

Community Loses Dedicated Servant

When a community loses a man like W. Allen Nelson, it's hard to put the loss into words. In fact, it's downright futile.

Nelson was definitely a man of well-chosen words, also he was a man who believed in action. And action on behalf of Farmington throughout his long residence here was one of his main concerns.

This was especially true during his recent retirement years. His attendance at the Council session was just about always. He didn't hesitate to speak up when he was in disagreement with the City Councilmen, City Manager John Dinan or even the other members of the City's Planning Commission.

You always knew where he stood on an issue once he had made up his own mind.

A founder of the local Democratic organ-



ization, he died at a memorial testimonial dinner for one of his contemporaries. Following the dinner, he expected to hurry off to the regular session of the Planning Commission.

His death was announced in an issue of this paper which carried a headline which would have delighted him.

The headline told of the passage of an additional mill for library expansion, and the drive for better libraries in the community had long occupied Nelson's thoughts and energies.

But another matter was much on his mind. An offer had come from a local resident to assist in setting up a well-marked nature trail along the banks of the Rouge tributary in the City. The path was close to Nelson's home, and he was much interested.

At the time of his death Nelson was a member of the subcommittee studying the idea.

Although warned by his physician to limit physical strain, Nelson walked miles over the proposed route to explore the possibilities. He knew the area well, for in past years he had often gone that way with his six children.

When some opposition to the idea was voiced, Nelson took pains to talk to many of the local residents to learn whether such fears were general.

He hadn't publically committed himself to the idea, but said merely that he wished to complete the study. Nelson wasn't permitted to finish that study, however.

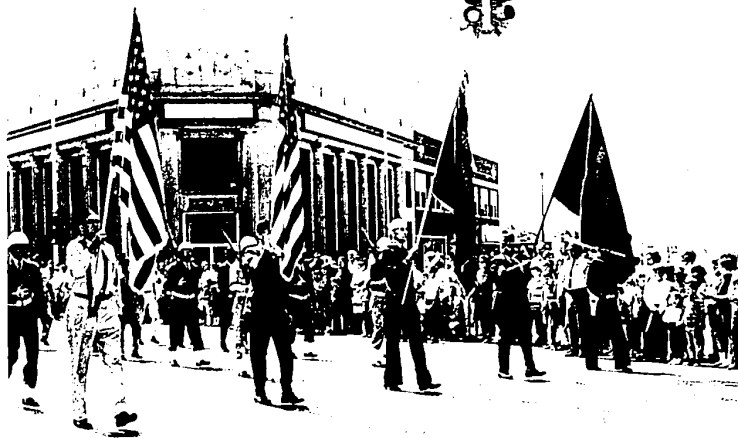
But the idea of what he thought privately can be found in the fact that he told his wife, Marion:

"I want the children of present and future Farmington to have a place where they can see nature as our children could."

We think that the study should be completed and if, in reality, the idea is as feasible as it appears the trail should be developed. We think it might be fitting to name it the "W. Allen Nelson Trail."

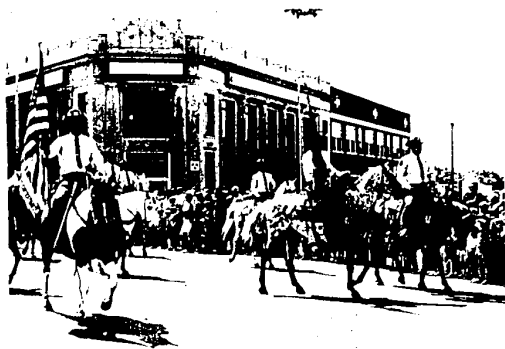
His was a life in which love of family, community and all of nature's growing things intermingled. We can't think of a better tribute to such a man.

Parade Honors War Dead



AN HONOR GUARD from the veteran's organizations lead off the annual Farmington Memorial Day Parade down Grand River. An

estimated 1,600 people lined Grand River to view what the organizers termed "the biggest parade" to date.



TOWNSHIP MOUNTED POLICE participated in the parade along with representatives of the veteran's organizations, girl scouts, bands and military personnel from throughout the state and the nation.

Everybody loves a parade ... At least that's the saying.

Crowds lining the streets of Grand River Tuesday morning were in a festive mood as they waited for Farmington's annual Memorial Day parade to begin.

Finally, the four huge jets streaked through the air following the parade route to signify the beginning.

Bands, scout units, military personnel, queens, and representatives from the veteran's organizations all marched.

UNDERNEATH the festive air, however, there was a somber note. The parade and the closing ceremonies at the Oakwood Cemetery all were in honor of Farmington's and the country's war dead.

The community's list begins with the Civil War and continues through to the present time and the jungles of Vietnam. All of these the community stopped to remember Tuesday ...



ERNEST LUEDER, a veteran of World War I, pauses to salute at the veterans monument at Grand River and Farmington Road. The parade stopped briefly enroute at the community's memorial. Lueder is the commander of the VFW Barracks No. 1152.



THE FLAG is raised at Oakwood Cemetery while the military personnel salute. Formal memorial services were conducted at the cemetery at the end of the parade route. Following the ceremonies, the marchers turned around and retraced their steps back along Grand River.



THE YOUNGSTERS were among the estimated 1,600 people who lined Grand River to watch Farmington's Memorial Day parade. Enjoying ice cream cones, while watching for the parade to begin are, from left, Susie, Christie and Karen Jucciardo. They are the daughters of Mr. and Mrs. Bill Jucciardo of Broadview Dr.



A SALUTE to Farmington's war dead was fired at the closing ceremonies at Oakwood Cemetery.

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