

# Why Did Board Act Without All Details?

It's the old story of the right hand not knowing what the left is doing.

The Farmington Township administration appeared in a poor light after a breakdown in communication last week. It isn't the first time that this has happened.

Breakdowns in communication happen all the time. However, this one tops them all.

It started almost a month ago when the Township Board received a letter from ex-trustee Thomas A. Duke.

In his letter, Duke offered the use of his recently purchased helicopter to the Township police for use in searches, traffic spotting, a disaster, etc. Under the proposal the township would pay Duke the grand sum of \$1 per year for the use of the helicopter and pay the additional insurance costs.

Duke would pilot the two-passenger plane, which is capable of speeds of more than 90

miles an hour, and the copter's radio would be equipped to maintain communication with the police cars on the ground.

The trustees jumped at the offer. It was and is a good deal.

We have no quarrel with that. In fact, we thought it noteworthy and wanted to do a feature story on the proposal.

Like so many other things, the story was delayed first because Duke was out of town, and then because the Township Police Chief Irving Yakes was on vacation.

When Yakes returned, the metropolitan area was in the midst of the Detroit riot, and it wasn't the time to bother him about the helicopter story.

When the situation returned to something resembling normal, we contacted Yakes for his ideas about how to make the best use of the copter.

The chief said he hadn't heard anything about the offer and, therefore had no comment.

How could this be as the trustees voted in an official meeting to accept the offer?

We contacted Township Supervisor Curt Hall. Hall said that Yakes didn't know about the offer because the board was still checking out "insurance and other things." He hastened to add that "the township is happy to be offered the use of the craft."

The question, then, is how could the trustees accept the offer before all the details were settled? What happens to the trustee action if the insurance rates are too high for

the township to pay and thus force a refusal of Duke's offer?


Does it take action by the Township Board to turn down the offer and rescind its previous decision?

Township government is a strange animal. Its problems are not unique to Farmington. Maybe it all boils down to the fact that the township government was originally set up to administer rural, lightly-populated areas. That, however, is another question to be considered at another time.

The question here is why did the trustees act before all the information necessary to make a decision was available?

The entire mess is a sad state of affairs. The mixup is just the type of thing that will stop the next citizen from making an offer to help out local government. After all, who needs the added aggravation?

Sue Shaughnessy



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SOME OF THE wares which Schroeder's Meat Market featured years ago in Farmington are shown in this picture, loaned by Ruth Schroeder, niece of the original owner.

Taken in 1895 or 1896, the picture shows Henry Schroeder, at left, who began the business, which was taken over in 1897 or 1898 by Miss

Schroeder's father, Herman.

At the right is Jack Habermehl, who worked in the market as a butcher and later went into the mason business. He laid the cornerstone for Salem Church near the Village Green, which was then the old German church. Habermehl's son, Austin, is a Farmington resident.

In the days, when this picture was taken Grand River, where the market was located next to the present Civic Theater, was an all-plank road running into Detroit.

## Reader Speaks: Thank You For Your Help

TO THE PEOPLE OF FARMINGTON,

My half-year stay here in Farmington, is coming to a close. I find that as early August comes to me that there is much that must be said in gratitude of my stay.

The words do not come easily.

My most sincere thanks go to Edward and Yvonne Hulscher, of 23332 Tuck Rd. for being gracious enough to take a foreigner into their home. This has been my second family, and the moments that I have spent with them have been very dear and precious to me.

I attended Farmington Senior High School on the Youth for

## New State Law Aimed At Deceptive Advertising

BY ATTORNEY GENERAL FRANK J. KELLEY

There is nothing so exasperating to a consumer as making a special trip to a particular store in order to take advantage of a special sale, only to discover that the price is wrong, the advertised item is already sold out or otherwise unavailable.

To protect consumers from deceptive advertising, a new Michigan law prohibits any advertisement which misrepresents or unreasonably overstates the available supply of

merchandise in relation to the public demand that can be expected. If the sale covers only a limited supply of goods, then the advertisement must disclose that limitation.

Similarly, it is unlawful to advertise merchandise at a stated price if there is no intent to sell those goods at that price.


These safeguards for the consumer apply not only to newspaper ads, but also to handbills, radio and television commercials, outdoor signs, telephone solicitations, and many other forms of advertising.



THOMAS R. VAN KUIKEN, JR., son of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas R. Van Kuiken of 29043 Raleigh Rd., Farmington, executes a sit-up in the physical training phase of officer training at Marine Corps Schools in Quantico, Va. A senior at St. Mary's College, Van Kuiken has recently completed the second of two six-week summer training sessions leading to a Marine Corps commission upon college graduation.

Thank you so very much,  
ANDRE MICHAEL HAVAS  
EINDHOVEN, HOLLAND

**RISE IN AUTO THEFTS**  
Auto thefts in the United States have nearly tripled since 1948, according to the Insurance Information Institute. There were 183,400 cars stolen in 1948 and 466,805 in 1964. Authorities stress that the best way to safeguard your car against thieves is to lock it and take the key with you.



### WATER SOFTENERS

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## free installation

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If you're in the market for a new dryer, range or water heater, you're in for a pleasant surprise.


Edison has just announced free installation on newly purchased electric dryers, ranges and approved water heaters.

The installation, of course, has to be on Edison lines. And it takes in homes up to and including four-family residences. The only thing not included is dryer venting. Otherwise, installation is free of charge.

It may also surprise you to learn that Edison offers no-charge repair service. No charge for electrical operating parts, no charge for labor if your electric range, dryer or water heater needs service.

Free installation, no-charge repair service. Makes quite a package. Call Edison, your plumber or your dealer.

**Edison lowers the cost of all-electric living.**



## early in the week is when the savings are

### DOWNTOWN FARMINGTON CENTER

Grand River at  
Farmington Road