

Government Officials Assess Past Year

Urbanization Moves Ahead In Township

City Winds Up One Hundred Year Celebration

By CURTIS H. HALL
Supervisor
Farmington Township

The increasing urbanization of Farmington Township, along with the steps taken to keep pace with this growth, is probably the most significant trend of 1967.

During the first 11 months of

figures shows the tremendous growth the township is experiencing.

BY FAR the most important development in keeping pace with this growth is the implementation of the northeast water pressure district.

This project, when completed in the third quarter of 1968, will provide Detroit water facilities for a projected total of 11,068 homes or 38,038 people. The \$2.5 million project will service the area bounded by Inkster, 14 Mile Rd., a point halfway between Farmington Rd. and Drake Rd., and 10 Mile Rd.

In addition to the transmission system, the project also includes the construction of \$600,000 of distribution lines. In keeping with the township policy, these distribution lines will be financed by special assessment districts.

Sanitary sewer projects are underway in five of the township subdivisions under the special assessment district provision.

Provision of these basic facilities is essential to the orderly growth and development of the township and these projects are further steps toward completion of our master plan.

ANOTHER STEP in township development is the paving of all of the local feeder roads. The paving projects on Drake Rd. north of Grand River, Powers Rd. north of 10 Mile, and 11 Mile Rd. east of Orchard Lake have begun during the year.

It won't be many years before the paving of all these roads will be completed.

Traffic lights have been approved for the corners of 11 Mile and Orchard Lake and 11 Mile and Middle Belt. Addition of these signals will increase the safety of the township roads and help to control the flow of traffic.

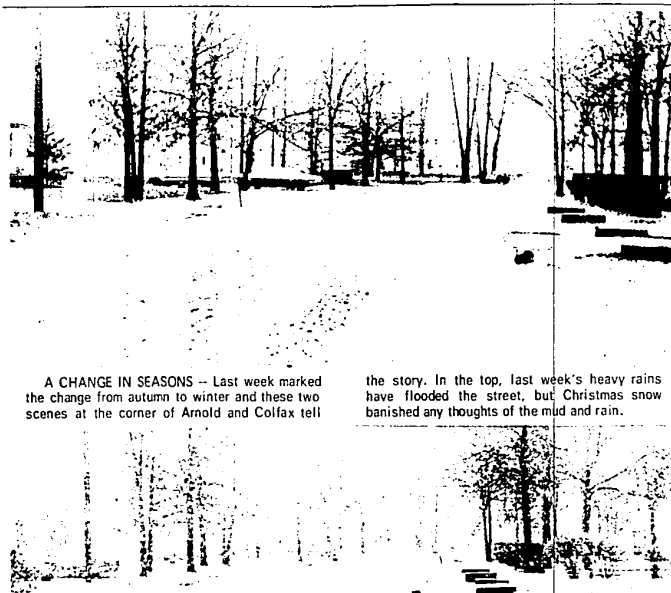
The township's volunteer fire department is proud of its newly purchased \$30,000 engine operating out of Station 3. An emergency ambulance was provided at Station 4 and this new van, plus the van at Station 3, will provide fast emergency service to all sections of the township.

Our police force now totals 28 officers which maintains the ratio of one officer for each 1,500 population.

AN IMPROVED zoning ordinance has been developed by the planning commission and the third phase of the land use study is tentatively scheduled for completion by the fourth quarter of 1968.

On Dec. 20 bids were received for the addition to the township hall. Construction of this facility is expected to begin during January.

This additional space will be used to provide more efficient service to meet the increasing demands of a growing township.



A CHANGE IN SEASONS - Last week marked the change from autumn to winter and these two scenes at the corner of Arnold and Colfax tell

the story. In the top, last week's heavy rains have flooded the street, but Christmas snow banished any thoughts of the mud and rain.

By WILBUR V. BROTHERTON
Mayor
City of Farmington

The year 1967 marked the centennial of the founding of the Village of Farmington which ultimately incorporated into the City of Farmington in 1925. The City of Farmington is deep in tradition and has a great heritage developed from its pioneer founder to today's modern urbanization. It stands today as a symbol of a community of great historical value and one with a bright future based upon 100 years of progress.

Community pride and spirit is at a high level which was exemplified by the success of the Founders' Day Festival this year. Even with adverse conditions of postponement because of civil disturbances in Detroit and inclement weather, records were still set with great citizen interest and participation in all the activities of the festival.

The redevelopment of the downtown business section has been given a tremendous boost with the start of construction of 70,000 square foot Federal Department Store. This will have a stabilizing effect on our existing commercial enterprises and will generate new businesses in our central business section. This million dollar building will make downtown Farmington a major shopping facility, expand our market and provide a major draw that has been needed for the past several years.

relocation and reconstruction of Veterans' Memorial in the Village Green Park which was co-sponsored with the Veterans' groups.

The Public Works Department has received additional



WILBUR V. BROTHERTON

tools to perform their services more efficiently. The department also acquired a 25 yard load packer to be used in their special pickup to improve their efficiency and can be used as a first run piece of snow removal equipment.

The administration successfully negotiated its first Union Labor Contract for the D.P.W. and Water Department employees without any major difficulties during the year.

THE PLANNING commission had a very successful year in the development of the Six Year Capital Improvement Program.

Initiation of a nature trail development traversing through the park areas adjacent to the Rouge River stream, and comprehensive study of park needs. A typical example is the Lincoln Mercury dealership to be located at Sherwood and Grand River which removed several substandard buildings to make way for this new commercial enterprise. Grand River Ave. certainly denotes the tempo of economic growth that has taken place within the community and forecasts continued progress in the future.

Needed improvements to our parks and recreation facilities were given high priority during the past year. The City has allocated funds for the purchase of a 10 acre neighborhood park adjacent to the Longacre School and is receiving Federal assistance for one half of the cost.

Construction of a Magic Square at Ten Mile Elementary School and park improvements made to the City Park provides added facilities. Refinements were made to the downtown park areas with the addition of ornamental lighting at the Oakland-Grand River Park and the

The City Council endorsed this study and allocated their proportionate share of funds so that it can be used as a guide and tool for the future courses of action to be taken towards the future development of the Farmington area.

The Yuletide Season is a good time to reflect on our past accomplishments but it is also a good time to make resolute purpose for the forthcoming year.

Sewer Project Gets OK

Authorization for a \$94,413 extension of the sewage disposal system within Farmington Township was voted this week by the Oakland County Board of Supervisors.

Bonds to finance this and a companion West Bloomfield project which will link with the Farmington lines will be sold by the county, if approval is obtained from the Michigan Municipal Finance Commission as anticipated.

The township will repay the county, with interest, and turn over the funds through connection charges in the affected areas.

Specifically the project will extend the 13 Mile Rd. arm of the sewer system northwest through Sections 3, 4 and 5 at the northern limits of the township.

The three "fingers" of the arm will terminate, for Farmington Township users, at 14 Mile and Halsted Rd., 14 Mile and Drake Rd. and at a point on 14 Mile about midway between Farmington and Orchard Lake Rds.

However, in the companion project all three lines will be extended northwest as far as Maple Rd. in West Bloomfield Township at a cost of \$895,586.

'Schools Face A Sharp Curve Ahead' - Smith

By RODERICK J. SMITH
Superintendent
Farmington Schools

This warning at the roadside requires caution even for an experienced driver, but as that dangerous curve is executed very often a thrilling and

an economic market of inflation.

THE QUESTION is often asked, "What makes a good school system?" Or, "How do you evaluate or quantify an above average school?" The answer is particularly difficult because the product, the student, isn't like an automobile which can be run through a series of endurance and punishment tests. Education is not an end in itself, but is the development of capabilities as well as an accumulation of knowledge.

Farmington Public Schools is dedicated to the task of continually evaluating its program with the goal for improvement. The curriculum is constantly undergoing changes and revisions. There are many things yet to be done.

Here are a few items currently being studied by the staff: the potential of a twelve month school program; evaluation of the foreign language instructional program with the possibility of expansion; coordination of vocational training with Oakland County program and the Community College po-

litical, and more efficient operation and services through data processing implementation.

Since the operation of a school system is basically one of services, the availability of competent and qualified personnel is of utmost importance. There is a critical shortage of teachers in several instructional areas. The ability to attract from the limited source is a real problem.

OBVIOUSLY, many of the problems are related to finance. There isn't much question but that it will cost more money to offer even the same programs in the year just ahead. Some very desirable programs may be even more costly.

In the present area of school finance the constituents of a school district will likely have the opportunity to voice their opinions as to where values are actually placed. Will it be to material things in family and personal life and not to the educational program of the community, or should educational needs be at a relatively high priority?

Seek To Stop DDT Use

Farmington is one of 56 Michigan cities against whom a suit has been started in the U.S. District Court in Grand Rapids seeking to forbid the use of DDT as an insect spray. Litonia, Plymouth, Garden City, Wayne and Northville also are among the defendants.

The action has been started by Environmental Defense Fund, Inc., of Brookhaven, N.Y., which claims DDT can cause serious damage to many kinds of organisms, and that potential damage can persist for years after spraying any given area.

Ted DeHaven, Farmington's director of public services, said the city's only use of DDT as a spray is by an outside contractor who is engaged each spring to spray elm trees in the community.

Environmental Defense Fund, Inc., is the same organization which earlier this year failed in an effort to obtain a court ban that would have prevented the Michigan Agricultural Department from using DDT.



OPTICAL ILLUSION - The Chester Snyder home at 32133 Bonnet Hill in Kendallwood Subdivision puts a touch of whimsy in the Christmas scene with its indoor tree looking as if it's growing out through the roof. Mrs. Snyder says the family has trouble finding a tree for the inside that is large enough to create the illusion and that they always go tree-shopping with a tape measure.

Expanded Coverage Has Many Features

Continuing the expansion of its news coverage during the strike of metropolitan Detroit newspapers, the Observer Newspapers offer many choice tidbits this week—just to keep you up with the events locally, at the state level and nationally and around the world.

For the benefit of those who want to know what's doing on television, we have a complete log for a full week on Page 7C.

Eisenhower expresses a belief that Romney is fading out of the picture as a presidential nominee. Page 3A.

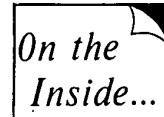
A new feature—a crossword puzzle—may be found on Page 7C.

Don't miss the public affairs page. There are items there of interest to all on Page 11B.

A cabinet member says LBJ's proposed 10 per cent surtax isn't a tax. Page 2A.

What's the going in sports, locally and nationally. (Pages 3, 4, 5B).

Did Red China muffle its latest nuclear test? Page 8D.



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