

# In Our Opinion . . .

## Dutch Elm Disease Not Only Tree Problem

Farmington City and Township officials have been expressing considerable concern with the problem of Dutch elm disease and what can be done to prevent the tree killing disease from spreading more and more.

This year has been especially bad for the disease and the Farmington area is not the only place that has been hit hard.

The Farmington Enterprise is equally concerned but we don't propose to have any answers for solving the problem.

Our concern, however, goes a lot further than just saving the stately Elm trees of the community that might be hit by disease and die. We have a lot of other types of trees equally as valuable and beautiful that should be protected.

Many of the developers have come in and destroyed very valuable trees to permit them to follow their plan of getting the maximum amount of homes on their property and subsequently the maximum amount of value from the property they have developed. In some of the higher priced home subdivisions at least some of the trees have been left but still many have had to go. Developers should be encouraged to leave as many trees standing as they possibly can.

In many cases small trees have been put in front of new homes built and then left to the unprofessional care of the family moving in. Some have taken the time to learn what the proper procedure is to assure rapid and healthy growth but most new homeowners have not.

Those who don't appreciate the true value of having nice trees on their property just aren't cognizant of the things that are really important in increasing the value of the homestead they own.

Local officials might do well to con-

sider seriously spending some money to sponsor educational clinics and to get out some direct mail literature to homeowners on the proper method of caring for various types of trees they have on their property.

Abuses to trees is not confined to privately owned property, however. It can be noted along the roadways in almost every section of the community you drive in.

Dead branches are not being cut away and trees that need spraying or some other type of special attention are just not getting it. Another serious abuse of trees along our roadways and one that really burns us up is the fact that they are repeatedly being used to nail up signs or posters on.

Perhaps trees are hearty enough to withstand the nails and the signs but it sure takes away from their beauty. And, what is really irritating is the fact that many of the signs and posters that are put up are never taken down again long after they have outlived their advertised usefulness.

The really sad part about this kind of abuse to trees is the fact that some of the biggest offenders are the politicians who stick up their posters or campaign literature on trees all over the place and never bother to remove them after the election is over. When this kind of example is set by men and women in political offices or seeking such posts, it is hard to expect the general citizenry to have any respect for our trees along public roadways or other public property.

A vigorous campaign is needed locally to start taking better care of all our present trees and to stimulate an interest in getting more new trees planted and cared for to replace those that have been lost in the community in the past decade.

## More Than Just Clothes, School Supplies

In just a couple of more weeks now our youngsters will be trekking back to school.

It's important that you get out and get them all the clothing and the books and other school supplies they'll need for their class sessions begin but there are also some other important matters to take care of as well.

The country-type of community we chose to live and raise our families in does not include fine sidewalks and traffic lights at nearly every cross road. These are some of the advantages of big city living that don't fit into a suburban, country-type of community, such as Farmington Township.

Since the majority of the children will be walking to school it is equally as important, therefore, that we as parents not only get them all the clothes and school supplies they need but also spend some time with them lecturing on the hazards and dangers they will encounter in traveling to and from school.


How many parents will take the time between now and the opening day of school to walk the route their children will follow between home and school with their children and give them safety pointers and caution them at danger points or give them instructions on what hazards they might expect to encounter? Those who do will find it time well spent but probably very few will.

Parents whose children will be riding buses should also be instructing them on proper conduct on the buses and also about dangers for them while waiting at bus stops and in getting on and off the buses.

These matters are probably even more important than having the "just right" types of clothing and school supplies in preparing to send Johnny or Susie back to school.

If you urge all parents to give this matter some serious consideration in the next couple of weeks.

**REPORT from LANSING**  
State Representative  
Raymond L. Baker



When the Legislature reconvenes in September it will be up to the House to decide whether Michigan will ratify the proposed 23rd amendment to the U. S. Constitution. During the two day session in late July, the State Senate acted favorably on the amendment which relates to succession of the Presidency and Vice Presidency, but the House postponed final consideration.

The amendment, which passed the U. S. House of Representatives 369-28, the U. S. Senate 68-3 and our own State Senate 30-0, attempts to solve the problems created by vacancies existing in the office of Vice President and by circumstances under which the President is unable to carry out his duties.

SIXTEEN TIMES in the history of our country our President has been without a Vice President. According to supporters of the amendment, this is a dangerous situation. They reason that the Vice Presidency is the natural training ground for the Presidency and that in case of the death or disability of the President he should always have a Vice President on hand to take over.

The other major concern is what to do when the President for some reason such as a serious illness, is unable to discharge the duties of his office. This problem has been at least partially realized three different times in our history—under the administrations of Presidents Garfield, Wilson and Eisenhower.

Fortunately, the country has been spared any major crisis resulting from either of these problems. Realizing, however, that political chaos could result from succession problems, the U. S. Congress has developed

definite procedures in the form of a Constitutional Amendment to prevent the occurrence of leaderless government.

SHOULD THE amendment be ratified by three fourths of the states, any vacancy occurring thereafter in the office of Vice President would be filled by nomination by the President and confirmation by both Houses of Congress. This will insure that we always have a "President in training."

Furthermore, the amendment establishes a procedure to be followed in the case of Presidential disability. Here the Vice President would become Acting President when the President informs Congress that he is unable to perform his duties. The President would resume his office upon notification by him to Congress that he is once again able. Procedure is also established by which the Vice President may become Acting President if the President is unable to notify Congress of his inability.

Should a disagreement arise as to the actual ability of the President with or without his notification, the final decision would rest with the Congress.

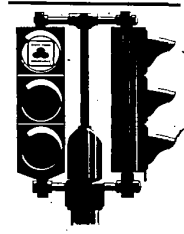
ALTHOUGH THIS amendment appears to have wide support, no one has claimed that it is a perfect or flawless solution.

From all present indications, it appears as though the Michigan House will ratify the amendment when it returns to Lansing in the Fall. Your views on this issue will be most welcome.

## City, Villages Get Highway Funds

Distribution of second quarter Motor Vehicle Highway Fund collections to Michigan counties and incorporated cities and villages is now being made. The City of Farmington will receive \$11,268 road repair and maintenance work. The Village of Quakertown is to receive \$1,250 and Wood Creek Farms Village \$1,761.

Farmington Township receives no money directly since the repair and maintenance of Township roads is completely under the jurisdiction of the Oakland County Road Commission.



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**Brian Lange**  
In Coast Guard

Seaman Recruit Brian E. Lange, USCG, son of Mr. and Mrs. William Lange of 22015 Maple Road, Farmington, enlisted in the U.S. Coast Guard August 3, at the Coast Guard Recruiting Station, Detroit.

He has been transferred to the Coast Guard Recruit Training Center at Cape May, N. J., for 12-weeks of basic training. He will receive instruction in seamanship, gunnery, physical education, military discipline and justice, communications and Coast Guard history.

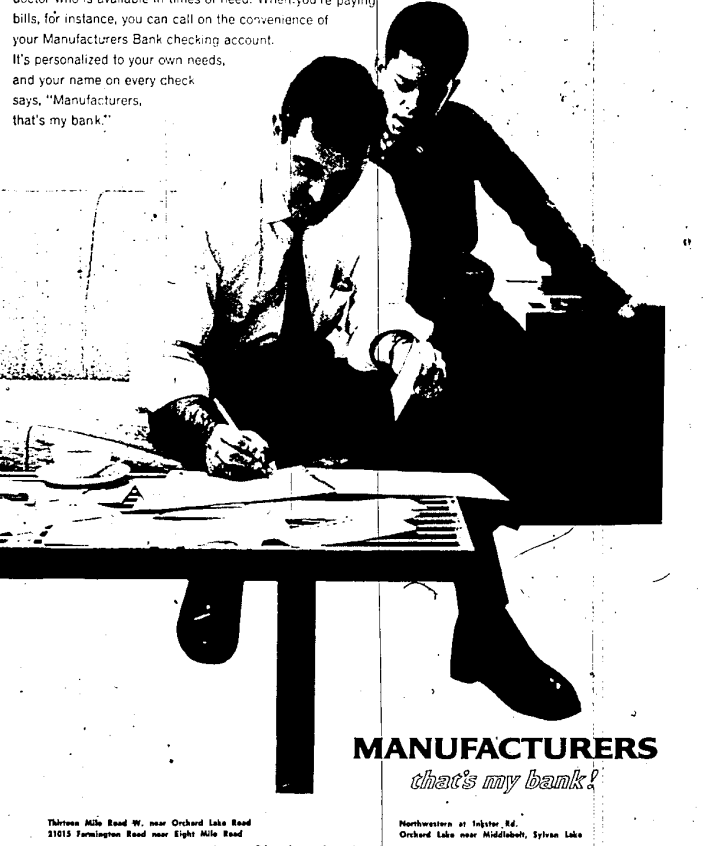
Lange is a graduate of Farmington Senior High School.

**DOWNTOWN PARADE**  
FRI. AUG. 27  
8 P.M.

**MICHIGAN STATE FAIR**  
AUG. 27-SEPT. 6  
DETROIT

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## Looking Back in the Files

5 YEARS AGO	10 YEARS AGO	15 YEARS AGO
<b>AUGUST 25, 1950</b> Resigns Office Farmington City Manager Earl Scherffius has voluntarily tendered his resignation to the Farmington City Council for reasons of poor health. Scherffius came to Farmington from a position as assistant city manager in Port Huron in 1952. Legion Commander Erland Pennanen was formally installed as the new American Legion Commander of Groves-Walker Post 346 in Farmington at ceremonies held last week.	<b>AUGUST 25, 1955</b> Legion Installation Frank Barber was installed as the new American Legion Commander of Groves-Walker Post 346 in ceremonies held last week. New Dial System The Michigan Bell Telephone Company put the new dial phone system in operation in Farmington this week for one and two party telephone users. Tax Collection The City of Farmington is expected to collect a total tax billing of \$61,320.88. August 31 is the deadline set for paying taxes without the 2 per cent penalty which will be added on September 1. New Schools Three new schools will have doors opening for the first time as students return to classes in the Farmington School District next month. There are a total of 42 additional classrooms in the three new elementary schools, which are Gill Road, Shiawassee and Eagle. A new gymnasium-auditorium facility has also been completed at Farmington High School.	<b>AUGUST 24, 1950</b> City Taxes The 17-mill tax levy for the City of Farmington is expected to net just under \$50,000, delinquent accounts, according to Farmington City Treasurer Mrs. Kathryn Cotter. Flicker Time Now showing at Farmington's Civic Theater are "Bonnie on Panther Island" with Johnny Sheffield and Tim Holt in "Stagecoach Kid". Blueberry Buy Patrons of Conroy's Supermarket in Farmington could get two cans of blueberries this week for just 49 cents. Half-Day Sessions Superintendent of the Farmington Public Schools, O. E. Dunckel, announced this week that with the start of fall classes, two elementary schools, Farmington and Middlebelt, will have students on half-day sessions the first through the fifth grades.

**The Farmington Enterprise**

P.O. Box 435 23623 Farmington Road, Farmington GR. 4-2125

THOMAS F. ISLEY DONALD R. STEWART WINONA WOODS  
EDITOR GENERAL MANAGER CIRCULATION MANAGER

RUSSELL S. STRICKLAND MICHAEL J. KILEY VICTOR HOWARD  
PUBLISHER Executive Asst. to the Publisher PLANT SUPERINTENDENT

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