

The Farmington Enterprise

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Citizens' Groups Key To Campaign

The neighborhood or subdivision association and citizens committees will play a key role in a Democratic administration for Farmington Township, the party's candidates stressed at several meetings last week.

The candidates—Aldo Vagnoni for Supervisor, Elizabeth O'Connor for Clerk, Joyce Hungerford for Treasurer, Harris Berger and Harold Shipke for Trustees, also stressed at these meetings that an open door policy would be adopted to give township residents a greater voice in their government.

Vagnoni promised the Stamen Acres Association that he and his running mates, if elected, would spend the time between Nov. 8 and the taking of office meeting with groups in the community to prepare the way for the new administration.

Vagnoni was critical of the Township Supervisor's answer to the Stamen Acres group that he couldn't do anything about road repairs because it was up to the County Road Commission, which was an "autonomous" body.

"That word 'autonomous' bothers me," Vagnoni said. "In the dictionary the word 'autonomous' comes too close to 'autocratic.' I don't think that any appointed agency that is supposed to serve the people should be autonomous. Public officials are servants of the people, not their masters."

At a coffee hour meeting in the home of Mrs. Dorothy Williams, Berger was critical of the present members of the Township Board for never disagreeing with each other on issues that they vote on.

Vagnoni told members of the Home Free Association that the Democrats have been successful in piercing the wall of silence which their oppo-

nents tried to place around the Township election campaign. This wall, he offered, is crumbling and you are helping to bring it down by inviting me here this evening."

In answer to a question about the value of experience on the county board of supervisors, Vagnoni noted that the present Township Supervisor, despite his eight years in office, admits that he can't get the Road Commission to do anything about road repairs even though he is on the road committee that supervises the commission.

In a speech before the School Employees' group, Vagnoni stressed the need to elect a completely new set of Township officials on Nov. 8 to gain a majority on the Township Board. He labeled as "repulsive" the attempt by one of the present Township Trustees to lead a boycott of the two county newspapers.

"First," the Township officials try to place a wall of silence around the campaign. Now, they are trying to silence the newspapers because they have been carrying stories on our proposed solutions to community problems."

"Newspapers have traditionally played a watchdog role over government. In this role they have uncovered wrongdoing and other misdeeds of public officials. I hope that our present Township officials aren't suggesting that our two fine community newspapers must know to their wishes and give up this independence if they want to continue publishing."

"I am also concerned that this boycott effort could hurt the local business firms which reach customers through advertisements placed in the two newspapers."

Two Free Tests Offered By County Health Department

A mobile unit offering free chest x-rays and blood tests will be located at Farmington's Downtown Center, 3321 Grand River, from noon to 2 p.m. and from 3 to 7 p.m. November 1, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and from 3 to 7 p.m. November 2, and from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 2 to 4 p.m. November 10. These health tests are to detect early warning signs of tuberculosis, diabetes, heart disease, lung cancer and other chronic illnesses.

The program is conducted by the Michigan and Oakland County Departments of Health in cooperation with the Michigan Diabetes Association, Oakland County Tuberculosis Association, the Oakland County Medical Society.

Dr. Frank J. Condon, Oakland County Deputy Health Officer, emphasized that "these tests do not take the place of a complete physical examination conducted in the doctor's office." But, said Dr. Condon, certain diseases can be detected long before symptoms appear, and for this reason I urge everyone over 21 years of age to take advantage of these tests, including those who feel perfectly healthy."

THIS PUMPKIN IS EXUBERANT not only because his big day is coming up on Monday but also because he has heard about the terrific job the North Farmington kids did on their pumpkin pie. The put over \$600 in the kitty for their AFS scholarship fund, a miserable, moisty Saturday, too.

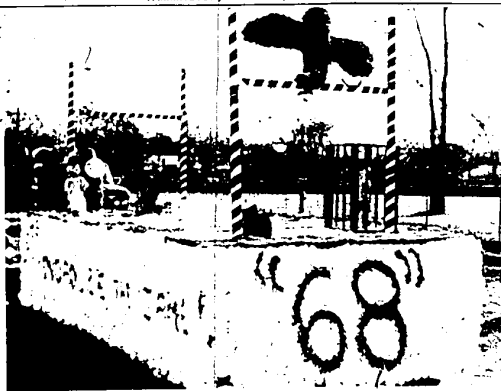
ASPHALT INSTITUTE ENGINEERS, checking a main haul road, found one salt-stabilized section of the road where deer and elk were eating the salt base. They should post signs: Please don't eat the asphalt. And any hunter will tell you that the creatures can certainly read. Don't miss hunting season. The car always be found on the land that is posted with No Hunting hand-bills.

ONE DAY THIS MONTH London's Big Ben missed the fourth Bang of the quarter chime. Can't you just imagine all that tea slurping over into all those saucers as the chime-oriented islanders waited in vain for that last sonorous beat?

REMEMBER THE SCOTSMAN who kicked the policeman with his wooden leg? Now comes word of a gent who tried to resist arrest by backing away from the officer, pulling out his wooden leg and throwing it in the blue cat's direction. Fortunately, he missed, but was booked for drunk and disorderly conduct. He'd be much wiser to use his weapon for something peaceful such as mashing potatoes.

ANOTHER ENGLISHMAN WAS JAILED in the quaint-sounding town of Wednesday for banging his head so hard against the police station desk that he split the plywood top. Now there was an Englishman with a stout head on his shoulders; wonder if he plays rugby? Oof!

A PEDESTRIAN is someone whose wife beats him to the garage.



THIS FLOAT, constructed by the Junior class at Farmington High, captured first place in the Homecoming Parade on October 21.

Jaycees Urge 'Meet Your Man'

Speaking of the "Meet Your Man" candidates' night held at 8 p.m. on November 2 at Farmington Junior High School, project chairman Jim Platt said, "We are trying to stimulate a more virile interest in the state candidates, so that Farmington may have a really informed electorate."

At the meeting, residents will have an opportunity to hear candidates of both parties discuss their plans and programs.

Speakers of the evening will include Billie S. Farum and Jack McDonald, candidates for Congress from the 19th District, George Kuhn and Paul Livingston, candidates for state senator, and Leonard Baruch and Ray Baker, candidates for state representative.

Road Presents Zoning Problems

A petition from the Elks Club to build a fraternal lodge on Orchard Lake Road (between Westhill and Lamar Streets) brought a long expected announcement from the Farmington Township Planning Commission at its meeting Thursday night.

Conceding that the roadway is one of the biggest problems it has for zoning, the members were told a proposed land-use study for it will be presented at the next meeting on December 1.

Members were receptive to the Elks' request because the petition is "the only never get single family residences along there."

Supervisor Hall Answers Tax Charge

"New tax assessment procedures now in effect will not increase property taxes paid by Farmington Township homeowners."

This was the answer given by Township Supervisor Curt Hall to statements by Aldo Vagnoni, Democratic Candidate for Supervisor, reported recently in the papers.

"I cannot believe that my Democrat opponent is so uninformed of Township Government that he could seriously make the statement that tax assessments are going to be doubled and that something must be done to prevent tax bills from increasing in the Township," said Mr. Hall. "It is clear to me that, in his frantic attempt to create an issue for his campaign, he is deliberately misrepresenting the facts."

Mr. Hall explained that the law now requires assessments to be set at 5 per cent of actual value. "This is nothing new," he pointed out, "approved tax rates have always been based upon the equalized values, which are and have been set at 50 per cent of actual value. Where a community chose to assess its property at more or less than 50 per cent of actual value, a multiplier, called the equalization factor, was applied, bringing the actual assessment up to or down to 50 per cent of actual value as the case may be."

Mr. Hall continued, "The new procedure would, theoretically, eliminate the factor and all assessments are to be at 50 per cent. A second

FARC Appeals For New Members

A cry of alarm over the foundation on which the Farmington Area Recreation Commission rests was sounded by letter to Farmington Township Board at its meeting Monday night.

The letter was written by M. H. Sitts, president of the Commission, who says, "I thought it wise to get the matter out in the open. This is just another attempt to do that. I've tried other things in the past."

Sitts' letter cited: "Lack of interest over the past 10 years on the part of civic, fraternal, service and similar organizations (groups responsible for originally forming the Commission)."

"The current Commission, through this lack of interest, has dwindled to just Sitts as president and Mrs. Annabelle Hoeglund as treasurer."

"Their jobs were originally elective; the electorate has vanished."

"Operations would stop if Sitts and Mrs. Hoeglund could no longer function; court action might be required to reorganize the Commission."

Sitts also detailed the outlet the Commission has provided over the past 18 years for thousands of eight to 15 year olds.

He has served on the Commission since 1950, joining it as a representative of the Farm Park Civic Association.

In his capacity as president, Sitts co-signs checks written by Mrs. Hoeglund. Accounts

are checked yearly by Robert Clark, a Farmington CPA. The Commission operates on approximately \$11,000 per year, \$8,000 from the Township, \$2,000 from the city. Added to this is \$450 from the Board of Education, \$300 from the Junior Chamber of Commerce and small donations from PTAs.

Bulk of the funds are dispersed during the six-week summer recreation projects when 3,000-plus children are provided with sports and game programs.

Sitts says, "We've done a remarkable job for peanuts. Our employees do it just for the love of the job."

He suggests that local groups appoint representatives to a committee to insure continuation of the Commission and remove the possibility of its being suddenly stopped.

The School Board appointed two committee members Monday night. The Township Board will meet with the City Council and the City and Clareville School Boards with the date to be arranged by Supervisor Curtis Hall.

Sitts suggests that the Township appointee be named temporary chairman of the committee because the Township contributes 75 percent to support the Commission.

Hall was authorized, in other action, to execute a contract with the Department of Commerce for a land use study of the Township. Authorization will bring \$48,000 in Federal funds for the study.

He will arrange a meeting with Farmington Council and the School Board on the Committee of One Hundred (Southeastern Michigan Council of Governments).

The Council is a leadership organization of local government formations to solve common local problems.

During discussion on this, Hall noted that "... cost of garbage disposal within 15 years will be half the cost of schools. Next year, this is fast becoming one of our major problems. In four to six years from now, it's coming."

The Board awarded a \$122,911.16 contract to W. Stockton Excavating Co., Inc., for a water transmission line to Orchard Ridge community College. The college has deposited that amount with the Township.

The company would be able to furnish a work crew at the same time to do the Echo Valley Corp. work but the corporation has not deposited the \$25,484.40 cost. The contract was let contingent upon this.

A public hearing was set for 7:30 p.m. November 28 on establishment of a sewer district for Eastfield Street between Bond and 13 Mile.

At the November 14 meeting, the Board will appoint two members-at-large to the pension committee for public employees.

Driver Suffers Coronary Attack

A Berkley driver suffered a fatal coronary attack at 11:35 p.m. October 25 west of Powers Road on 136, running his car over a guardpost, up an embankment and through a fence.

Pronounced dead on arrival at Holston General Hospital was Douglas N. Hay, 58.

Honor Rolls To Reflect Minor Modification

Honor Rolls became a matter of policy at Monday evening's Board of Education meeting after having "grown through the years like Topsy," as Superintendent Gerald Harrison phrased it. A minor change in standards was also incorporated. Formerly, the lists reflected an "all I's or better" record. From henceforth, they will indicate a B average (3.0) or higher.

Herbert Neal remarked that he thinks the standards for grading should be thoroughly discussed so that everyone would know just what the grades measure. He has heard teachers say that they consider good citizenship, effort and other factors in evaluating for marks.

George Otis replied that such a discussion could run to almost any length as educators have been mulling over

this subject for years. He further said that it is a matter for the school staffs to decide. Barbara Brown agreed that it is not for the Board to set a policy on grading.

Neal said that he had been disturbed to hear that one teacher was giving such low marks that students who normally get A's have to hire tutors in that course.

The move to establish the honor roll policy for second year schools put an end to the discussion.

Following a report by Lealand Clifford on the progress of Vocational Education Committee activities, the Board voted not to approve a plan for separate buildings in scattered areas throughout the county devoted to vocational education, but to contain them in existing facilities as is done

with special education classes. A request from Beechview PTA for a skating rink at the rear of the school property was approved with the provision that no shelter be erected since in the past they have been left semi-completed and become an eyesore to the community.

Trouble having developed with the smokestacks at Bond and Eagle Schools, it was decided to go ahead with repairs to eliminate the smoke nuisance but to send a letter to the architect informing him that this had to be done. It is hoped that since the problem seems to stem from a professional oversight on the part of the architect and contractors they will reimburse the district for work performed.

At one point of the meeting, it was determined that an alternate brand of boiler would be installed at the new Forest Elementary School at a \$1500 savings, but when it was learned that this saving would become negligible if the desired copper tubing were used, this motion was rescinded. Storm sewer costs at the new site in the amount of \$7150 were accepted.

New representatives were named to the Farmington Area Recreation Commission. John Wacburn was appointed from the Board and John Cotton from the staff.

Purchase of a triangle of land behind the former Universalist Church property was authorized to enable the district to enlarge its driveway from Warner Street to the Farmington Junior High School.

Water connection charges in excess of \$3000 were approved for the new Power Junior High School, and \$2500 in payment to the Cadillac Asphalt Paving Co. for work at East Junior High School was also authorized.

Superintendent Harrison reported that he considered the driveways and parking lots at Bond and Eagle Schools high priority projects which should be completed this fall, and was authorized by the Board to proceed with the necessary work.

Water Costs Estimated

Farmington Township Board held five public hearings last week on water rates for the Stamen Acres area on estimates of cost for water facilities.

At each hearing, a complete breakdown of costs and operation was presented by Supervisor Curtis Hall.

As outlined, each homestead in the affected area will constitute a "benefit." Cost for each benefit will be approximately \$611.06. If the cost goes over 10 percent more, the con-

tract will not be awarded until residents are contacted. Planned over a 15-year period, this totals out to \$56 per year with six percent interest to be paid on the unpaid balance.

If payment is not made by September 1, the price goes on the resident's tax bill with four percent interest added to the six percent.

In addition, there is a charge of \$138.45 for the 14-in. connection, stop box and meter service.



IT'S HARD TO SAY who is more distressed, mama or the little fellow on the receiving end of the needle. This is one of the scenes from last Sunday's highly successful measles clinic at Farmington High School.

Over 2,000 Get Measles Vaccination

By JOHN BAILEY

About 2,395 Farmington area residents were vaccinated against measles last Sunday.

The vast majority of the people were children. The vaccination took place in the gymnasium of Farmington High School.

The Farmington Jaycees spearheaded the drive which was designed to reduce the number of measles cases in the Farmington area. Co-Chairmen of the project were

Dr. Ed Blumberg and James Gaskin.

The one-shot Swartz vaccine was used. It gives life long immunity to the user.

Playing important roles in the project were Ralph Godmar, RPH, who headed the pharmacy portion of the clinic; Mary Jane Sternik, who secured much of the volunteer help; Florence Lotts, who obtained nursing help; Shirley Richardson, who organized the Jaycee auxiliary efforts; and Norma Gaskin, who handled the organization of the clinic as well as the printed forms.

The Jaycees contributed to the program by aiding with the registration of children, the direction of traffic and keeping the crowd under control.

2 Week Strike Over at Mills

The two-week old strike at Farmington's Mills Products Inc. was settled Tuesday with no change in the existing contract, which runs until July, 1967.

Robert Scott, assistant to the company president, said that Mrs. Pat Newman, president of the striking Independent Metal Workers Union, remains dismissed.

About 120 union members had walked off their jobs because of her dismissal for insubordination and leaving her job.

Nov. 5 Deadline

Deadline for application for absentee ballots for the general election Nov. 8 is 2 p.m. November 5.

For information on emergency absentee ballots, contact Farmington City Clerk, Trena Quinn at 174-5500.



JOHN COTTON (left) and Harley Walters (right) co-chairmen for the 1966 Farmington Founders Festival, receive plaques of commendation from Bill Bowman, president of the Board of Commerce in recognition of a splendid job performed for the community. When it was announced that this year's Festival deficit was a mere \$841 as compared with last year's \$1400 plus, Harley Walters remarked that it appeared he and Jack must have saved them \$600.