is a section of the concern for the rights of all citizens which is shown in the new constitution. This requires that there be direct court review of all final decisions and rulings of administrative agencies affecting private rights. Due to their technical nature, findings of fact in workmen's compensation proceedings and decisions of the state tax commission are exempt. The tremendous growth of administrative agencies and of their power to make legal decisions requires this type of protection of the citizen.

John Clappison Sells Insurance Phone GR. 4-3311

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NOTICE TO TAXPAYERS OF FARMINGTON TOWNSHIP

The Farmington Township Treasurer's Office Will Be Open Saturday, January 19, 1963, to Accept Tax Payments. After Jan. 19, 1963, a 4% Fee Will Be Added.

Dog Licenses Are Also Available In The Treasurer's Office. Starting March 1, 1963, Fees Will Be Doubled.

ELISE P. AVERY, Treasurer

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