



The Farmington

ENTERPRISE & OBSERVER

Press Run 15,000

10 Cents

Vol. 79, No. 72

September 24, 1967

14 Pages

Philip H. Power, Publisher

Bond Sale OK'd

The City of Farmington has received the go-ahead from the State Municipal Finance Commission to issue \$35,000 of general obligation bonds and \$124,000 of special assessment bonds for sanitary sewer and water improvements.

The city will begin the improvements in part of the newly annexed section of the township...which includes the whole of Woodcroft subdivision.

No work will be started until the city has completed negotiations with the Oakland County Department of Public Works, according to John Dinan, city manager.

The County DPW, which serves all of the former township area, will now service only portions of the area and the city will serve the rest.

Woodcroft subdivision will be serviced by the city entirely.

The general obligation bonds are payable from general city revenues...city at large funds...taxes to be levied without limitation as to rate or amount.



ROUGE RIVER—Jim Piatt, chairman of the City Planning Commission sub-committee to study nature trails, stands on part of the site in the city park where a nature trail will run. Piatt called the spot "a natural" for the trail because of how the river winds and oxbows and doesn't lend itself to be used for anything else.

City Starts Nature Trail Development

By HENRY J. TEUSCH Staff Writer

The City of Farmington is not yet all concrete, glass, and steel. There are no 20-story buildings blotting out the sky. However, it is not inconceivable that 20 or 30 years from now, the city will have all the modern appurtenances that inevitably follow with population expansion and new business.

The city fathers are doing some imagining and consequently are planning to make the transition from open field to high rise living as painless as possible.

A THREE-PHASE program has been developed by the City Council and the planning commission for the creation of two new nature trails and another city park.

The first phase will be a trail in the existing city park. The trail will run for about 1,500 feet along the northwest side of the Rouge River.

The second phase will be another trail across the river beginning where the first trail river up to Shawassaw.

The last phase will be the development of another city park.

men have been appointed—Jesse MacDonald and Wescott Peterson.

The idea has been snowballing and the City Council recently approved the first phase of the project.

Hartley Thornton, an interpretive naturalist with the Michigan State Conservation Department, donated his time and knowledge of flora and fauna to direct the first trail's blip.

THE ENTERPRISE & Observer asked Piatt about the trails.

"Actually the particular property that will be used for the nature trail couldn't be used for anything else," Piatt explained.

"Where the trail would run, there isn't enough room for a pitcher's mound and homeplate with the correct distance between them."

The sub-committee chairman said, "Years ago children had lots of room to play and many open fields to play in. Most of it was private property, but people were not concerned about it being used by the children."

"Now things have changed. People today don't want their private property invaded by anyone and consequently parks

and nature trails must be created for children who have no other place to go."

Last spring, the proposed trails were opposed because it was felt by councilman Howard Thayer that the creation of the trails would invite deviates into the area.

Piatt commented, "I don't think any Chicago deviates are going to rush to Farmington just because two nature trails have been developed."

THE ENTERPRISE & Observer also questioned Thornton, the nature expert, about what the trail will be like and how it will be made.

Thornton said that he hoped to be able to start the making of the first trail at the end of October.

He plans to use local Boy Scouts to do the work, and the city has agreed to haul away any debris collected from the area.

Thornton said the Boy Scouts can earn conservation advancement as they do the cleaning and clearing.

"We can blend the activity of cleaning and clearing with the need for the boys to learn about nature," he said.

Eventually, the finished trail

will have markers and signs identifying the different species of animals and plants.

Farmington's Women's Flower and Garden Club has offered its services for the identification of the plant life.

Thornton described the area as having a rich variety of both flora and fauna.

"There is a whole variety of things that will tell a total story about nature as the seasons evolve."

BIRDS ABOUND in the area. "There are pheasants, quail, orioles, cardinals, bluejays, crickets, wood thrush, hermit thrush, grosbeak, and robins," he said.

On the ground and in the water, there are raccoons, muskrats, mink, skunk, weasel, and turtles, frogs, Dace, mud minnows and top swimmers.

The river used to have bluegill, smallmouth bass, trout, and crapple.

Thornton hoped that some of these fish could be restored to the river after it had been properly banked and dammed.

"A nature trail can be used effectively the year around. There is a constant retoolment of study materials as the seasons shift," he said.

Close Licensing Bureau

The City of Farmington's Public Safety Department will discontinue issuing driver's licenses Sept. 29.

Robert Deadman, public safety director, said that there are only limited facilities for issuing them at City Hall.

Deadman said that his department had been giving out more than 1,500 licenses a month.

Licenses may still be obtained in the city however.

The Secretary of State's office will set up a new license bureau at Downtown Farmington Center Hobby Shop, 23342 Farmington Rd.

The new bureau will open Oct. 2 and the hours are Tuesday through Friday 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday 12 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. It will be closed on the weekends.

'Monument Ownership Being Settled' Dinan

"The question of just who owns the veterans monument is now being settled between the monument committee and the Masonic officials," City Manager John Dinan told the City Council this week.

In a progress report to the Council detailing the city work with the committee, Dinan said that the group has a Nov. 11 target date for the new structure.

The monument was originally constructed in the 1920s by the township when its officers were

housed in the building at Grand River and Farmington Rds.

ROBERT L. SMITH, chairman of the monument committee, says that the monument will be relocated to the city-owned property on the Village Green just west of the Masonic Temple.

The city has donated the land, according to Smith, and the Township has voted to donate \$200 toward the cost of the relocation and refurbishing.

The remainder of the estimated \$2,500 to \$3,000 cost of the entire project will be raised by contributions from the organizations and residents of Farmington.

PLANS CALL for an eight-foot walkway leading from Grand River to the monument, which will be built in four tiers. A torch light will be installed for ceremonial purposes and will stand in front of the monument which will face west.

A 30-foot high flagpole will also be a part of the monument area.

A plaque will be dedicated on the front of the monument to all the deceased war veterans. Currently the monument lists those who died in the Civil War, the Spanish-American War and World War I.

No specific names will be listed on the new plaque, but the existing listings will be retained on the sides of the monument.

Parents who wish to participate in one of the class sessions are requested to contact the schools.

Six Schools Slate Sex Education Class

The sex education classes for parents offered by the Farmington Schools will be expanded to six elementary schools during this year's fall term.

Evening classes will be held on a staggered basis at Fairview and Eagle Schools beginning the week of Oct. 2; Wooddale and Longacre, Oct. 9; and Flanders and Shawassaw, Oct. 16.

The course is six weeks in duration.

LAWRENCE FREEDMAN and Dr. Jack Cleveland, co-chairmen of the program, are confident that every elementary school will eventually offer parents an opportunity to attend the classes.

"Anyone can find a set of answers to the birds and bees questions in a handy paperback," Freedman observed, "but we suggest this more significant approach."

FARMINGTON'S program was initiated by past superintendent Gerald V. Harrison and Dr. Armin Grams of the Merrill-Palmer Institute. Two years of planning went into its final form.

Parents who wish to participate in one of the class sessions are requested to contact the schools.

WHERE THE NEW park will be located is not yet definite. The Planning Commission is eyeing some city property west of Farmington Rd. and north of Shawassaw on the old McGee Hill.

The idea for the trails and park was brought up two years ago by Robert Diebold, a professional consultant to the Planning Commission.

Soon afterwards, a nature trail sub-committee was organized under the leadership of the late commission member W. Allen Nelson.

Nelson and commission member Jim Piatt put wheels into motion and finally convinced the city fathers that it was a good thing.

Since Nelson's death last spring, Piatt has become chairman, and two new committee-

Historical Committee Organized

A sub-committee for the study of Farmington's historical sites was set up by the city Planning Commission. Named to the committee were Charlotte Bruce and Russell Milligan.

The committee will act as a coordinating group with the local historical society and will survey all possible sites to be preserved. It will work closely with the city building department and use its research.

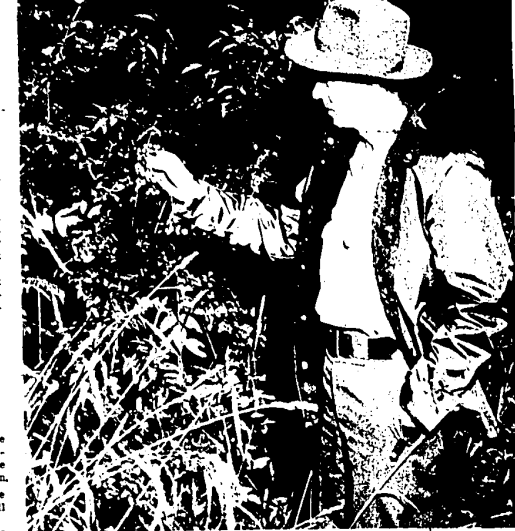
The survey's primary purpose is to determine if the different considered buildings measure up to existing and building safety specifications.

We Are A Young Eighty

With this issue The Farmington Enterprise begins its 80th year of publication. The history of the paper and its plans for the future are reviewed in special stories appearing on page 3A of today's issue.

Farmington's residents have helped us to celebrate our birthday in a series of two open houses, Friday afternoon, governmental and business leaders of the area visited the office to learn about the process involved in publishing a newspaper.

On Saturday, residents gathered at the office on Farmington Rd. between the hours of 4 to 6 p.m. to hear about the process from the staff.



HARTLEY THORNTON, an interpretive naturalist with the Michigan State Conservation Department, points to a high bush cranberry growing in the city's park. Thornton has been instrumental in developing a nature trail in the park which he hopes to begin work on at the end of October.

Torch Drive Area Chairmen Announced

Nine area chairmen have been named for the 1967 Torch Drive in Farmington.

Appointments were announced by Mrs. Allan F. Sittnick, 3921 Macomb St., division two chairman.

The area chairmen will assist Mrs. Sittnick in enrolling, training and directing volunteers for the 11th annual "Give Once For All" fundraising campaign in Farmington.

THE AREA chairmen are: Mrs. Richard P. Mazurek, 22047 Oatlag; Mrs. Robert A. Harris, 23170 Tuck Drive; Mrs. Robert Crawford, 23540 Loomis; Mrs. William F. Vignoe, 20817 Sunnydale; Mrs. Samuel J. Graham, 22612 Brookside; Mrs. Richard H. Peters, 23591 Elm; Mrs. Larry J. Nameche, 21289 Robinwood; and Mrs. G. Thomas Oliver, 33300 Freedom Road.

Mrs. Mazurek will head the drive in Area One, which is

bounded by 10 Mile, Inkster, Shawassaw, and Middlebelt Rds. Mrs. Harris was named chairman of Area Two, from Middlebelt to Orchard Lake and 10 Mile to Grand River. Mrs. Crawford will lead the campaign in Area Three, bounded by Orchard Lake, 10 Mile, and Grand River.

Mrs. Vignoe was named chairman for Area Four, bounded by Grand River, eight Mile, Colfax, and Meadowlark. Mrs. Graham will serve again as chairman of Area Five, lying

between Grand River, the Expressway and Hill Rd. Mrs. Peters will head the drive in Area Six, south of Grand River, west of Golt, and west of Farmington Rd. south of the expressway.

Mrs. Stubbins was named chairman of Area Seven, from Shawassaw to Grand River, and Middlebelt to Inkster. Mrs. Nameche will lead the campaign in Area Eight, bounded by the Expressway, Farmington Rd. and Orchard Lake, Colfax, and Meadowlark to the east. Mrs. Oliver has agreed to accept the newly-created position of area apartment chairman.

THE TORCH DRIVE, which will begin Oct. 17, will raise budgets of over 200 health and community services in the Wayne, Oakland and Macomb County Torch Drive area. This year volunteers will be needed more than ever. Anyone wishing to help should call the chairman in her area.

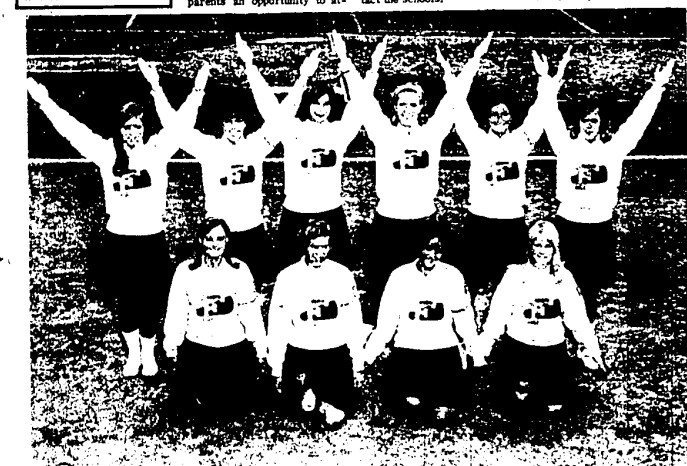
Torch Drive Dates Set

The City Council has approved Oct. 17 to Nov. 9 for the annual United Fund Torch Drive collection in Farmington.

The Township Board approved those dates last week. The Torch Drive supports dozens of civic agencies in the metropolitan area with a once-a-year collection.

What's Inside

- Bond School's New Principal 6A
- Church Directory 4A
- Community Calendar 5A
- Eighty Years Young 3A
- 4-H Clubs and How They've Changed 4A
- The Lady Can't Say No 5A
- Police Department 2A
- Regional News Section B
- Sports 3B
- Women's 2B
- Ward 5 Section C



GIVE A CHEER—North Farmington High School's cheerleaders are among the suburban groups recognized for their enthusiasm and loyalty in a special picture page in today's B section. Back row, from left: Debbie Spencer, Mary Kay Burr, Jan Wier, Linda Oldershaw, Cathy Thaler and Nancy Weeler. Front row, from left: Coby Dellinger, Capt. Linda Haviland, Co-Capt. April Kormille and Diane Northen.