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The Observer

OF FARMINGTON

THE OBSERVER NEWSPAPER GROUP, founded by Paul M. Chandler, publishing newspapers in the cities of Loxvian, Plymouth, Farmington, Garden City and Westland and Townships of Plymouth, Redford and Farmington
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A COVERED WAGON might not be the usual means of transportation, but it has proved to be most effective for the Leon Gills family of Virginia. The family camped in Farmington's City Park last week, while on another of their tours which

Hardy Spirits Stop In Farmington Park

Do you think that you have a hardy spirit because for two weeks every summer you pack the car with a variety of the comforts of home, wedge the kids in, and take off to camp in the north woods?

You might be a hardy spirit under those circumstances, but you don't hold a candle to a group that spent a night in Farmington last week.

Camped out on the ball field in the City Park for a

has brought them worldwide renown. From left are: George Gills, Leon Gills, Sandy Gwaltney, (a friend along for the ride), Ellen Stevens, seated in the wagon, (a niece), and Janet Gills, holding the family pet Whitey.

night was Leon Gills of Richmond, Va., his children George and Janet, a niece, Ellen Stevens, a friend of his daughter's, Sandy Gwaltney, and the family dog, Whitey.

They were stopped in the metropolitan area for four days and are enroute to Niagara Falls. The journey started last February in St. Petersburg, Fla.

It all started 25 years ago back when Gills decided that his family was not being sheltered and not being exposed to the deeper things in life.

After a family council Gills traded in his restaurant and sporting goods shop for a covered wagon and the group set off for California.

One thing led to another and instead of returning to Richmond at the end of a year, the family took off across the ocean for a 13 month jaunt of Europe.

Their wagon is sturdy and fitted out with a couch, but adequate facilities. Plywood counters serve as tables and bunks. The family averages 20 miles a day in their travels.

Like on the list of things to see in the Capitol area was Greenfield Village, May, where the family would see if it could learn something new from the past when the covered wagon was the most efficient and portable means of transportation.

Democrats, who did not face a primary battle, nominated: Supervisor, Vagnoni, 1,463; Clerk, Elizabeth O'Connor, 1,260; Treasurer, Joyce T. Huncerford, 1,218; Trustees, Harris Berger, 994 and Harold E. Spitzer, 937.

For the post of State Representative from the 64th District which includes the City and Township Republic incumbent Ray Baker polled 5,977 votes. His opponent will be Leonard P. Baruch who received 2,508 votes over Evelyn LaBelle's 2,056 for the Democratic nomination.

Incumbents Win GOP Primary

Despite the stunning defeat of the incorporation proposal last June the voters of Farmington Township demonstrated last week that they still liked the current Republican administration.

In a primary battle that brought slightly more than 4,500 of the Township's more than 14,000 registered voters to the polls incumbent Republican Supervisor Curt Hall and his administration easily topped a slate of those who fought incorporation led by Wendell Brown.

Organization Wins GOP Delegate Spot

Farmington's voters seem to like the current Republican Party organization. At least that's what a majority of them said at last week's primary election when all but one of the candidates put up for the post of precinct delegate by the organization were elected to office.

The one who did not have the regular organization backing and was elected—Grace Richardson has long been active in the local GOP. She easily won the election as precinct delegate in the Township's 15th precinct over a lesser known candidate backed by the current administration of the local GOP.

In the City the following delegates were elected by the GOP's first precinct: DeLois Hamlin; second, Donald Welby, Jr.; third, Duane Wilson; and fourth, Fred M. Seibert. Precinct delegates in Farmington Township's 14 other precincts are: Daniel E. Thomas, first; Margaret DeWaters, second; Douglas L. Mann, third; Earl C. Oppenheimer, fourth; E. Tappan, fifth; Albert Tante, sixth; Isabel W. Haynes, seventh; Elise P. Avery, eighth; Thomas McMillan, ninth; James R. Brown, 10; Ruth Davison, 11; L. David Stader, 12; Donald A. Oliveto, 13; and William Taylor, 14. Precinct delegates attend the county conventions to select delegates to the state convention and pick delegates to the national convention.

Oh, What 15 Little Words Can Do!



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Township Vows Support For Consolidation Study

The Farmington Township Board pledged 100 per cent cooperation to an objective non-partisan study of the various avenues of consolidation between city and township at its regular session Monday night.

Last week the Farmington City Council voted to meet in an executive session — scheduled for this Thursday, Aug. 11 — to establish some sort of guideline and procedure for dealing with the question.

What brought the subject up at Monday's meeting was the same thing that prompted the Council's discussion — a letter from Farmington Democratic Chairman Aldo Vagnoni.

"Since I couldn't attend and I didn't think that any member of the Board would be willing to discuss anything without full information," he added, "I take the responsibility for not contacting any of the Board members about the request."

Trustee Tom Nolan said that he heard about the meeting also but added that "I feel the idea of consolidation is something that should be considered by other than the Democratic or Republican organizations."

"For this reason," Nolan continued, "I would like to

suggest that some of the service clubs in the community also but added that "I feel the idea of consolidation is something that should be considered by other than the Democratic or Republican organizations."

Nolan added that he "had taken it upon himself to discuss the matter with both the Board of Commerce and the Jaycees and learned that both have something in motion toward this end."

Monday night a fact-finding committee of the Board of Commerce met and agreed upon a recommendation on the matter which will be presented at Thursday morning's meeting of the Board of Directors. (See related story on page one.)

The Farmington Jaycees were expected to meet last night (Tuesday) on this question and were expected to join forces with the Board of Commerce in exploring the question.

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Slate Hearing in Annexation

A public hearing on the City of Farmington's proposals to annex more than 2,000 acres of the Township has been scheduled for 10 a.m. Thursday, Aug. 11.

The hearing called by the Boundaries Committee of the Oakland County Board of Supervisors will be held in the County's Service Center at 1200 N. Telegraph in Pontiac.

Board of Commerce Group Calls for Study of Area

A fact finding committee composed of members of the Board of Directors of the Greater Farmington Board of Commerce met Monday night and recommended that the Board appoint a group "to study the aspects of the unification of Farmington City, Farmington Township, the

Village of Quakertown and the Village of Wood Creek Farms."

William Bowman, chairman of the Board of Commerce, emphasized that the group was not taking a stand in favor or in opposition to unification of the governmental units, but a

study of what is needed at the present time on a non-political, non-basis.

The entire statement issued by the group is as follows:

The Greater Farmington Board of Commerce recognizes that the business, industrial and professional people of Farmington have a mutual interest in the general residential and business climate of Farmington and inasmuch as mutual interest engenders mutual and common problems solvable only by cooperative endeavor, therefore the object of the Greater Farmington Board of Commerce shall be to foster such cooperation, encourage economic industrial growth, create a clearing house for information, study mutual problems, provide a forum for their discussions and to cooperate with other civic groups and with local governmental bodies.

(Continued on Page 7B)

2 Farmingtonites Die in Accidents

A young motorcyclist was killed in Farmington Township last week bringing the number of fatalities to eight for the year, while another Township resident was killed in an accident in Commerce Township.

Dead are:

• David Lee Johnson, 17, the son of Mr. and Mrs. James A. Johnson of 29323 Old Bedford.

• Paul Korte, 15, son of Mr. and Mrs. Paul W. Korte of 23912 Wesley St.

According to the Michigan State police, Johnson was killed Aug. 2 at 11 Mile and Halsted Rd. in the Township when a truck struck the boy and his motorcycle. The truck driver, William Alko of 20317 Oakland, was not injured.

Korte was driving a cement truck and failed to make the turn off of Wixom Rd. onto Charming Rd. and hit a tree headon. According to the Oakland County Sheriff's office he was pronounced dead at the scene of the accident by the County coroner.

Johnson, a senior at North Farmington High School, had lived in the Township since

1959. He was employed at the AAP in the Township and was an avid golfer.

He is also survived by two brothers, Martin and James; and three sisters, Mrs. Diane Rademacher, Mrs. Lenore A. Thurston and Beverly Sue.

Pastor Carl E. Mehl officiated at the funeral services Aug. 6 at the Prince of Peace Lutheran Church. Burial was in Glen Eden Cemetery.

Korte, a sophomore at the University of Michigan, was a 1965 graduate of Our Lady of Sorrows High School. A scholarship student at U. of M., he was president of the student council at Sorrows, his senior year and captain of the 1965 Sorrows wrestling team.

In addition to his parents, Korte is survived by a brother, James, and his grandfather, William Pitchford.

A Requiem Mass was said Aug. 8 at Our Lady of Sorrows Roman Catholic Church with burial in Holy Sepulchre Cemetery.

The Henry Sundquist Funeral Home handled the arrangements for both boys.

School Has Safety Headaches

The ever present problem of the safety of children going to and from school crept up again at Monday night's meeting of the Farmington School Board.

On the agenda was a report on the much-discussed crossing at Grand River and Powers Rd. Also, the Board was unexpectedly confronted with a delegation of five women from the Franklin Valley subdivision who were objecting to a "disturbance" that their children had to walk in order to reach Fairview Elementary School.

The Board gave their approval to a report from AAA recommending that a crossing guard be provided at Grand River and Powers Rd. The City of Farmington will pay the insurance for the guard and the school district will reimburse the city for the paying of the guard (approximately \$1.85 an hour).

For some time now the City has been trying to win the State's approval for a light at the intersection without any success.

The problems surrounding the children in Franklin Valley

(Continued on Page 7B)

Brown Tops GOP Township Group

Wendell Brown may have lost in his bid for the Republican nomination for Supervisor of Farmington Township, but he won a spot that the current administration certainly didn't expect for him to take.

He was elected to the Township Republican committee in a write-in ballot.

For some reason the local Republicans did not file for the three man board and it had to be filled by write-in.

Brown led the field with a three way tie for the other spots going to Edward Legg, Lawrence Averill and William Taylor.

Members of the Township Democratic Committee who were elected last week are: Gerald A. Freedman, Marie Mutchall and Norman Peterson.

Bike Sale Set

The City of Farmington will hold its annual Bike Property Sale at 10 a.m. Saturday, Aug. 27 in the parking lot at the City Hall.

Bicycles, auto parts, transistor radios, a organ and many other miscellaneous items will be auctioned off at that time.

Proceeds will go to the City's general fund.



GROUND WAS BROKEN last week for the new Michigan Bank branch at 14 Mile and Orchard Lake Rd. Farmington Township, Township Clerk Floyd Cairns and Township Treasurer Elise Avery formally broke the ground, while Jerry Dickson (left) manager of the branch, and Ed Jones, vice president of the bank, lent moral support to the chore. Michigan Bank currently operates out of a temporary office at the location.

Nolan Is Forming Committee

Farmington Township Trustee Tom Nolan reported in the Township Board Monday night that he had received inquiries and that individuals had volunteered to serve on a committee to fight the annexation attempt.

Nolan added that he was in the process of forming such a committee and would welcome anyone who wished to serve.

The Trustee made his comments during a report to the Township Board Monday night on the formation of a committee to fight the annexation attempt.

The Board also agreed not to object to the Nov. 2 date for the annual election if the County's Boundaries Committee voted to hold the election in conjunction with the general election.

It was felt that this date for the election would bring a larger turnout than a special election and thus provide more opportunity for people to express themselves.

In other action the Board:

• Set a public hearing on the Township Budget for 8:30 p.m. Monday, Aug. 22 during the regular Township session.

• Established Sept. 12 at 8 p.m. for a public hearing on the cost estimates for the Tarabusi Industrial Park and the site for water from its community well. It will be on a pay back basis. Arrangements are to be made with the township for sewer, also with a pay back arrangement. The gas problem afforded the easiest solution — the lines will be available at no cost.

• The school district will make arrangements with the Charter Land Co. (developers of other subdivisions on the north side of the city) for water from its community well. It will be on a pay back basis. Arrangements are to be made with the township for sewer, also with a pay back arrangement. The gas problem afforded the easiest solution — the lines will be available at no cost.

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