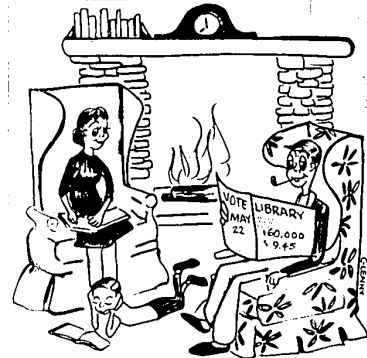


Library Millage Is Needed For Expansion



"YOU WOMEN TALK ABOUT BARGAINS, LOOK AT THIS!"

For the price of two you can purchase 160,000. Sound farfetched? Well, that's what a yes vote on the proposed one mill increase for the Farmington District Library equals.

Farmington Township property owners will go to the polls Monday, May 22, to support or turn down the additional millage. If approved, by the voters, the levy will be for a period of 10 years.

The question deserves a yes vote.

If approved by the Farmington Township residents the Farmington City Council will levy an additional mill to meet the per capita expenditures required.

First order of priority with the additional funds is to construct a library on 12 Mile Rd. across from the Dunckel Junior High School. In voting to put the proposal on the ballot, the Farmington Township Board would

the proposition in such a way that this is the first thing that the money must be used for. To build and equip this library with 100,000 books will cost an estimated \$818,000. The District currently has \$200,000 in its building fund.

Second step in the expansion is to increase the size of the current library in the city from 3,800 square feet to 10,000. The book collection in this facility would be increased from 25,000 to 60,000.

The one mill increase would cost the average taxpayer \$9.45. With an average cost of \$5 per book, the one mill increase would allow for the purchase of 160,000 books for the price of two.

Operational costs of the two libraries would be paid from the one mill increase along with the revenue from the current half mill levy for the library.

Farmington's Library is one of the most used facilities in the area. Circulation figures rank it fourth among 32 suburban library facilities. Population-wise the area is only number 10, but it ranks 15th in the number of books on its shelves.

In square footage the library is 27th among all the communities.

If the book collection is inadequate by library standards for today's population of 43,000 it will be impossible by 1980 when the population stands at 77,000 if steps are not taken now.

Thus the proposal should be supported at the polls on Monday.

SUE SHAUGHNESSY

Library Short of National Standards

EDITOR'S NOTE: The following is a statement released by the Farmington District Library to explain the need for a millage increase which will be voted on by Farmington Township residents on Monday, May 22.

The American Library Association sets national standards for educational and cultural requirements for libraries. These minimum standards are:

One book per capita. Many have three to five. One half square foot of floor space per capita. In 1960, the official census for the library district (city and township) was approximately 43,000. The present population is approximately 43,000.

At the time our present library was established, the population of the city and township was approximately equal. The forming of a district library, like schools, is a task for the future; however, the library project has been projected into the future for periods of 10 to 20 years. In providing a library facility, the need was estimated for 1980. In 1960, according to the estimates of the Detroit Metropolitan Planning Commission, the population will be 77,000. On this basis, according to the American Library Association, minimum library requirements, to meet national standards, will be: Books-154,000; square feet-16,000 square feet. There are about 25,000 books

in the present library of 3,800 square feet. To meet the standards, an additional 120,000 books and 34,500 square feet of structure are needed.

When the critical need for larger library facilities was noted after the 1960 official census, the Trustees had a survey made in 1961 of these needs resulting in the purchase in 1963 of the five-acre site on West Twelve Mile Road, opposite the O. E. Dunckel Junior High School. This was estimated to be the future center of population.

The Trustees continued to study the library inadequacy resulting in recommending to the township authorities that millage be procured to build the needed facility. This was done in April, 1965, and was defeated by a relatively small margin of 255 votes; however, only 1,511 persons went to the polls to express their opinion.

The defeat caused the Trustees to investigate the services offered by the Wayne County Library System which was serving our neighborhood libraries on an affiliated basis. The Board contracted for similar services in July 1966, providing residents the privilege of using all other affiliated libraries in the Wayne County System. This has proven beneficial especially to residents on the fringes of the township where neighboring libraries are nearer than the district library.

This year, the township authorities again have approved the Trustees' recommendation for enlarged and improved li-

brary facilities, and will place on the ballot on May 22 the library proposal which reads in part: "...the proceeds of such levy to be used first for the construction and equipping of adequate library facilities upon the site owned by the Farmington District Library...

and any surplus thereof to be used for other capital improvements and operation expenses of the Farmington District Library or any other public library serving Farmington Township".

Insofar as costs are concerned, when the millage was presented in 1965, construction costs were estimated at \$17 per square foot, this same source today estimated these costs at \$25. Trends do not indicate any lessening of these costs in the future. The one mill for 10 years is estimated to cost the average property owner annually \$9.45—the average home in Farmington is assessed at \$4,500, or \$2.10 for each \$1,000 that was assessed according to last year's statement.

This means each property owner will be taxed about \$100 for the total 10 years. An-

nually, this amount will buy one good reference book; or, two average library books; or, perhaps three children's books. It will give each resident the convenience of student library assignment study close to home; a modern library, as is recommended today, will provide an adult reading room—critically needed to provide parents, senior citizens, etc. a place to browse and enjoy quiet reading.

In reference collection should be sufficient for college study to meet the nearby community college requirements; small study rooms; audio visual facilities; microfilm research and study. There will be an activity room for meetings, exhibits, and general community activities.

In addition to funds from millage, application will be made for federal funds in the amount of one-third construction costs.

It is recognized that Farmington is the fastest growing area of the Detroit Metropolitan region. The school system is excellent; we have been complimented by Oakland County's newest Com-

munity College located in it.

A library is a community landmark. It attracts substantial citizens and industry. It increases property values. It will provide convenient quality research; reference, self-development and self-education for all out-of-school adults and all walks of life. Library users are either educated people or people seeking education. Today approximately 50 per cent of the township population is 25 years of age or under, and this young a citizenry is taught the importance of continuing education and research.

May 22 will be the day of decision for library development in Farmington. Whatever the township electorate decides affects the city also. If the millage is voted favorably in the township the city will meet it on a prorated basis; each municipality of a district contributes of an equal per capita basis. The Library Trustees are in position to hire the essential library consultants, architects, etc. to initiate this project and work for its successful completion.

Officials 'Disappoint' Residents

Editor:

As a resident, property owner, and taxpayer of Farmington Township, I must state I am disappointed in our elected officials and their performance of their duties. The facts bring about this complete disillusionment are these:

An owner of a lot on Northwestern Highway, zoned com-

mmercial, has built a fence of aluminum barn roofing enclosing that lot and in adjoining lot, zoned residential, incorporating the residential lot into the commercial lot. They are now being used as a storage area for junk in the form of old cars, trucks, lawn mowers etc.

When numerous calls, visits and a petition to the township officials were ignored, we (a

delegation of eight property owners) went to the township meeting and accomplished nothing.

Mr. Taylor, township zoning inspector, told me the owner was breaking the law. When asked what was being done about it, he said he did not know what could be done because he has been unable to reach Terry Brennan, the township attorney, although he had tried repeatedly for over a week. Does it not seem a little strange that our township officials are unable to reach our township attorney?

Carl Hall, township supervisor, said he wasn't certain what was being done—that he had heard a rumor that a warrant had been issued and that the owner had appeared Saturday without an attorney so the judge postponed the hearing. But Hall was not certain of this.

There are many life effects to this problem—about 1500 of the township's population are in this area. The problem boils down to: What can be done? By whom? How soon?

DOROTHY L. PORTUS

Residents Thank Volunteers

Dear Editor:

The residents of Franklin Knolls, Farmington Township, are extremely proud of and grateful to "our" Farmington Township Volunteer Fire Department.

Early May 8, a serious fire developed in the home of Mr. and Mrs. M. Zaprow. Within moments "our" Fire Department from Station 2 arrived and were later supplemented with volunteers from Station

4. It was obvious, even to the layman, that here were a group of dedicated men who knew exactly what their individual and group responsibilities were and performed the same in a most efficient and professional manner.

All hats off to "our" Fire Department and their excellent leadership.

Robert W. Johnson, President, Franklin Knolls Improvement Assoc.

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Airman Promoted

James R. Anderson III, son of Mr. and Mrs. Frances J. Anderson, of 2701 Independence, has been promoted to airman first class in the U.S. Air Force.

Airman Anderson is an aircraft electrician at Wright-Patterson AFB, Dayton, Ohio. He is a member of the Strategic Air Command, the nation's combat ready intercontinental missile and bomber force.

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Farmington Is Delta Zeta's 'Best Pledge'

Betty Jane Francis, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Albert W. Francis of 25823 Springbrook, Farmington, has been chosen best pledge of the Ferris State College chapter of Delta Zeta sorority.

Miss Francis, who pledged in spring, 1966, was chairman of the sorority's "Coffee Hour."

Takes Training
Army Private Lawrence E. Brown, 20, son of Mr. and Mrs. Harold F. Brown, 22932 Mayfield, completed a utilities engineer course May 4 at Ft. Leonard Wood, Mo.

TEENS SPEAK:

'We Want To Go Together'

DEAR T.L.:

This girl and I want to go together, but her mother won't let her. My girl friend and I really like each other. She is really good-looking. A lot of other boys would like her to be their girl friend. We are both reasonable people and don't know what to do about this. Bob and Joan

picture.

An obvious advantage of steady dating is the security it gives. There is always an available date for a dance or party. The boy doesn't have to go stag or get up the courage to ask a girl for a date. He avoids the possibility of being turned down. The girl doesn't have to wait for the phone to ring. The steady couple know each other and are comfortable together.

On the other hand there are some pitfalls in steady dating. The two people may cut themselves off from new places, new faces and new experiences. They may get into a rut doing the same old things with the same people and really not have much fun. In dating, too, variety is the spice of life.

There is the danger that one may become too demanding of the other's time. For example, your girl may expect you to fill the weekend with dates when you would rather be with your buddies, working on a hobby or going to a game with your father. The boy then feels tied down.

What happens when a pretty new girl moves into the neighborhood? Will you have the courage to break off cleanly and honestly when you know your girl's feelings will be hurt? If you should both tire of each other, it will take definite effort to get back into circulation. You may be out of contact with the very people who could provide you with possible dates.

You and Joan should talk this over. Do you really want steady dating? Would you prefer the freedom to circulate? If you have friends who have gone steady, ask them their opinion. Don't worry about the other boys. If my lunch about your ages is correct, then Joan's mother doesn't disapprove of you personally and is not likely to open the door to other boys.

(Perplexed? Troubled? Unload your problem on Teen Letterbox, Youth Guidance Committee, 33423 Grand River Ave., Farmington. All letters are confidential. Your real name will not appear in the paper.)

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