

# The Farmington Enterprise

"A Centennial Journal of Progress" Established 1888

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## In Our Opinion

### We Owe Them More Than We're Providing

Youngsters and teenagers in Farmington City and Township are looking for things to do and suitable places to do them in. We are confident that only a very small percentage of our youth are motivated toward participating in acts of wrong doing or misconduct.

The ever increasing number who have been turning out year after year to take part in the fun too short Farmington Area Recreation Commission's summer program is one sign that this is a fact. Another is the constantly growing number of boys who have been reporting out to take part in the Little League and Babe Ruth baseball programs and Little League football programs each year.

During the school year, dances and sports events as well as most other school sponsored activities get very good turnouts in most instances. If more such activities were offered, outside of school jurisdiction and under a supervised recreation and activities program, we are reasonably certain that even more boys and girls would be taking part in them.

We feel very strongly that we as citizens and homeowners taxpayers of the City and Township of Farmington are failing the youth of our community badly and that if the percentage of youth getting into trouble in our community jumps as our population density increases, we will have no one to blame but ourselves.

There are no really good spots away from our school buildings for our young boys and girls to gather to let off steam over a ping-pong or pool table or by dancing to a lively popular record other than at one of our schools.

The need for at least two or three youth activity centers, and maybe even more, in our rapidly growing community becomes more and more apparent to us with each year's passing. In addition to this, there is a very obvious need for one or two even two or three public indoor swimming pools connected with or separate from our secondary school buildings.

We owe the young boys and girls of our community more than what we are now giving them in the way of programs and places to let off their excess energies during their leisure hours. The only way we will ever get these things is through a real citizens effort.

Either individually or in groups, we are going to have to start letting our various elected governmental officials know that we want to better provide for the needs and desires of the young of our community and that we will be willing to dig a little deeper into our pocketbooks to provide the needed programs and facilities to do so.

### Signs That Just Don't Tell the Truth

A dishonest signboard is no more excusable than a crooked politician, a cheating businessman or a lying salesman.

This is why we always get a little irked when we drive past a highway project in progress or any other project and see a big sign proclaiming that so many thousands or million dollars have been contributed by the Federal Government to make this project possible.

It is implied that the 'great white fathers' in Washington are shaking a special money tree and being most generous to us by advancing us all this money to improve our major roadways and make other improvements.

The plain truth of the matter is that the Federal Government is not giving anybody anything.

In the case of highway projects, it is a simple fact that the United States Treasury does not contribute one nickel toward the federal-state highway program. Every dollar placed in the Highway Trust Fund is collected through the special taxes levied directly on highway users and not on anybody else. The four percent federal tax on gasoline accounts for a substantial portion of the funds.

Not only are motor vehicle owners paying for the many road improvement projects but are actually overpaying by a very substantial amount. Of the approximately \$5 million collected through Federal highway user taxes each year, less than \$3 million is going into the Highway Trust Fund. The remaining amount is going into the Treasury Department's general fund and is being spent for a variety of projects having no connection with roads.

Instead of the signs talking about federal aid and the like, they should be giving the credit where it is rightfully due—to the motorist who is paying the four percent Federal tax on gasoline.

A suggestion that we heard made a few months back was that the signs should rightfully read—"Financed by all of you as motorists who have not given the credit where it is rightfully due."

It is a suggestion far-fetched perhaps but one very much closer to the truth.

### Looking Back in the Files

#### 5 Years Ago

JULY 23, 1959

**Parking Plan**  
A sizable off-street parking plan proposed at the regular meeting of the Farmington City Council got a positive nod from councilmen this week. Under the plan, privately owned land and some city owned property would be developed to accommodate 750 cars. The estimated parking was specified.

**Building Upturn**  
A total of 182 permits were issued in the first six months of this year for new home construction in Farmington Township. During the same period last year, a total of 150 new home building permits were issued by the township.

**New Stores**  
Farmington City gained six new commercial enterprises in the first six months of this year compared with just four commercial building permits issued for the same six-month period in 1958. Valuation on the new stores was set at \$265,000 for this year's first half and \$275,745 for the same period last year.

#### 10 Years Ago

JULY 23, 1954

**New City Engineer**  
The Farmington City Council approved the hiring of Norbert Ratzliff as city engineer and assistant to the city manager.

**No Parking Zone**  
The Farmington Township Board's action at their last regular meeting, establishing a summer play-off.

**Summer Program**  
Farmington and Clarenceville summer recreation programs continue to attract large numbers of youngsters daily to their various school playgrounds where supervised activities have been developed. The summer recreation programs are being supervised by the city's new recreation director, John Holoway, picked by the city council for a prize. Then the judge asked her name and, on being told, asked if it was her daughter who was the one who had organized the parade. Holoway replied, "Yes, he's the one up there doing all the talk."

**BILL LEWIS** loaned us the use of his flag and flew it from the Wooddale School flagpole on the morning of the parade. Next year, we are thinking of having the flag carried in the parade, perhaps by whichever boy who has most recently been awarded the rank of Eagle Scout, and then at the end of the parade have a flag-raising ceremony. In these days when it would be able to loan us a flag, we're glad to see the flag raised in our honor, which we could play on such an occasion. Please contact me.

**To all traffic co-ordinators** and to those co-operating with them, many thanks. The traffic co-ordinators, starting with assignments at the ramp house, and going along the parade route to the disposal terminus, were: Bill Kelly, Grace Nye, Charlie Richardson, Jim McQuillen, Norm Liebert, John Pers, Bill Lewis, Clark Peterson, Gerry Ellsworth, Ray Murphy and Wiley Bailey. One of the hand signs which made to identify those acting as traffic co-ordinators during the parade is missing. But I don't know which person has it and I return a hand sign. Please do, whoever you are.

**A BIG VOTE** of thanks to the Enterprise. It helped tremendously in our communications problem. There are times when I wish fervently that everyone in the sub took the Enterprise and a teenager giving us a big assist on this communications problem was Bob Bailey. The beginning of wisdom.

—Mary Baker Eddy

### PUBLIC LETTER BOX

Letters submitted to the Editor for publication must be signed. Names will be held upon request. Opinions expressed in these columns are those of the writer and do not necessarily represent the policies of this newspaper. Maximum length is 1000 words.

### Kendallwood Sub Fourth of July Parade Promises to be Annual Event

To the Editor:

Parades, and their helpers, didn't make the only contribution to our Kendallwood Fourth of July Parade. It was a great deal more. Case in point: the making sure that we had the stirring march of John Phillips' Sons of the American Revolution. Case in point: the making sure that we had the stirring march of John Phillips' Sons of the American Revolution. Case in point: the making sure that we had the stirring march of John Phillips' Sons of the American Revolution.

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### Concerned Missed Pat's Whole Point

To the Editor:

Normally I would ignore an anonymous letter like the one I received through the mail and which was also published in your paper.

"Concerned," of course, missed the whole point of my letter; but what really concerns me is that he or she ignorant applied the grand and revered old Irish name of Pat to a young man who is in Ireland, "Himself."

Mr. Pat Connolly

### To Hold Exams For Landscape Architects

A three-day examination for candidates who wish to be registered in Michigan as landscape architects will be held Sept. 18, 19 and 20. The examinations will be held at Michigan State University in the classroom building for Urban Planning and Landscape Architecture.

Applicants wishing to take the examination must submit application to the Michigan Board of Landscape Architects at least 30 days before the examination. These may be mailed in care of the Plant Industry Division of the Michigan Department of Agriculture, Lansing.

The examinations will be written and will cover the history and theory of landscape architecture, landscape architectural design, landscape grading and construction, planting design, plant materials and specifications, and office practice.

### US Air Force Needs Nurses

An Air Force Nurse Career is one of the most challenging and rewarding careers a young woman can undertake. It provides a unique opportunity for service to humanity and country.

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For more information call or visit your local Air Force Recruiting Office at 334 W. Huron Street, Pontiac, Mich., FE 2-6116.

To ask wisdom of God, is the beginning of wisdom.

—Mary Baker Eddy

### Torch Drive Aids Families In Farmington

The use of Torch Drive supported Family Service agencies to 'straighten out' family tensions and head off disaster is rapidly gaining acceptance. Last year, 150 Farmington and 10 Farmington Township families consulted trained social workers in these agencies.

Cases coming before Family Service workers include elderly persons who feel they have lost touch with their families, married couples where the wife's employment or possible unemployment causes a strain, juvenile troublemakers, illegitimate children, mental illness, and many others. In fact, there are about as many different causes for family troubles as there are families.

**STILL LEADING** all other problems brought before family service counselors are marital difficulties. They were present in 56 per cent of the cases handled last year. "Personally adjusted" adults occurred in 40 per cent. Parent-child relationships were the cause of 39 per cent of the problems. The complexity of family problems is indicated by the fact that a combination of these causes was present in 80 many cases.

Married couples usually come to Family Service, or are referred to it by others because they can't discuss things with each other, argue over money, disagree on disciplining their children, concerned about adjustment, or considering a separation or divorce.

Problems of the aged are a minor cause of trouble in suburban families, living near population explosions consist more of the younger-married couples. They are more frequent in older settled communities. Whenever they occur, social workers say, they are serious.

Nationally, Michigan's state parks rank fifth in daily attendance. In 1963, they drew over 13,500,000 visitors.

### Real Sportsmanship

To the Editor:

As a mother of a Viking in the Tee-Ball League of North Farmington, I was understandingly surprised to see my son's team win the playoff game against the Spartans on Monday, July 13.

However, I know I speak for every parent connected with the Vikings when I pay a tribute to the Spartans; they are remarkable baseball players and as good as the champions in all three games between the two teams this season. Even more remarkable was the sportsmanship these eight and nine-year-olds demonstrated after losing a cliff-hanging, extra-inning championship game. To the man — and they behaved like real men — they walked over and congratulated individual Viking team members on their win.

I and I even heard one little fellow say to my son, "I hope you guys win the World Series against the National League."

Surely the Spartan captain, Coach, and parents must be very proud of their boys.

**VIKING MOTHER**  
Alice M. Chorkey  
Mrs. William J. Chorkey  
32333 Baintree,  
Farmington, Mich.

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### Farmington Painters To Display Art Work

The Farmington Senior High School Art Exhibit and sale on Sunday, August 23. The event will take place from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

The idea was originated by a group of Farmington painters who are hoping to make this an annual event. If you are interested in exhibiting paintings you may call Alice Nichols at 33219 Grand River for information.

### Vision Care For Children & Adults

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