

The Farmington Enterprise

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In Our Opinion . . .

A Right Step to Curtail Drainage Problems

At its last regular meeting, the Farmington Township Board took important action in an effort to curtail drainage problems from developing in the future and we commend them for their action. A resolution has been ordered which up which would not only require any new developments to provide for adequate drainage of their own developments as they are now required to do, but also to take steps to assure that their development will not create drainage problems elsewhere nearby.

Several developments have been permitted in the past which have filled in lowland areas. Natural drainage courses for surface waters have not only been changed but in a few cases completely filled in. Proper drainage has been provided for in the area developed but there has been complete disregard for the adverse effects it has caused to nearby property owners.

As the Township continues to develop more and more changes in the community's topography will be taking place. The owner of any property has a right to change the general topographical characteristics of that property to suit him to make the best possible use of it. But, in so doing, he must not create problems for owners of land elsewhere around him.

Up until this point the Township has had no provisions to protect against this and some serious drainage problems have been created. How soon and to

what degree corrective steps can be taken is anyone's guess. We can only hope that they will be taken as rapidly as possible so that serious flooding will not result in future years.

It now appears that we are on the threshold of another building boom period in the Township and it will therefore be very important that the Township gets its resolution requiring developers to have both off-site and on-site drainage plans approved as soon as possible.

Why the county drain commission requires only that a plan for adequate drainage within the area proposed for development itself be submitted to them is a little hard for us to understand.

It would seem to us that the county even more than the township should be concerned with drainage problems that could be created over a broad area as the result of good sized individual developments. The changing of filling in of natural water courses which would be allowed in Farmington might very well cause some serious drainage problems in other communities around us and this should be of deep concern to the county.

We feel it is a matter that should be considered seriously by the county board of supervisors but our principal concern is with our own community of Farmington City and Township and we are therefore glad to see that the Township Board has taken the action that it has.

A Tribute to a Courageous Businessman

A businessman in Farmington who made a deep impression on all who knew him was Ray Cranston who owned and operated the Cranston Paint Store on Ten Mile Road just east of Orchard Lake Road. The fact that he conducted a successful operation despite his severe handicap of total blindness was marveled at by all and an inspiration to many.

We are printing here portions of an eulogy to Mr. Cranston written by another prominent local citizen who knew Ray quite well. We feel it expresses quite well the feelings that many of us had for Ray. The writer has chosen to remain anonymous.

"Ray Cranston died Christmas night. If it had to be, there could have been no more appropriate time for Ray was a man of God and it was perhaps fitting that he leave this earth on the birthday of Jesus Christ.

"Farmington is fortunate to have had as a citizen for so many years this slighter man of infinite courage who uplifted and inspired all who knew him. . . .

"Despite the crushing burden of total blindness, Ray became a successful Farmington businessman as well as a civic and religious leader in the community.

"There were few in the Farmington area who, at one time or another, had not visited the Cranston Paint Store. The sight of Ray as a crew-cut young man, wearing dark glasses, unerringly moving along the shelves, selecting the precise can of paint ordered by the customer, and even running it through the electric mixer, will live long as a testimonial to an indomitable human spirit conquering physical disability.

"As a former president of the Farmington Lions Club, Ray sparked many civic projects and events. He served for many years on the vestry of the Trinity Episcopal Church and was a leader in the church's development.

"He was independent and self-sufficient despite his blindness. He was equally at home arguing a point in a church or club meeting or dancing with his charming wife, Beulah, at a party. Ray played bridge with Braille cards better than most with full sight and he was skipper of his own sail boat at Kensington Lake.

"Ray was even a candidate for Farmington Township supervisor in the last election until a stroke took him out of the race.

"This remarkable man leaves a legacy of hope for all who are cheated by adversity, or who think they are. His life exemplifies the triumph available to all of human will and determination over discouragement and despair."

Looking Back in the Files

5 Years Ago
JANUARY 8, 1959
Re-Zoning For Apts.
No serious objections were raised to the re-zoning of a parcel of land west of the Cloverdale Elementary School on Freedom Drive for the purpose of allowing an apartment house on the site at the hearing staged Monday night by the Farmington City Council.

Bradley Drugs Moved
The Bradley's Rexall Drug Store has moved from its old location on Grand River Avenue into its new building on Farmington Road, one block south of Grand River Avenue.

Interceptor Sewer
Bids were received by the Farmington City Council on the Farmington Interceptor Sewer and will be turned over to the Oakland County Board of Public Works for analysis.

March Of Dimes
Again this year the Farmington Kiwanis Club will handle the local distribution of the fund-raising campaign.

Winter Sports
Plans have been completed for a Saturday winter recreation program for all of the children between the ages of 8 and 15 in the Farmington area. The program is being offered by the Farmington Area Recreation Commission.

10 Years Ago
JANUARY 7, 1954
City-Owned Land
A 38-acre parcel of land between the Grand River Cut-Off and Nine Mile Road apparently to be sold by the City, since the City Council has received two sealed bids on offer to purchase already and the deadline for receiving bids is January 18.

Planning Group
Plans for the possible expansion of commercial facilities in the City of Farmington will be the main topic of discussion at the next regular meeting of the Farmington City Planning Commission.

Westbrook School
Classes are scheduled to open Monday at the new Westbrook Elementary School on Osborn Street in Farmington Township.

High Tax Return
In spite of the Christmas time drain on family budgets, Farmington City and Township treasurers report that an unusually high return on 1963 school and township tax statements. Approximately 24 per cent of the City tax billings were paid and 19 per cent of the taxes from Township property owners were reported paid.

15 Years Ago
JANUARY 6, 1949
Elected President
Robert Lindbergh was elected president of the Farmington Exchange Club at a Christmas meeting held in the First Methodist Church. First vice president-elect is G. V. Harrison, second vice president-elect is Sylvester Pichay, elected to the offices of treasurer and secretary were Emory Hutton and Claude C. Goodes; respectively.

Kiwanis President
Charles Layton was installed as the new president of the Farmington Kiwanis Club at its installation ceremonies held at Stuck's Redford Inn.

Unbeaten Falcons
The undefeated Farmington High School basketball season faced its toughest contest (tests of the current campaign) when they meet league rival Keepo Harbor this Friday night.

Postal Rates
Farmington Postmaster Norman C. Lee announced this week the new postal rates are in effect. One of the changes will be an additional cent needed for air mail letters, bringing the total cost to six cents per letter. Parcel post rates were boosted ten per cent.

FOREST PARK

ALVIRA DALEY 476-3877

The winners in the Forest Park House Decorating Contest for the Christmas season have been selected and announced by the judges.

First prize of \$10 went to Robert Desser of 2264 N. Brandon. Second prize of \$7.50 was awarded to Rose Franks of 2392 Tredwell. Third prize of \$5 was given to Joe Zuchowski of 21899 Leyte.

There were seven honorable mentions as follows: Sid Tuft, 2241 N. Brandon; Mr. Saradino, 2182 S. Brandon; Bill Hoelt, 21855 Leyte; James Leavelle, 21841 Leyte; Max Beth, 22016 Tredwell and John Cassidy of 21948 Leyte.

DEAN O'NEILL, Sam Neesham, Angelo Barardi, Jack Sherman, Bette Perry and a Chuck Williams acted as judges for the contest.

Santa Claus brought joy to many a youngster's heart on the Saturday afternoon before Christmas when he visited the homes. He was a jolly fellow with his red suit and white whiskers, a twinkle in his eye and a hearty "Ho! Ho! Ho!" He carried a big bag too, which held gifts and candy for everyone.

On Christmas eve, Larry Shapiro dressed up as Santa Claus to visit a party given for neighborhood youngsters on Tredwell. He did a fine job bringing not only presents to all the guests, but adding a lot of merriment to the festivities.

Chuck Williams gave his wife, Rae, a lovely surprise gift this year. Without her gift, she would have been married to the devil.

Mrs. and Mr. George Haynie of Austin, Texas, and a Mr. and Mrs. Frank Smith of Chicago, were in Farmington on Christmas morning. Chuck drove to the airport where he picked them up and they were, figuratively speaking, put them under the Christmas tree. This was the first Christmas they have spent with the Williams' family in seven years.

HELEN MOORHOUSE had the happiest surprise gift anyone in the subdivision. She recovered her lost dog, Ginger, which was found by a 10-year-old and who had disappeared over a month before. The circumstances under which she was found were very remarkable. In spite of the dog's age, somehow she contrived to get all the way over to 10 Mile and Southfield Road where a Mr. Filff, who was moving into a new house, heard her barking at a basement window and went outside and rescued her. She was half frozen, had lost a great deal of weight and was covered with mud but still alive. Now she is back home, in the household, gaining in weight and health and none the worse for her adventure.

Karl Hill of Brandon recently visited Farmington for a tour of the city. He was the son of a man in his knee, the result of an old injury sustained while playing football in high school. Mr. Carmel Mercy Hospital, in Detroit. He is at home now, recuperating and will return to his home in a few months, being able to get around on crutches but feeling quite well.

Don and Jackie Houghton of Farmington are the proud parents of a new baby girl born on December 18 at Woman's Hospital in Detroit. The baby, Ruth and she weighed 8 lbs. 3 ozs.



Young Deaf program. Learning to listen is 17-month-old Nancy Sue Harrison of Bloomfield Hills. Mrs. Nowland lives at 27891 Green Willow Road, Farmington.

Farmington Teacher Trains Deaf Infants

Among the 7,000 teachers in Oakland County there are dozens or hundreds in nearly every category. But there is only one who teaches deaf babies to be aware of sound.

She is Mrs. Donna Nowland, 27891 Green Willow Road, Farmington.

Into her office at Oakland County in the County Service Center, come the youngest public school children in the area. The beginners are as young as 15 months, the seniors are three years old.

Mrs. Nowland's youngest student has been Nancy Sue Harrison of Bloomfield Hills. Nancy Sue is now 17 months old.

MRS. NOWLAND begins a session with Nancy still wearing her own little white hearing aid.

Nancy is a business-like student. The first lesson is listening for the sound "O". Plastic circles, O's, fit over a spindle. Nancy watches Mrs. Nowland say "O" as she holds up the circle. Nancy grabs, slides the circle onto the spindle and is ready for the next one before she hears the sound. She does not respond with an "O" of her own. She has been in the Very Young Deaf program only a couple of months.

Nancy's own small hearing aid is exchanged for big, black earphones which give greater amplification to sound.

Now the problem is to listen for a drum beat. Mrs. Nowland plays a toy drum with a stick. If Nancy pays attention and responds to the sound, she may drop a toy animal into a red plastic barrel. First beat. Nancy wasn't listening. No toy. Second beat. Her eyes go to the drum. She heard it faintly. She gets to put a cow in the barn.

IN ANOTHER two minutes Nancy has responded to as many beats as there are animals. But this has required a lot of attention. Now she is restless and squirms off her chair. She gets tangled in cords to her earphones and mother and teacher come to her rescue.

She ducks under the table for a ball and comes up with her philosophy somewhat wistful and her bright brown eyes brighter. The teacher doesn't miss the opportunity. "Ball . . . ball she says into the microphone. Nancy heard something.

During really cold weather such as we are now experiencing, it's important to have a battery that's in top condition.

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FLORAL PARK

E. R. PHILLIPS
GR. 4-6575

Mr. Ken Soules of 23162 Lilar just arrived home in time for the Christmas Holiday season from another quite extensive trip teaching his classes in flower designing. First he flew to the West Coast holding over in several northern California cities, including San Francisco. From there to Miami, Florida and up the east coast where on November 22 in Baltimore, Maryland, Mr. Soules dispersed his class on the news of the assassination of President John F. Kennedy. The flower designing classes are now included in the program instigated under President Kennedy for re-educating the unemployed.

MRS. MARGARET Leathley formerly residing in Florida Park, but now a resident of South Venice, Florida, flew in for the Holiday season for a visit with her children and friends. One of her daughters, Mrs. John Courville, lives on Oakland Avenue in Farmington. Mrs. Leathley planned on returning to Florida on the eighth of January.

Mr. and Mrs. Walter Kreuter and their son, Stephen, visited in Milford, Michigan on Christmas Day. They were at the home of Mrs. Kreuter's nephew and niece, Mr. and Mrs. David Bristol and their 95-month-old daughter, Cindy. New Years Eve, Mr. and Mrs. Bristol and Cindy returned the visit.

The Uphol Company of Kalamazoo owns the largest drug plant, under one roof, in the world. It contains more than 1,600,000 square feet of floor space and covers over 21 acres.

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U. of D. Scholar Rated Highly

University of Detroit student J. Jerome Williams will be listed in the 1954 edition of "Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges."

Williams, 27992 Brandwine, Farmington, is a senior in the U. of D. Evening College of Commerce and Finance majoring in marketing. He is president of the Evening College of Commerce and Finance Student Council and a member of Alpha Sigma Nu, national Jesuit honor society.

"Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges" is a national yearly publication listing college students recognized for their outstanding scholarship, leadership and cooperation.

The future is purchased by the present. —Samuel Johnson

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1954 — Governor G. Mennen

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Wood Creek Farms Village

ANNE M. PHILLIPS MA. 4-4335

Again I give you a very brief news column. We flew to Mexico, Dec. 18, and returned late last Sunday, from most interesting trip. To get a column in Monday morning plus trying to get the house running again, unpacking, getting groceries, the dog, etc., is beyond me. Since tomorrow, Tuesday, will be the Women's Association meeting I shall try to line up news for next week.

I regret to report that I did hear that Pearl and Debbie Dobson were on their drive to Florida to spend Christmas with Pearl's sister, as they do each year, but it ended in Elizabethtown, Ky. in an auto accident in which Pearl was seriously injured. I am unable to reach Debbie this morning, but I do know Pearl is in the Art Centre Hospital, 3435 Woodward Ave., Detroit. I know everyone joins with me in wishing her a quick and complete recovery.

The whole Davenport family flew to Friday, Dec. 18, to get the holiday with Bobbie's parents at Del Ray Beach. They had weather which permitted them to enjoy swimming, fishing and the moon. They returned home Sunday morning.

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Advertising, like marriage, may not be the answer, but there's a better way? —Don Stewart

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