

Farm and Garden Club Plans to Meet Dec. 9
 The next meeting of the Farm and Garden Club will be held at the Mayflower Congregational Church in Detroit on Monday, December 9, at 1 p.m.
 Mrs. Eric Erlison and Mrs. Harold Chellman will be the hostesses for the day. "Decor for December," a timely and interesting Christmas talk will be given by Mrs. Richard Gerathy.
 This Saturday, December 7, the local branches of the NFGA will combine to present a Christmas Market at the Northville Community Building between the hours of 9:30 a.m. and 6 p.m.

Bake Sale Planned by Shiawassee PTA
 The Shiawassee PTA will hold a Bake Sale Saturday, December 7, at two locations in Farmington. The sale will open at the S. S. Kresge Store in the Farmington Plaza and at the Downtown Farmington Center A & P Store at 10 a.m. on Saturday.

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.



County Road Official Upset by Editorial

Gentlemen: There had been a traffic signal at the Oakland County Road Commission normally does not answer articles or editorials that may be incorrect or unfairly critical. However, the editorial that appeared in your issue of November 28, 1962, issue concerning the intersection of Middlebelt Road and 13 Mile Road demands some type of reply. It is not possible to cover all of the considerations that I had to go into before making a determination about full time traffic signals in a letter and it is not our intent to do so. We do want to point out that the installation of a full time traffic signal does not necessarily decrease accidents or fatalities, nor would it necessarily have prevented the latest fatality.

The Weekly News Summary dated December 10-14, 1962, and distributed by the Michigan State Highway Department had an article titled "Traffic Lights Cause More Accidents Than They Prevent" which read in its entirety: "Lansing—Traffic signals cause more accidents than they prevent, according to a recent State Highway Department study showed. State Highway Commissioner John C. Maclellan said a one-year before and after study of 52 locations where new 'stop and go' signals were put in showed accidents increased 33 per cent during the year after the signals were installed. The study also showed rear-end collisions increased nearly 100 per cent and there was a 65 per cent increase in accidents involving a car's making left-turn movements, Maclellan said."

Our experience has been similar to that of the State Highway Department's but we do want to add that their report does show a decrease in severity of accidents.

According to the State Police Report of the recent fatal accident at the 13 Mile-Middlebelt intersection, there was a car traveling southbound on Middlebelt in front of the car that ran the stop sign and flashing red blinker which stopped at the intersection and the car involved in the accident swung to the other lane (turning lane), passed the car that was stopped and stopped at the intersection through the stop sign into the intersection. It seems somewhat presumptive on your part to presume that the accident

Eastern Star Women Hold Nov. Meetings

Farmington Chapter 239, Order of Eastern Star, held the first meeting of their new term November 12 with Charlotte Van Wicklin, Effie Pritch, Jessie Fulkerson and Lucille Brown acting as hostesses.

The invitation meeting was held on November 25 with Agnes Ross initiated in an impressive ceremony.

Rosa Larson, Elizabeth Lintz and Alvina Runda were the hostesses for the November 28 meeting.

Funeral Dec. 6 For Smith Baby

Baby Joel D. Smith, infant son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles W. Smith of 2281 Tulane Ave., Farmington Township, passed away suddenly on Monday morning, December 2, 1963. Joel was born January 28, 1962, in Livonia.

Funeral services will take place on Friday at 11 a.m. from the Thayer Funeral Home with Rev. Elsie Johns of the Clarensville Methodist Church officiating. Interment will be in Glen Eden Memorial Cemetery in Livonia.

Surviving the baby besides his parents are two sisters: Mrs. Bonnie Brock and Deborah Smith, both of Farmington, and one brother, Charles P. Smith of Farmington. He also leaves his grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Sherman Smith of South Lyons, Michigan and Mr. and Mrs. Dave Fisher of Fowlerville, Michigan.

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John Says: Sometimes people talk as though success were a state of affairs in which there are no problems. But, as I see it, a successful man will never see the day that does not bring a fresh quota of problems and the mark of success is to deal with them effectively.

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The basic reason that traffic signals are installed is to make it reasonably safe and possible for vehicles on the minor roads to cross or enter the major road when there is so much traffic on the latter that it cannot be done unless there is a traffic signal. Contrary to the popular belief, a traffic signal is a traffic control device and not a safety device. We are somewhat surprised that your newspaper has seen fit to use such language as "killer intersection," "stronger pressure" and "mob approach" at a time when the entire country is so keenly aware of such tactics.

There does seem to be some evidence that a portion of the vehicle operators do not understand the flashing red light is a traffic control device backed up by appropriate state statutes that makes it mandatory that the vehicle come to a full and complete stop before proceeding with caution. The same thing is true of the flashing red signals at railroad crossings. Better you think it would be better journalism, and wouldn't you serve your readers much more effectively if you spent the same amount of space and effort in your newspaper attempting to educate the public on such matters as mentioned above and other similar traffic control information? If we can be of any service, in such an endeavor or if you would care to check with us before printing additional editorials, please feel free to call on us.

Yours very truly,
 Paul Van Roekel
 County Highway Engineer
 Oakland County Road Commission

EDITOR'S REPLY: We are glad to see that Mr. Van Roekel at least admits a full-time red and green traffic light does decrease the severity of accidents at dangerous intersections. This is the main reason we and a lot of other local citizens want a full-time light at 13 Mile and Middlebelt.

We'll accept quite a few more minor accidents at this dangerous intersection if we can only curtail the number of serious injury and fatal accidents that are resulting there.

Strong point is made of the fact that the last fatality was due to one driver running the stop sign. This we were aware of and reported in our story on the accident. Perhaps (and only perhaps) even a red light wouldn't have prevented this serious accident but what about all the other fatal and serious injury accidents that have occurred at this intersection? Were they all also due to violations of the traffic laws?

Local News Coverage

To The Editor:
 Let it be a disgrace that the Farmington Enterprise failed to mention the passing of our beloved President of the United States, John F. Kennedy, and let it be a disgrace that the Enterprise gave front page space to Norman Lincoln Rockwell, head of the Nazi Party of America? Opinions expressed by the Farmington Enterprise do not necessarily represent the good citizens of Farmington.

Mr. and Mrs. Westcott E. Peterson
 23255 Prospect Avenue
 Farmington, Michigan

EDITOR'S REPLY: Norman Lincoln Rockwell's visit to Farmington last summer was a community news story of keen local interest and we reported on it as we did for that very reason.

The duty and purpose of a weekly community newspaper is to report and comment on news of the area it covers (Farmington City and Township in The Enterprise's case). News coverage and comment on news of national and international interest is an area to be covered by the daily papers and television and radio. We feel they did an excellent job of informing all people of Farmington and the rest of the world on the tragic news of the assassination of John F. Kennedy.

It's Our Job

Dear Mr. Kiley:
 Our sincere thanks again. Your excellent publicity certainly did a lot to put 181 full bottles on the credit side of our blood ledger.

Sincerely,
 Jane Goodrich
 Olive Lathrup

Mill Creek Quistor Chapter Set to Meet

The last meeting of the Mill Creek Quistors was held at the home of Mrs. Frank Stevens. A most successful "silent auction" was the program for the evening.

Guests included the hostess' mother, Mrs. Ollshbeimer of Birmingham, Mrs. Robert Gibson and Mrs. Paul Kolehmainen. No meeting is scheduled for December.

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