

# The Farmington Enterprise

Official Publication for Farmington City and Township

FARMINGTON, MICHIGAN

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## Committee Lacks Member From Twp.

While pledging "cooperation" with one breath with the study group proposing to research avenues of unification between the City and the Township, the Township Board of Trustees failed Monday night to appoint one of its members to the group with another breath.

Trustee Thomas Nolan offered to serve as a volunteer "individual" on a liaison basis between the Township and the study group. Two weeks ago Farmington City Council passed a resolution supporting the study and appointed City Manager John Dineen as liaison between the group and the City.

The move by the Board makes it clear that it is not taking a stand on unification or consolidation.

## Old-Fashioned Christmas at Ford Museum

Today's young people are hard pressed to remember what Christmas was like with out remote-controlled robots, talking dolls, cake and cookie mix and aluminum Christmas trees, but this year's holiday visitor to Henry Ford Museum will glimpse nostalgic portions of earlier American Yuletides.

Rebuilding an era when almost all Christmas gifts and decorations were made in the home, skilled Museum craftsmen will demonstrate arts and crafts that have disappeared from the American scene. This special exhibition, "The Crafts at Christmas," continues through December 31, with the exception of Christmas Day.

Working before a backdrop of antique toys, a candlemaker will pour bayberry candles. A woodcarver will create toy soldiers and animals and a glassblower will fashion Christmas tree ornaments. Nearby a potter, painter, printer and dollmaker will demonstrate their skills. A baker will make cookies from 19th century recipes, and the tinsmith will form toys and household articles.

The beauty and simplicity of the craftsmen's art is a vivid reminder of Christmas past and is high on the list of things to see for the holiday visitor to Greenfield Village and the Henry Ford Museum.

As a preliminary to the study, the steering committee composed of representatives of the Board of Commerce, the Jaycees and the League of Women Voters requested that the City and Township and the Villages of Wood Creek Farms and Quakerborn pass formal resolutions of intent to cooperate and give support to a study of possible means of unification.

In voting its sanction and approval to the study, the Trustees made it evident that this would not stop any fight on their part against annexation attempts or should another vote on incorporation come up.

Trustee opinion is that the greatest snag to unification is the different means of financing capital improvements in the City and Township.

However, consensus of the Board is that a study on the matter will provide the facts to the people.

**NOTICE**  
The Farmington Township treasurer's office will be open for your convenience Saturday, December 17, 1944 from 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.  
Elise P. Avery,  
Farmington Township Treasurer

## Sewer Bid Issue To Go To Trial

A motion for summary judgment on the township's alleged failure to award a contract to the low bidder on a sewer construction project was denied in Oakland County Circuit Court.

Circuit Judge William J. Seer ordered a pre-trial hearing, but also continued a temporary injunction against the township prohibiting further action on execution of the contract until further court order.

The township was taken to court by the Louis J. Deitoe Construction Co. which claimed it was the low bidder on the sewer project after a previous low bidder withdrew.

It is also charged that the township allowed Jeff LaDuke to bid after all the bids had been opened.

Township officials claim that LaDuke was found to be the low bidder by township engineers.



MRS. BETTY FRANKEL presents a check from the annual AAUW book sale to Ernest Sauter, president of the Farmington District Library Board. The board has announced plans for an expansion program which they hope to get under development in the near future. (See story on Page 1-B.)

## Trustee Post Goes To Skillman

After studying the matter since last spring, the Farmington Township Board has named a Trustee to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Thomas Duke.

Named by the Board Monday night by a 5 to 0 vote was James M. Skillman, of 28233 Forestbrook Court.



James M. Skillman

The 40-year-old attorney has just completed a term as chairman of the Township Planning Commission, in which post he served as chairman of the Zoning Board of Appeals.

A World War II veteran, Skillman holds degrees from the University of Michigan, Wayne State University and Kalamazoo College.

He is a member of the Detroit and Michigan Bar Associations and serves as a board member of the Salvation Army's Booth Hospital and Howard Street Mission in Detroit.

The new Trustee and his wife, Eleanor, have two children, Ann and Bob.

The filling of the Board vacancy came after a three-man committee from the Board narrowed a list of proposed names down to three. No other names were placed in nomination, but none of the three names was made public "so as not to embarrass those not chosen," said Trustee Earl Oppenheimer.

He has known Skillman since law school days and termed Skillman a man of "independence and high integrity."

## '67 Construction Totals 2 Million

The Board of County Road Commissioners, Robert O. Felch, Chairman, announces its primary road construction program for 1967 will represent a total cost of \$2,140,000. The actual cost from total commission funds will total \$1,282,000. The difference between \$2,140,000 and \$1,282,000 will be received from participating Federal, State and Municipal funds.

## 225 Singers Featured In 'Christmas In Song'

The ninth annual "Christmas In Song" will be presented by the Vocal Music Department of the O. E. Dunkel Junior High School on Friday, December 16, and Saturday, December 17, at 8 p.m.

Under the direction of Eddy Skilling, this Christmas concert will feature the 225 voices of the Mixed, Girls' and Boys' Choir.

Opening the concert will be the traditional theme of "Christmas: Magic" and will feature the Dunkel Mixed Choir. At this time the setting will be provided for the cantata, "Song Of Christmas."

Written by Roy Ringwald, soloists for this cantata will be: "The Christmas Eve," written by Pat Tabb and Doug Valassis. The voices of the Boys' Choir will be heard performing such numbers as "The Coventry Carol," an old English carol; "Ring Those Christmas Bells," arranged by Hawley Adams; and "Merry Christmas," the text and arrangement by Roy Ringwald.

Special groups heard during the fourth, fifth and sixth portions of the concert will include the Dunclelletes, an all girl ensemble. This group will perform "A Lullaby For Christmas Eve," written by Pete King. The Guys and Dolls, a mixed octette, will perform "It's Christmas Once Again," arranged by Harry Simeone. In dance and song, the Boys' Ensemble will present their interpretation of "Winter Wonderland," which is an arrangement by Clay Warnick.

The Girls' Choir featured in the fifth portion of the "Christmas In Song," will be heard in such numbers as "Deck The Hall," "The Christmas

Waltz," and "Silver Bells." Their closing number will be the beautiful number, "Christmas Is A Birthday," written by Gregory Deutsch and Dick Manning.

Also featured during this Christmas Concert will be the voices of the Melodians. This singing and dancing ensemble will perform the following songs: "Rudolph, The Red-Nosed Reindeer," and "Rocking Around The Christmas Tree," both written by Johnny Marks; "White Christmas," by Irving Berlin; and "Calyso Noel," written by Gordon Krumpholtz.

"The Junior Misse," a 27 voice singing and dancing group will also be heard in a number called "Mr. Santa," written by Pat Ballard.

The voices of the Mixed Choir will once again be heard in the final section of the "Christmas In Song." Numbers heard during this portion will include "Carol Of The Star," written by Harry Simeone; "Do You Hear What I Hear," written by Regency Shapley; "I May Never Pass This Way Again," arranged by Roy Ringwald; and "I Believe," arranged by Hawley Adams.

Serving as accompanist will be Janet Greene. The narrator will be Dave Catherman. The setting is under the direction of William Martin and the choreography under the direction of Mary Kresnan, Kay Korman, Sue Lichtman, Pat MacLean, Sally Martilla, Linda Oldershaw and Linda Wayne.

The public, parents and students are all invited to attend this "Christmas In Song." Tickets may be purchased at the door or from any of the choir members.

## Prover Named Chairman Of Pension Committee

Farmington Township Board Monday night appointed Don Prover, of the Kimberley Subdivision, as chairman of the eight-man bi-partisan Pension and Salary Committee.

Prover was instructed to call a meeting of his committee and report back to the Board on salaries for elected officials by February 1. He replaces Dean Zeigel who has moved from the Township.

The matter of pay raises for full time Township officials is controversial. Supervisor, Clerk and Treasurer is controversial. Before approval of pay raises prior to 1964 election, the issue was defeated at the polls.

## Action On Corner Delayed By Court

Final solution to the problem of corner of 13 Mile and Northwestern has been delayed again until December 19.

On behalf of Alexander J. Gordon, who lives adjacent to the corner, Franklin Forest Association and Franklin Fairway Association, attorney Wendell Brown appeared in Oakland County Circuit Court Monday morning to ask for a motion for a hearing on the court's judgment that residential zoning be vacated at this site.

In the absence of Circuit Judge Arthur E. Moore, the hearing was re-set for December 19.

A verbal free-for-all between Brown and the Township Attorney at the Planning Commission meeting December 13 did little to settle the dispute between home-owners near the site and the Chamberlain Real Estate Co., which is petitioning for conditional zoning.

At one point, following Brown's request for an adjournment on the motion to remove, Brown told the attorney to go peddle his papers.

An audience of 70-plus home-owners heard the exchanges between Brown and Brennan, directing their sympathies toward Brown by applause when Chairman Charles Lorion managed to rap out the order.

What is worrying the Commission is that the property will be without zoning if the court hearing does not favor

the property owners. The Commission does not meet again until January causing a hiatus during which the site will not be zoned, thus allowing any type establishment to seek a building permit.

Whatever decision the Commission ultimately reaches, it will not be binding on the Township Board which has the final say-so on the matter.

One hope the residents are hanging on to is that there is a 20-day appeal period following the December 19 hearing date. They are hoping for some decision which will prevent what one resident termed, "turning Farmington into a chop suey city."

The Commission has denied the re-zoning request twice and feels it has done all it can now that the court's verdict has been rendered. At the end of the discussion, it voted to decide the matter at its next regular meeting January 25. Whether the new court date will affect this decision is not known.

With no one appearing to protest re-zoning of 33285 Freedom Drive from business to multiple apartment usage, the Commission recommended the change.

A petition by the Elks for re-zoning to allow them to build a fraternal lodge on four

lots of Westhill Wood Subdivision is leading to a zoning amendment to allow private clubs and lodge halls to be included in multiple dwelling zoning.

A public hearing on the amendment and the Elks request will be held January 25.

A request for general business zoning for part or a parcel of lots in Farmington Heights Subdivision, part of which is a trailer park has been referred to Commission Planning Consultant Charles Lehman for review.

The matter is being held for another month to allow the requestant to circulate petitions for signatures of property owners within 1,000 feet of the locale.

On this matter, the Commission plans to draft a suitable regulation to further govern trailer park developments.

In other action, the Commission decided illegal property C. Lux's request to split an outlot on LaMeura Drive into four or six single lots. The site will have to be replatted.

Before adjournment, the Commission, approved Realtor Paul Rankin's plot plan for 429 feet of frontage on the east side of Averhill Street into a six lot parcel and approved the preliminary plat for Independence Commons.

## Ordinance To Supplement State Law

Minimum standards for police training and state aid as laid down by the state were adopted by the City Council of Farmington Monday evening.

An ordinance will be prepared to include any of the present City policies which are considered even more stringent than the state code.

The City attorney was instructed to prepare the ordinance in time for the next meeting. The state will pay as high as 50 per cent of the cost of the training.

In keeping with the custom established a year or so ago, a contribution of not more than \$300 to the Farmington Youth Guidance Committee was approved.

Voices of City Manager John Dineen and Mayor William R. Brotherton will not be broadcast over Station WTAH this year during the holiday season.

A year ago they accepted an invitation to extend the City of Farmington's greetings over WTAH. This year the broadcast was extended again, but the fee was raised.

It was agreed that the money could be spent to better advantage, so a Merry Christmas from Farmington will have to be tacitly understood by the taxpayers.

In order to save interest charges the City of Farmington plans to pay \$11,000 out of its general fund for improving Nine Mile Road from Farmington Road to the I-96 ramp. It had been suggested that the improvements be paid with General Obligation bonds, but the bonds would have cost about \$3000 in interest over the period.

Because she is moving out of the area, Mrs. Hazel LeGrand has resigned from the City of Farmington Beautification Committee and the resignation was accepted with regret.

Because several complaints of poor service have been reported, the City Council held a hearing Monday evening on plans for the Suburban Checker Cab Company. At the same time it approved the bonding plan for the Farmington Cab Co.

John Clappison, whose three year term on the City of Farmington Board of Review had expired, was re-appointed for another three-year period.

Heading a subdivision from the Woodcroft Subdivision for water, the City Council agreed to a public hearing on a plan to install water and sewers on Arundel, Whitaker, Langens, Oakdale and Gill Road. No date has been set for the hearing.



RAINY WEATHER CONSPIRED to cancel the Girl Scout plans for lighting the City Hall Christmas tree on Wednesday, Jules McKay was busy indoors, however, adding baubles to the one in the lobby. All over the town and township, a holiday spirit is beginning to appear.

## Suburbia 'Immobilized' By Freezing Rainfall

When Farmington woke up on an ice-covered world Monday, the radios were tuned up and the school kids looking like they were on yo-yo strings waited for confirmation to come over the air that schools would indeed be closed for the day.

Some of the early-rising dad's had carefully tried to skid the family auto out of the garage, but in most cases got only a few doors from home before realizing that it was a lost cause. To see them come slipping and sliding back home again in a semi-vertical position was a sight long to be remembered.

The moms, visualizing another sleigh such as the community had three winters ago, when everyone was soaked in for at least two days, began rummaging in cupboards to

see what the larder could provide. In many cases it appeared that a diet of pancakes and peanut butter might again be in order. Why did these natural catastrophes never come on a trip to the supermarket?

Once the kids were sure of their holiday, they exploded out of the houses like popcorn and were soon to be seen skating, sledding, sliding on the padding provided by nature and even using the backyard swings with the gay abandon of young animals released from a cage.

And so it continued all through the day. At dusk some of the families pooled their resources and got together for potluck dinners. Yet, indeed, an ice storm calls a halt to activity in the suburbs.

### The Farmington Enterprise

## COMMUNITY CALENDAR

This calendar is being sponsored as a public service at NO CHARGE by The Farmington Enterprise in cooperation with the JAYCEE AUXILIARY. All copy should be called to the Calendar Coordinator.

**CALENDAR TO RESUME PUBLICATION**

The above heading was used for a long time to introduce a list of coming events to the readers of the Enterprise.

Members of the Jaycee Auxiliary have indicated a willingness to resume this type of service to the community at the beginning of the year.

It will require cooperation on the part of those who would like their organization's activities included on the calendar of the week's events, and the first deadline will be Tuesday, December 20. Roberta Hurrell at 476-1532 is the person to contact with the news of events to come.

POOR DICK TUPPER must have been dismayed after all his work in organizing the Goodfellow paper sale to see his name misspelled under his picture in the Enterprise. There's a typo and a slip between the typewriter and the printed page, unfortunately. We're sorry about that, Dick, but wasn't it a handsome picture?

AFTER THE SNOWFALL LAST WEEK, the kids constructed a snow fort at one of the nearby schools. Now, there's nothing unusual about that, but passersby did a double take as they drove by because the snow was colored a vivid pink.

ANOTHER, MUCH MORE SUBTLE shade of pink is visible in some of the wintertime apple orchards around us. One, in its bare-limbed beauty, looks like a line of lovely ballerinas poised to do a delicate entre chat. Look at it carefully the next time you pass 10 Mile and Novi Road.

HEARKEN TO THE FLIGHT of some frustrated bats. During the past 23 years, four of them have been blown off their migratory course and ended up confusedly in Iceland. That's rather like starting off for Ft. Lauderdale and ending up in Antarctica without your winter woools. Don't you think they deserve some sort of comfort medal?

JUST BEFORE THE LAST BIG SNOW, Mr. and Mrs. Suburbanite covered the floor of their back balcony with redwood stain. Since that time, the weather has not been conducive to drying, and of course the family just had to take a stroll, so it is probably the only porch floor in Farmington with beagle paw-prints rampant. Saves bringing in an exterior decorator.

THE RETURN OF THE ELECTRIC CAR is causing no end of consternation among certain people we know. They rank with James Thurber's grandmother who always viewed electricity as making one of all the wall sockets. They maintain that if they ever do set foot in one of the new style autos they'll be afraid to lick their lips. No, they don't own electric blankets, either. Wait's the user? They consider them revolting.

by Shirley Berger