

# The Farmington Enterprise

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SEVENTY SEVENTH YEAR, NO. 43



THE JOHN ALLEN FAMILY is all set for the Farmington Founders' Festival July 29, 30 and 31 as they showed up at the Farmington Board of Commerce office to purchase activities tickets to events scheduled during the three-day program. Mrs. Stella Styr (left), made the sale on behalf of the Farmington Business and Professional Women's Club which is taking charge of the advance ticket sales. Miss Janis Pierce, Board of Commerce staff worker, and Cecil H. Smith of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, Washington, D.C., looked on as the Allen family (l. to R.) Thomas, 7, Robert, 5, Louis, 11, Mr. and Mrs. Allen, and their daughter, Leslie, 14, made their ticket purchases.

## Founders Festival Events Scheduled, Tickets On Sale

Plans for the gala three day Farmington Founders' Festival to be held Thursday, Friday and Saturday, July 29, 30 and 31, are now being finalized. The celebration is being sponsored by the Farmington Board of Commerce and activities and events will take place throughout the city and township all three days.

## Purchase Site For 5th Jr. High

The sites committee of the Farmington Board of Education at the regular meeting of July 12 received approval to purchase the balance of the Joseph Woodard property, 2115 Gill Road, for use as a site for a fifth junior high school. The Gill Road School is located on seven acres of the original 40 acres of the parcel. The purchase price agreed to is \$2,600 per acre. Three or four acres are needed to enlarge the Gill School site, the seller will retain the house and approximately one acre. The balance will be reserved for the junior high school. In addition to the site, lots 32 and 33 on Bridgman in Fend's Hillside Subdivision will be purchased for \$1,630.90 to provide adequate egress and ingress to the property.

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## 3-Year Labor Pact Signed At Star Cutter

The strike at Farmington's Star Cutter Company is over and the first of some 200 employees out of work since the middle of May were scheduled to report for the 7 a.m. shift this morning, July 14. Star Cutter owner Norm Lawton, announced this week that the new three-year labor contract negotiated by his company with UAW-CIO Local 985 was ratified by the union membership on Saturday, July 10, after the settlement had been reached Friday evening, July 9. LAWTON SAID The workers would be called back as they are needed, emphasizing that the two-month shutdown would require some time for Star Cutter to resume its full operations. "No one ever really wins a war, or a strike," Lawton said, "and we've lost customers we'll probably never get back because of this regrettable strike."

## Paul Rankin Appointed Gill School Principal

The appointment of Paul T. Rankin as principal of Gill School was approved by the Farmington Board of Education on July 12. Rankin succeeds Miss Gracilis McCarthy who succumbed last month to a heart attack at the age of 47. Mr. Rankin, until his appointment, was principal at Dwyer Elementary School, Detroit. He has been a resident of Farmington for four years and has three daughters attending Farmington elementary and junior high schools. Both his father and grandfather were Michigan educators. A GRADUATE of Redford High School in Detroit, Rankin took a BS from Michigan State University in 1949. He holds a Master's degree in Education from Wayne State University and is presently a candidate for his Ph.D. from the University of Michigan. He has majored in Elementary School Administration and Supervision, with minors in history and the philosophy of educational psychology. He expects to have his doctorate conferred in December of this year — his dissertation is a study of the effects of parental behavior upon achievement of inner-city elementary school children. Rankin's teaching experience began in 1949 as a language arts and arithmetic teacher in the Detroit Schools. In 1959 he moved into school administration as assistant principal of Detroit's Pierce School.

# \$6.1 Million School Bond Issue, Millage Proposals Set for Vote

The Farmington Board of Education, at a regular meeting on Monday, July 12, approved the setting of an election this fall asking school district voters to decide on three school tax proposals.

Voters will be asked to approve \$6,100,000 bonds for future site and building needs, renew a present 3 mill operating levy about to expire, and approve an additional 4 mills for operations.

Approval of all three proposals will require no raise in total school taxes, according to Superintendent Gerald V. Harrison.

THE DECISION to hold an election resulted from intensive, long-range, future school needs studies made by three committees of the board. The building committee determined that the needs for the district through 1970 would be a 20-room elementary school, two elementary additions, an addition to Farmington Senior High School, and a new high school and a fifth junior high school. The fourth junior high school is already on the planning board and is to be constructed with funds voted in the Bond Issue of 1963, the last project included in that issue.

The sites committee recommended the securing of six additional elementary school sites and two additional junior high school sites, one of which was secured this week.

THE BUILDING needs, sites and sites improvements needed will cost the district approximately \$6,100,000. One of the propositions will ask for renewal for a ten-year period a present 3 mill levy for operations which expires in 1966.

Renewal of this millage will not affect the tax rate which is 32.5 mills.

It is anticipated that 4 additional mills will be needed over a four-year period for operational costs of the district.

Supt. Harrison explained that this millage can be had without changing the 32.5 mills now being paid by taxpayers by levying 1 mill each year for four years for operations and

by correspondingly reducing by 1 mill each year for four years the amount of millage the school district allocates to debt interest and retirement. A state law has provided this flexible action for rapidly growing school districts like Farmington, but consent of the voters is needed, he stated.

SUPT. HARRISON explained that Michigan school districts may borrow from the state

Bond Loan Fund to meet debt retirement needs. In the past, it was necessary to allot at least 11 mills for debt retirement to qualify for loans if needed. Under the new law, the limitation has been lowered to 7 mills. Therefore, it is proposed that the debt levy rate be lowered by one mill a year for four years, reducing it to the 7 mills which would still make the district eligible to borrow at a low or possibly no interest rate if the 7 mills should not prove to be enough for debt retirement.

Out of the current tax rate of 32.5 mills 11 mills is for debt service and 21.5 mills for operating costs. Under the proposed plan, by 1969 the millage would be 7 mills for debt service and 25.5 for operating.

Board members voted in agreement that while taxpayers can be assured of no increase in total taxes for the next four years, it would be impossible to say that there would be no increase for the ten-year period, 1966-1975, with the 4 mill increase. However, the board members stated that they would make every possible effort in the future, as they have done in the past, to keep the rate the same.

No definite date was established for the election. It will be sometime this fall.



A PHOTO MACHINE is now in operation at the City of Farmington's License Bureau in the Public Safety Department. Sgt. Robert F. Deadman and Sgt. Dorothy Ugrin are pictured above with a sample of how the new drivers' licenses will look. The new machine (center) provides a picture of the licensee which is then plasticized to the driver's license in the lower left hand corner. The photo equipment was installed last week in compliance with a new state law requiring all drivers to have their pictures on their license. Motorists must wait until their present license is due to expire (no sooner than 90 days prior to the expiration date) before applying for the new photograph license.

## City Planners Want Plans on Area Proposed to be Annexed

The Farmington City Planning Commission at its regular meeting Monday night, July 12, called for the development of two or three different master plans by the city's planning consultants for the 560 acres in the township proposed for annexation to the city.

A representative from the planning consultants' firm agreed to have a couple of general plans ready for consideration by the planning commission members at their next scheduled meeting two weeks from now.

The action came after lengthy discussion of existing zoning, not only in the area proposed to be annexed but also in the area surrounding it. General agreement was expressed that a substantial portion of the area should lend itself to a "country estate" type of residential development.

THE AREAS presently developed with large lots and other areas to be developed in the same manner should not be required to put in driveways, walks or paved streets unless the homeowners desire them, it was emphasized.

It was pointed out that a portion of the area is already zoned for commercial development.

By the township and no indication was given that the city planners wanted to change this. The possibility of zoning to industrial a portion of the area in the extreme west near presently zoned industrial property in the township was asked to be given consideration by the planning consultants.

A planned unit type of development similar to what is now being done in some sections of the township whereby houses are clustered and open area left for general use by all the homeowners of that development was suggested for consideration.

consideration near the ravine area by John Allen.

DURING discussion, City Manager John Dineen explained that the reason the city would be able to provide water and sewers to the Woodcroft area cheaper than the township can is because city water and sewer lines of adequate size already extend down Arundel Street to service the Longacre elementary school. All that needs to be done is to extend these lines from Arundel up the other streets, he said. The reason the

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## Politics Creep Into Annexation Talk

Discussion on the proposed annexation of 560 acres of Farmington Township into the City of Farmington has or might very likely be getting entangled in some partisan political feuding.

The annexation question was scheduled for discussion at the Wednesday, July 7, meeting of the Farmington Democratic Club and an invitation extended to Township Supervisor Curt Hall to attend the meeting or send a representative by Aldo Vagnozzi, Democratic Club chairman.

THE INVITATION in writing, was dated June 30. Supervisor Hall's letter declining at a regular meeting on July 2 stated:

"The Township Board position in the matter of the proposed annexation is naturally one of opposition. We will direct our efforts in opposition to the proposal to the voters in the area most directly affected."

The Township Board has made and will continue to make a vigorous effort to present all pertinent facts to the voters in the area of the proposed annexation.

"I cannot see how useful results could be derived from a meeting with people who will not vote on the question."

On behalf of the Township Board I thank you for your invitation but must respectfully decline."

A SECOND letter was sent by Vagnozzi on July one day before the meeting, urging

the supervisor to reconsider. Vagnozzi stated that the Democratic Club did have members from the City of Farmington who would be voting on the issue as well as members from the township who live in the area proposed to be annexed and that the club's meetings are often attended by non-members interested in the subject to be discussed.

At the meeting last Wednesday, July 7, the subject was discussed.

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## Table Request On Add'l. Aides

The Board of Education, at a regular meeting on July 12, tabled an administrative recommendation to raise the appropriation for school noon aides from \$15,000 to \$20,000 as part of the budget for the coming year.

This raise would allow the employment of additional noon aides to provide for a 45 to 50 minute released noon-hour time for elementary teachers. A committee representing the teachers appeared at the last board meeting to request that some consideration be given to this matter.

The board tabled the item until their next meeting on July 26, but authorized the administration to enter into a study with staff, parents and administrators to decide whether some future limitation should be placed on the children who remain at school for lunch.

## 1st Meeting Set for Twp. Planners

The first meeting of the Farmington Township Planning Commission, which replaces the Zoning Board, will be held next Thursday, July 22, at 8 p.m. at the Township Hall on Evelyn, Mile Road.

A public hearing will be held on the request of Ralph Palant to rezone 58 acres on the east side of Orchard Lane Road between Broad and Whitewood Streets from R2, residential to B3, general business. The rezoning will allow construction of a 30 by 50 foot block building to be used for nursery stock and flower storage and sales.

ITEMS on the agenda include a request to rezone to B-1, general business, 4,822 acres at the northeast corner of Midland and Highway 16, and a request to rezone to a parking zone on lot 11 of Oakland Hills Orchard Subdivision on the east side of Orchard Lane Road between Broad and 13 Mile Road; a plat for Churchill Estates, to be located at the southwest corner of 32 Mile and Lincoln Roads.

Kendallwood Corporation's multiple development between 12 Mile Road and the 166 Expressway and the proposed rezoning from residential to office of a parcel at the southwest corner of 11 Mile and Middlebelt Roads.

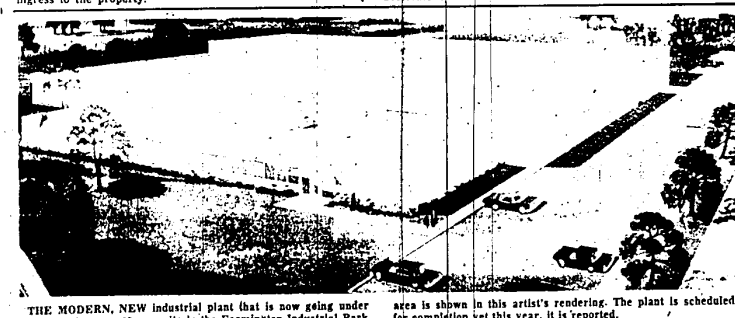
Also to be considered are the proposed RC reclassifications that have been held over from recent meetings.

## Find Lost Boy Under Bridge

Robert James Burns, the three- and one-half year old Farmington Township boy who was missing from his parents' Michigan camping site for 24 hours, is now back home and his mother reports things are pretty much back to normal. The young boy was found by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. William A. Burns, Jr. of 28955 Glenarden in Farmington Township, some anxious moments before the 200-man force combing the wilds in the area of the Jaycee camp breathed a collective sigh of relief at his being found safe and sound. He was found at about 10 a.m. on Monday beneath a bridge which spans the Au Sable River at M-72 near the town of Lodi.

BOBBY'S FATHER was breaking camp at about 10 a.m. on Sunday when the disappearance of his son was first reported. He immediately became the subject of a wide search by Farmington Jaycees along on an outing and other nearby residents. National Guardsmen, State Police, and civilian volunteers joined the hunt later in the

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THE MODERN, NEW industrial plant that is now going under construction on a 12 acre site in the Farmington Industrial Park area is shown in this artist's rendering. The plant is scheduled for completion next year, it is reported.

## Start Construction on Futurmill Plant in Township Industrial Park

Ground has now been broken and construction started on the modern, new Futurmill, Inc. industrial plant in Farmington Township's Industrial Park in the west-central portion of the township.

The 39,500 square foot plant is the second large industrial firm to put a plant under construction in the township's industrial park. The plant will be located on Halsted Road a short distance from the 196 expressway and is scheduled for completion about the middle of October.

The first industry to begin construction of a plant in the industrial park was the Diamond National Corp. This plant is located just east of Haggerty Road.

FUTURMILL, Inc., manufacturers of cutting and machine tools, presently has a plant and offices located on Eight Mile Road near Evergreen in Southfield.

On hand for the ground breaking ceremony held recently for the new Futurmill plant were Robert Begle, company president; Fred Campbell of the H. F. Campbell Company, contractors for the plant construction; Michael Conroy, director of the Michigan Department of Economic Expansion; and Curt Hall, Farmington Township Supervisor.

"The new plant is necessitated by Futurmill's growth in sales over the past five years from \$1,000,000 to \$3,000,000 and an increase in employees from 49 to 120," the company's president stated.

"Continued growth is anticipated," he said, "and the 12 acre site that the new plant is being constructed on will allow for any necessary future expansion."

Futurmill Products are sold nationally and in Canada to the metalworking industry through some 70 distributors. A sales office was opened two years ago in Brussels, Belgium, and sales in the Common Market and initial orders from this area started to be received in early June.