

PHONE DIRECTORY ADVERTISING

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GR 6-7025
GENERAL OFFICE GA 2-3160
Editorial GA 2-3160
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Branch Offices
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The Observer

OF FARMINGTON

This Week's Press Run 86,450

The six Observer newspapers are Michigan's largest per Group. Complete circulation interest. Saturation coverage in the Western Wayne County.

This Edition Contains **28 PAGES**

VOL. 2—NO. 22 THE OBSERVER NEWSPAPER GROUP publishing newspapers in the cities of Livonia, Plymouth, Farmington, Garden City and Townships of Canton, Plymouth, Redford, Salem, Nankin, Farmington 33425 Grand River, Farmington Paul M. Chandler, Founder

Philip Power Takes Over Dec. 31

(See "Observing the Scene," on Page 12-A)
The Observer Newspaper Group has been sold to Philip H. Power of Ann Arbor, according to a joint announcement by Power and Mrs. Myra Chandler, the present publisher. Power will assume ownership on Dec. 31.

Formerly headed by the late Senator-elect, Paul M. Chandler, the chain publishes papers in



"LOOKS GOOD" was the comment of Philip Power, of Ann Arbor, as he looks over an edition of the Observer Newspaper with Mrs. Myra Chandler, president and publisher of the six-newspaper group, shortly after they jointly announced the sale of the chain to Power.

Plymouth, Garden City, Redford Township, Nankin Township, Farmington and Livonia with a circulation of 86,450. Since Mr. Chandler's death a year ago the papers have been operated by his widow in silent partnership with William C. McKay, Detroit attorney and Stanley Swinton of New York, vice-president of the Associated Press.

Power, 27, was born in Ann Arbor, and was graduated from the University High School in that city. He was graduated from the University of Michigan in 1950 with A.B. degree summa cum laude. While a student he served as editorial director of

the Michigan Daily and as a member of the Student Government Council. He was elected to Phi Beta Kappa.

Power continued at the University for an extra year as a graduate student in history before going to Fairbanks, Alaska, where he served as city editor of the Daily News-Miner. From 1962 to 1964 he was a Marshall Scholar at University College in Oxford, England and received a degree in philosophy, politics and economics. During the same period he served as a foreign correspondent for the Chicago Daily News.

In the fall of 1964 Power served as campaign aide to Neill Stuebler during the latter's attempt to win the Michigan governorship. For the last year Power has been administrative assistant to Congressman Paul H. Todd, Jr. of Kalamazoo.

Power is the son of Eugene B. Power of Ann Arbor, University of Michigan regent. Both are descendants of Arthur Power, who founded Farmington, Mich., in 1824.

Stating that he would shortly establish residence in the area served by the papers and would

Farmington Township Girl Dies in Accident

A 19-year-old Farmington Township girl was killed Dec. 21 in Southfield when the car in which she was riding was struck head-on by a vehicle driven by William Sharpe, 51, of Detroit.

Killed was Karen Louise Arvidson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Arvidson of 30218 Stockton.

The car in which she was riding was driven by Ronald Kendrick, 20, of Royal Oak. According to the police report, Sharpe's car had finished passing another vehicle when he lost control and swerved across into the path of Kendrick's car. The accident took place on 10 Mile road at a quarter of a mile west of Northwestern.

At the Observer's press time Kendrick was listed in "fair" condition at Providence Hospital in Southfield.

A student at Oakland University, Karen is survived by a brother, Raymond A. of Dearborn; two sisters, Christine M. of Dearborn and E. of Farmington Township; and her grandmother, Mrs. Selma

Education Term Opens

The winter term for the adult education program in the Farmington Schools begins Jan. 10.

Director Dick Tyler urges advance registration as many of the classes are limited in size and are filled by the first class.

Registrations will be accepted at the Adult Education Office at the Farmington High School on Jan. 5 and 6. Brochures will be mailed to all former students and anyone wishing to obtain one may do so by calling the office at 476-0810.

Categories of classes include both high school and college credit courses and non-credit courses in a variety of subjects. A total of 805 students were enrolled in the fall term of the program.

Albums Available

The Bon Ton Shoppe in the Downtown Center in Farmington has some 50 Christmas Card albums available, free of cost, to anyone who will use them for hospital or children's work. They may be picked up at the store.

1965 Was A Good Year for Farmington

By WILBUR V. BROTHERTON, Mayor of Farmington

The year of 1965 has been highlighted by continued economic growth and community improvement in the City of Farmington. The completion this year, of a million dollar Mills Products Company industrial building typifies the economic expansion that was accomplished during the year.

Mills Products will employ upwards of 200 persons, which will generate job opportunities, purchasing power and business activity in the community. This type of industrial growth has a very stabilizing influence on our tax base and fortifies the community against increased cost of providing municipal services in the future.

Continued progress for the revitalization of the downtown area was accomplished through the construction of two major off-street parking lots that were financed on a special assessment basis. This improvement provides an additional 160 needed parking spaces.

Recreation facilities and programming were given a high priority. The City Council initiated a new Fall and Spring Recreation Program.

The newly established Beautification Committee has a proven to be an asset and tool in making Farmington a better place to work and live. The committee has been very active in developing a year-around program to make Farmington a beautiful and creating an awareness of the need for action in improving the image and aesthetics of the community.

The administration attempted to annex 590 acres of prime property from the Township and although this issue failed by 25 votes, it was not for the lack of initiative on the parts of all segments of municipal departments and boards.

The Planning Commission developed a Master Plan for this area which we considered an ideal community plan providing prime residential development with a well balanced commercial and industrial potential which would have allowed for exceptional economic expansion.

The City Council is aware that one of our major inadequacies is the lack of area to expand to stay abreast of future costs and a service demands. We will not overlook any opportunity that may present a possibility of improving our position in this area.

1965 was a year of accomplishment and Farmington is on the move forward. We trust that this momentum will be carried throughout the forthcoming year and we attain many of our goals.

Township Authorizes Study of Flooding

By CURTIS HALL, Supervisor, Farmington Twp.

Detailing some of the accomplishments of Farmington Township during the past year I would point out a few of the tangible results of our "Program of Progress."

During the past year we established a Planning Commission and authorized a three-year study to update our Master Plan for the overall development of our community.

Approximately eighteen miles of sanitary sewer lines and six miles of water lines have been installed including water and sewer facilities to our all important industrial park area. Under the master plan for water planning and engineering in the process whereby approximately three quarters of Farmington Township could have District water facilities available within the next 18 months.

The sanitary sewer arms have been completed in whole or in part with the exception of the 10 Mile Rd. Arm, the construction of which is some years away. Approximately three miles of the area of the township can now be provided with sanitary sewer facilities.

A two mile portion of 11 Mile, which has a high volume of traffic, was paved. Under our present plan all the mile roads in the community will be paved within the foreseeable future.

A new fire truck has been added at a cost of \$30,000 making a total of six units which gives us adequate fire protection. An electronic alerting system for firemen has been added in addition to our present system. The Building and Grounds Committee are continuing their studies on building needs.

Significant improvements in the Police Department have been made and an increase in our staff to twenty-two officers plus four office personnel. A detective bureau has been established and a 24 hour traffic patrol program has been implemented. During the past year the Police Department has driven 325,000 miles and handled 14,700 complaints.

The development of our Farmington Freeway Industrial Park is progressing at a rate beyond our most optimistic hopes. Within the last year two large plants inaugurated our industrial park adding approximately \$50,000 equalized valuation to our tax base. Four more plants are scheduled for completion by July 1, 1966.

Board Selects New Junior High Site

After several months of consideration the Farmington Board of Education has selected Section 33 for the site of the proposed fourth junior high school.

This decision was based on better utility service and a higher concentration of students within walking distance. The Section 33 site falls in an area between Farmington and Drake Roads and Eight and Nine Mile Roads.

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Council Tables Examination Of Ordinance

City Manager John Dinan told the City Council that he is soliciting information from many technical sources and would be unable at this time to submit a report on Air Pollution Control.

The Council agreed to postpone discussion on a proposed ordinance until after the first of the year, and at that time to devote a special session to review the matter.

just what caused the flooding."

Hall told the Board that he received the first call of a flooded basement at 9 p.m. Friday night and that the fire department was sent to the area with four pumps and police were dispatched with the result that in most cases the water level was kept low enough so as not to damage the furnace or the electrical wiring.

One probable solution offered by Hall to the problem would be to increase the sewer under Kendallwood Drive and under 12 Mile to dispose of the surface water faster. However, Hall pointed out that he was not an engineer and that this was just a possibility he thought might be explored.

Hall also reported that the County DPW told him that during the heavy rains the area would be provided with standby service from a six inch pump to keep the sewage emptied out.

Township's Industrial Park Beginning To Grow

Just about four months ago Diamond National opened its doors as the first plant in the Farmington Freeway Industrial Park.

Early this month Futur Mill opened its doors in the same park.

More industry is slated to move into the park in the year to come.

What has happened during the past year is simply that the visible effects of more than five years hard work are becoming evident.

In 1959 when the Township formed the Industrial Development Committee, sewage and water facilities in the area were non-existent and, as such, industrial prospects just weren't there. The first chairman of the Committee was Charles Chesnut. Today, the chairman is W. W. Bowman.

The growth and development of the Park is a typical success story with all of the typical features—hard work, luck, vision, and perseverance.

It all really began when the Township Board accepted a proposal from the Industrial Development Committee which agreed to place a millage proposal before the voters which, if passed, would guarantee the faith and credit of the entire community to the Federal Government for funds to construct water-sewage facilities in the area.

The proposal of a one mill assessment over a 20-year period was approved by the Township voters 1,140 to 844 on Aug. 7, 1962. This allowed the construction of the Tarabochia Industrial Park.

What else did they do? The success story is a tale of the entire community.

George Paige, the head of the Diamond Automation Plant, told the Observer that when considering his firm's present site all the Committee and the Township Administration really had to sell was a belief in their word.

"The area needed sewer, water and power lines," he commented, "but also did they (the Committee and the Township Administration) have to sell but a belief in them."

"Admitting that the first plant is the hardest to acquire, Paige foresees a rapid development

of the area.

In addition to the 77,000 square feet at Diamond and the 39,500 square foot Futur Mill building plans for future industrial buildings.

- A 10,000 square foot proposed building for Howell Penalt;
- Post Cut plans to construct 25,000 square foot facility;
- Johnson Die and Engineering will construct a plant of between 25,000 to 35,000 square feet;
- Plus More Industries, the plant which has been built the longest, which occupies about 25,000 square feet.

More is to come in the future as there is still a great deal of land area available in the Park. He also said that he would like to move to a community and what makes industry attractive to a suburban community such as Farmington Township.

Let's answer the last question first.

One of two reasons are usually driving any community's drive for industry. One is to provide employment for residents and the other is to increase the tax base.

In a metropolitan area such as southeastern Michigan the hope is to increase the tax base. Farmington Township is no exception.

In fact, in a letter outlining the proposal for a special election, the Industrial Development Committee quotes Farmington Supervisor and President of Schools Gerald V. Harrison (who is also a member of the committee):

Harrison stated in 1962 that: "The average assessed valuation behind each school child in the State of Michigan was \$15,000 and in Farmington it was only \$9,606. (Today the figure stands at \$9,034.)"

"We are to continue to be competitive with our neighboring districts on salaries," Harrison continues, "we must find a means of increasing our tax base per school child, or we must continue to raise tax rates even higher and higher."

Both Paige and Robert Beagle, president of Futur Mill, are

agreed that the quick access to expressways was a prime factor in their firm's decision to locate in the Township.

The fact that land was available in the 647 acre plot at a reasonable price also helped to locate in favor of the Industrial Park.

Beagle adds that his firm believes that the northwestern metropolitan area is the future area of growth and simply that they like the "attractive, well maintained" Farmington community.

The president of Futur Mill believes strongly that the area will grow and is ready to do anything possible to help it.

An example is the fact that he would like to see a sort of cooperative effort on the part of all the residents of the Park to adopt voluntary restrictions and ordinances governing the upkeep and appearance of the facilities.

Future plans for the Park, which will be intersected by proposed expressway development, include a service area with restaurant and motel facilities for the use of the commuters.

In Sept. of 1964 the Industrial Committee wrote the Township Planning Commission of its support of the Independence Green project, currently under construction, stating:

"The reasons being we need the service area, the shopping center, the prestige motel and dining facility as close to the industrial park as possible. We need the golf course and all as a buffer zone to protect the subdivisions. And we need the apartments for temporary and permanent residential use of industry personnel."

1965 has been a year of visible growth for the Township's Industrial Park. The year to come will see even more growth. It is an unfolding tale which everyone in the community can point to with pride.

Members of the Industrial Development Committee at the present time are:

What's Inside

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THE ICE WASN'T really very good at the city's Ice Rink Monday, but the combination parents are concerned what better place for the children on the day following a holiday good use. After all, the skates and hockey sticks have to be broken in and as far as parents are concerned what better place for the children on the day following a holiday weekend?