

A City Move the Township Should Follow

Filling in of lowland areas along the route of the Rouge River branch which winds its way through the City of Farmington and a substantial portion of the Township has been and continues to be a topic of many heated discussions.

In the past it has been pretty much a matter of guess work as to how close land filling to the river's edge should be allowed without a danger to nearby property owners' land.

Now a complete study of the matter has been made for the city by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the city is proceeding to establish a special valley zoning district to restrict any filling-in or building on of lowland area felt to be needed to take an overflow of water during flooding seasons.

While we have never been in favor of restricting any landowner in making reasonable use of his land, neither have we felt that he should be permitted to use his land that it would be detrimental to nearby property owners. This is why we are strongly in favor of the city's establishment of the river valley zoning district.

But we still can't help but feel that it is going to be of little value for the city to do this unless the township follows suit with some restrictive legislation on filling in close to the river both up stream and down-stream outside the city. If the township allows filling without restriction, and particularly down-stream from the city, it is going to result in a

greater backup of water flow-away than what there was when the corps of engineers study was made. It will require broader ponding areas in the city than what are now being allowed for based on present conditions.

The township should start putting forth every effort possible immediately to get the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to complete a study similar to the one which they did for the city. This should then be followed up with the setting up of river valley districts similar to what the city is establishing at this time.

If a corps of engineers study cannot be arranged for in the near future then it would be our recommendation that township officials see if at least a limited flood plain study could not be arranged for either through the county or by engaging an engineering firm on their own. There is some filling going on right now near the river that could prove detrimental in the future if we experience another exceptionally heavy rainy season similar to what we had back in 1947.

We are fully aware of the fact that the township went to court on one land filling case near the river south of Grand River and east of Middlebelt some time back and lost but we don't feel this is any reason for throwing up the hands and saying that there is no use of trying to do anything to prevent detrimental filling along the river elsewhere. This is only one case with particular circumstances that might not prevail anywhere else along the river's course.

* * *

Graduation Exercises Should Be Here

A group of parents appeared before the Farmington Board of Education last week and were quite insistent that their request for holding June graduating exercises outside of Farmington should be granted.

While we appreciate the fact that there may be crowded conditions at the Farmington High gymnasium, which is a large graduating class, we are still one hundred percent in accord with the Board of Education that the high school is the site where graduating programs should be held.

This is where the students spent their high school days and successfully completed their studies to earn the diplomas to be given them on graduation night. To go to a strange hall outside the community for exercises would take much of the sentiment and fond remembrances away from this occasion, in our opinion.

It's the graduates' time to remember and parents should be willing to put up with a few inconveniences for their sake.

If overcrowding is going to be as bad as some of our parents claim, the thought occurred to us that it might even be worth considering splitting the class in half and conducting two separate graduating programs. We are sure there can be many arguments given against such a plan but it still sounds like a better idea to us than considering a location away from Farmington.

Holding exercises outdoors on the athletic field was another suggestion advanced and this was appealing to us. As it was pointed out, however, the weather doesn't always cooperate and alternate arrangements for holding activities inside must be made.

While the final decision on where exercises will be must be made by the Board, we still feel it might be interesting to have a poll taken of the sentiments on this matter from all the graduating seniors and another from their parents.

* * *

Looking Back in the Files

15 Years Ago

April 1, 1948

Special Election

Registered voters in the City and Township of Farmington will go to the polls Monday, April 5, to participate in a special election to be held through-out Oakland County. Electors will decide whether to approve a millage increase to allow funds for construction of a new county hospital addition and equipping the new unit.

Safety Campaign

The Farmington Junior Chamber of Commerce announced this week that a Safety Bike Campaign will be conducted here under their direction with free Scotch-taped tape being provided for youths. The reflective tape offers an increased measure of safety for bike riders who are returning home after dark.

Red Cross Fund

Farmington's 1948 American Red Cross Campaign Drive moves into its final week with approximately \$1,200 yet to be realized in the goal set for the area. A total of \$1,822 has been collected so far, according to the local drive chairman, O. E. Dunkel. The 1948 Red Cross goal for Farmington has been set at \$2,000.

A Deep Subject

Superintendent of Farmington Township Schools, O. E. Dunkel, announced this week that work is expected to get under way immediately on the drilling of a well on the new Noble-William Grace school site.

10 Years Ago

April 2, 1953

Spring Election

A moderate to heavy vote is expected by Farmington City and Township officials in the Birmingham-Bloomington Election to be held on Monday, April 6. The largest percentage of voter turnout is expected in the City where about 700 to 800 candidates are in the race for the

three council seats.

An aggressive campaign is being waged by James W. Cavanaugh, Robert B. Lindberg, James M. Nour-jin, Emory O. Hutton, W. Allen Jones and Marion M. Tomlin and Earl G. Walter, Council candidates.

Home Raising

Wonderful evidence of what can be accomplished by citizens of the community pooling their talents in the interests of a less fortunate resident was provided this week when local tradesmen pitched in and completely rebuilt the home of Harry Foster at 2749 Haggerty. The Foster family was burned out of their home last week.

Prep Baseball

Farmington High School baseball coach Ed Piche has a total of 18 returning batters to provide him with the nucleus of this year's team which will begin a 12-game schedule April 18 at Clarenceville.

5 Years Ago

April 3, 1958

Village Pick-Up

The Village of Wood Creek Farms will have a rubbish pick-up service provided for residents this year for the first time as a result of a split vote approving the necessary \$500 appropriation to contract the service.

Planning Survey

The Farmington City Council this week received a completed survey from the firm of consulting engineers hired several months ago for the purpose of drawing up plans for future possible development of the town area. The Council indicated the plans would be studied in detail but already have approved certain changes on the basis of preliminary consideration of the survey.

Board Vacancies

Positions are now being issued for those who wish to seek office in the two Farmington School

District Board of Education

seats, both three year terms, which expire this June.

Construction Bids

A total of 48 bids were received by the Farmington School District Board of Education for the various phases of construction on the new Alameda Elementary School building at Power and Alameda in the Township. Board officials indicated the bids were running lower than what previously had been submitted for construction of earlier elementary school units.

Hear Longacre Pupils Stage Song Concert

Spring was welcomed to Longacre Friday night by a concert of young voices. As proud parents listened, the fourth, fifth and sixth graders under the direction of music consultant Mr. J. A. Longacre entertained with a variety of numbers.

WHISTLING THE STRAINS OF "COLORED BOY'S MARCH"

as they entered, the children took their places and each grade sang four numbers of its own.

The finale was a massed chorus of all three grades joining together in "I Love Paris," "When the Saints Go Marching Home," "Michigan, My Michigan," "Chopsticks" and "You'll Never Walk Alone."

THE STUDENTS WERE ALSO

courted by their room leaders, and it was apparent that a great deal of work had gone into making the more difficult arrangement of the concert.

It is hoped that this concert

will soon be an annual affair.

Success in life depends upon

persistent effort, upon the improvement of moments more than any other one thing.

Mary Baker Eddy



THESE PUBLIC SERVANTS are just a few of the personnel ready to serve you at the new Public Service Building now open at Kensington Metropolitan Park southeast of Brighton. Left to right are Mrs. Duane Muehlberg and Mrs. Virginia Clark, secretaries and Milford residents; Charles Damm, assistant park superintendent who lives in Farmington; and Robert Skellenger, chief park ranger and Walled Lake resident.

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.



Unhappy Homeowner Wants to Move

Dear Sir:

I wonder why I ever moved to Farmington? A little over 3 years ago we moved into a rather nice ranch home in the township that we had custom built. No sewers (septic tank), no water (cistern), no telephone (lots of rats), questionable fire protection (haven't needed it yet). However we have needed police protection.

Recently while away on vacation our home was broken into, approximately March 7th, and burglarized of clothing and various other items to the tune of \$2,400.00.

If ours was an isolated case I would not take the time to write this letter. I personally know of 9 such cases and hard to tell how many others that have not come to my attention.

Our home was broken into as recently as March 15th. Ours is a small subdivision consisting of approximately 30 homes. Ten out of thirty is a pretty healthy or should I say unhealthy bating average.

A year ago my taxes were increased an additional \$500.00 for what? Nothing has changed.

With my last tax bill was enclosed a propaganda pamphlet outlining the allocation of our township tax dollars. If I remember correctly it stated, 9 police officers, 4 scout cars and etc. I question this statement very much. I can't be wrong but I am under the impression we have 3 officers available for patrol duty.

I do not mean to detract from the ability or conscientiousness of these men. If so, however, wonder how we can expect so small a staff to efficiently patrol 24 square miles.

Do we have to take turns installing our own subdivisions, installing Edison Company flood lights or give up, sell and move?

I am ready to sell. Any takers?

An Upset Taxpayer.

Editor's Reply

We are sorry that you have had some unfortunate experiences in your new home in the township but we do feel that since you also live in the country atmosphere you should not expect to have all the advantages of a city way of life such as \$8 a week when you want the tone of your letters.

The information you received with your tax bill was not propaganda but facts. You must read the facts.

Local Men on the Job

To the Editor:

The new Municipal Building being constructed in Farmington has already created work for local people.

John A. Allen of Farmington is the architect. My small structural steel detailing company is now in the process of making the steel drawings for this building. In the past we made the steel drawings for the Chevrolet Products Building and for the new Savings and Loan Building at the Farmington Plaza.

We take pride in the fact that we have a small part in the growth of Farmington.

Yours truly,
Robert A. Dembeck
3321 Shawanaw
Farmington.

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FARMINGTON

Business News

Peltier Named To New Office

(Raymond D. Peltier, vice president, has been named director of investment sales of Schmidt, Ellis and Associates, Inc., member of the Detroit Stock Exchange. President Harold W. Schmidt also announced the appointment of Raymond P. Tomich and Patrick R. Foley to assist Peltier in supervision of registered representatives.

ALL THREE MEN have been added to the staff since the first of the year in an expansion that includes physical growth as well as personnel. Within the next few weeks the remodeling of an adjacent building will be completed that will double the company's office space at 39201 W. Seven Mile.

Before joining Schmidt, Ellis, Peltier was vice president and treasurer of a firm specializing in mutual funds and investment securities and prior to that was a divisional sales director for a national mutual fund underwriter.

Foley and Tomich for several years have been registered representatives with another well known firm specializing in investment securities.



MAURICE L. WILCOX

New Salesman Joins Realtor Harry S. Wolfe

Harry S. Wolfe, realtor, announced the appointment of Maurice L. Wilcox to his sales staff.

Mr. Wilcox, who resides at 3000 Ansley Road in Livonia, has been a resident of this area since moving with his family from Detroit in 1920. For the past 16 years, Mr. Wilcox has been in the manufacturing and selling of wholesale neon tubing.

Harry S. Wolfe Real Estate has been in Farmington and Livonia since 1925 and offers the advantages of a good live sales organization of multi-listing service to people in this area.

Farmington Moose Women's Bake Sale

The Farmington Women of the Moose are having an Easter Bake Sale on Saturday, April 6, from 1 to 4 p.m. at the Moose Lodge located at 27618 W. Eight mile Road.

So, if your sweet tooth is tingling and you are hankering for something sweet, stop and shop the Moose way for home-made goodies that will cure those "ailments."

Have Your Prescriptions Filled at

Bradley Rexall Pharmacy
23366 Farmington Rd.
GR. 4-3123

27 Yrs. in Farmington

DETROIT COUNTRY DAY SCHOOL

48 YEARS OF PREPARING BOYS FOR COLLEGE

ANNOUNCES ENTRANCE EXAMINATIONS

For School Year 1963 - 64

AT THE SCHOOL

22305 W. 13 MILE ROAD (Corner Labster)

Saturday, April 20

For Registration and Further Information Call MI. 6-7717

DR. W. RODMAN SNELLING, Headmaster

Farmington BPW's Hear Educator at Botsford

Mr. Guy Hower, who is in charge of Vocational Education at Rochester High School, was the guest speaker at the Farmington Business and Professional Women's Club March 31 meeting at Botsford Jm.

The program which he headed for Cooperative Occupational Training is a new educational phase for high schools.

The speaker left no doubt in the minds of his attentive audience that he is an ardent proponent of this program and that he believes it to be a must for all high schools in the future. He stated that his present high school curriculum is aimed primarily at the student preparing for college and ignores the needs of a youngster who, for one reason or another will never attain a college education.

IT IS MR. HOWER'S contention that since probably two-thirds of the high school students will either leave high school before graduation or enter the work field immediately upon graduation that on-the-job training supplemented by school training is a necessity.

One of Mr. Hower's deep concerns is the high rate of student drop out at the high school level. He feels that Co-operative Occupational Training will do much to cure this problem. He made it clear that the aim of this type of training is to establish so called Trade Schools but to integrate job education with the basic high school courses in order to stimulate the students interest and to graduate students who will be fitted to enter immediately take jobs or continue their vocational training.

Mr. Hower concluded by urging that business women concern themselves with Vocational Education both in their role as prospective employers and as women interested in the needs of their children.



FIRE - LIFE - AUTO

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33219 Grand River Farmington GR. 4-2161

BOB ROZENBOOM SERVICE 32410 GRAND RIVER at POWER GR. 4-9719

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