

Irish Stew Without The Cook Pot

If you have ever seen a real old-fashioned Irish stew prepared you know that the variety of ingredients, is matched only by its flavor.

The thought of Irish-stew is prompted by the fact that this week the subjects for editorial treatment are many and varied. Thus what follows might be termed a journalistic Irish stew, if not for the flavor, for the variety of items.

A TIP OF THE HAT is called for to recognize the hard work and many years of service performed by Howard N. Weist. This kindly old gentleman has announced his resignation as Staff Secretary of the Township Planning Commission.

Weist is the man who made certain that notifications of public hearings were mailed to affected residents, that the notices were posted and published. He also put together the agenda for the meetings and gathered in the necessary data on each rezoning request.

As the workload of the commission increased his work tripled. The township owes him a great deal. Our appreciation and thanks for a job well done.

IN THE CITY, the planners have released their capital improvement program

for the coming year. One of the items is the widening of Farmington Rd. between Eight and Nine Mile Rds.

This project has been on the books for the past few years, but the county road commission was forced to postpone work last year. Anyone traveling this stretch especially during the rush hour, hopes fervently that 1968 will see this work begun and completed.



editorial

LAST WEEK the township enacted a series of modifications of its zoning ordinance. One of the changes now gives the township the authority to regulate roadside "structures."

Included in this classification are radio towers. This writer knows personally of three (two in the township and one in the city) ob-

jections voiced by neighbors to the erection of radio towers.

It's a sad society when a man can't pursue his hobby without arousing the ire of his peers. It's an even sadder society when government will take steps to infringe upon a man's right to pursue contentment and happiness.

THURSDAY NIGHT the township planners began formal study of a proposal which could change the entire foundation of the township society.

The proposal would increase the density of the township, but would also provide for something a little different than subdivision after subdivision.

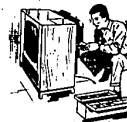
Planners are intrigued by the idea as a means to help build a varied and well-balanced community. Residents, however, are beginning to voice objections and are prepared to fight the idea on a zoning level.

—Sue Shaughnessy

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Wood Creek Farms



ANNE M. PHILLIPS
MA. 6-6335

Incumbents filing for posts in the Village of Wood Creek Farms will be unopposed in the March 11 election.

Two councilmen, the clerk, treasurer and assessor will all be elected to two year terms. Filing nominating petitions were: for council, Philo D. Wright, 28446 Westbrook, and Alvin Albertsen, 28101 Wellington Rd.; clerk, Mrs. Ellen Abbott, 29251 Spring Rd.; treasurer, Francis L. Kigar, 28951 Wellington Rd.; and assessor, Robert J. Swift, 28490 Westbrook.

All have been elected previously with the exception of Mrs. Abbott and Kigar who were appointed to fill unexpired terms.

President of the village, William Brown, of 28427 Beech Hill, does not face reelection this year. Two councilmen, David E. Martin, of 28270 Wellington and William B. Smolok, of 28900 Wellington, are also serving unexpired terms.

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When we asked what would be done about the additional traffic on the rest of Drake Rd, north to 13 Mile, where our subdivision is, the company representatives simply brushed it off with the question "who would be going north to 13 Mile Rd.?"

It should be obvious that people would be going to 13 Mile to avoid the heavier traffic on 12 Mile Rd., and even more, would be coming from 13 Mile Rd. to the project which is proposed to contain stores, offices, clinics, businesses, golf course, etc., as well as the dense living areas.

The Farmington Enterprise & Observer stated several weeks ago that if the development, as proposed, was not accepted for this property, an alternative development would be built containing homes in accordance with present zoning and density restrictions. Yet when a woman at the meeting asked about this she was told by Mr. Pulte that if the apartment complex was not accepted he would probably not build anything, but sell the property. This seems very doubtful in view of the expensive steps already taken.

PLANNED DEVELOPMENTS such as the proposed Satellite Village have failed in other areas for many and different reasons which I am sure the Planning Commission are well aware of.

Such developments as this are not what has made Farmington the attractive area it is with its present atmosphere. It would be a shame to have this destroyed.

MRS. JOHN MAGEE
29000 Drake Rd.
Farmington Township

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Project Termed 'Pretty Ghetto'

EDITOR:

A few nights ago my husband and I attended a meeting conducted by the Pulte Company to "acquaint" home owners in surrounding areas who would be directly affected by their "planned unit development."

I must admit, the Pulte organization has done its job well, and was ready with an answer for everything. It was one of the best jobs of smoke screening I have seen to date for another type of apartment complex.

Time after time the people of Farmington have raised their voices in objection to these high rent tenement projects, but it just doesn't seem to matter what the taxpayer homeowners want.

WHAT the Pulte organization refers to as open-park areas in a self-contained community are, in reality, groupings of apartments and town houses with a golf course winding through it rather than space between homes and large yards--you know, those horrible things most of us enjoy privately with patios, gardens, pools, if we want them, and our own laws.

The Pulte Company would have us believe owning our own homes is a thing of the past, and the egg-carton type of existence is the "in" thing. In my estimation, Mr. Pulte, you insult the judgement, taste and intelligence of the majority of the people who have made Farmington what it is.

I believe we like owning our own homes of the size, type and area we choose. The township even won an expensive court case not long ago to protect our density laws, guaranteeing protection against proposals such as yours being permitted. It has never proved a healthy condition to crowd people into ghetto-like living, no matter how pretty the picture layouts are presented in the beginning.

This may be what we will have to resort to in the far future, but let's not rush into something we will be sorry for in the near future. Once our density restrictions are broken they will never be as effective again.

SUCH A development as is proposed would turn Drake Rd, north of 12 Mile into a divided highway for one-half mile.

Bargaining Teams Set By Schools

Although contract talks with teachers command major public attention, Farmington's Board of Education also will negotiate new labor contracts with three other sets of employees this year.

The groups involved are the bus drivers, secretarial staff and custodial help.

The board this week appointed three separate bargaining committees to carry on these negotiations, with Assistant Superintendent James Read serving as chairman of all three.

Serving with Read in talks with the drivers will be John Greeshower and Byron Oliver. Shirley Hatfield, James Geiger and Lawrence Freedman will be the added members of the team which will bargain with the office force, while Harry Seale, Len Tinson and Earl Belling will assist in custodial negotiations.