

# Employment Agency Deserves Support

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**FARMINGTON**  
Getting teenagers off the streets probably should be added to Godmother and apple pie as a reasonably safe thing for a politician to advocate. But recent events in Farmington Township indicate otherwise.

An attempt to establish a youth employment center for Farmington-area youth has been cooled dramatically by township board unwilling to finance a portion of the project.

**WHILE THE FINAL** vote has yet to be taken, there was no doubt that a lengthy speech by Township Trustee Frederick Lichtman, trustee of the program, was the critical of the program, was persuasive enough to insure defeat of the request for funds for the coming year, if it had to come to a vote, that night.

Was the township board acting as a staunch sentinel, guarding the public treasury from an unscrupulous raid? Or was the board merely a crochety, reactionary scrooge saying bah, humbug, to the idealistic, and unemployed youth of the community?

Lichtman, echoed by most of the other board members, was concerned by "duplication," both by state agencies and by the numerous requests that have come to the board from the Farmington Advisory Council, which has

asked for funding for three projects in the past year. He also felt employers, or possibly the kids, should pay for the service, not the township. The school system, particularly the vocational part, should be doing the job.

Added to Lichtman's was the voice of Trustee David Stader, who thought the service would be "mollycoddling" the kids, and that anybody who really wanted a job could go out and get one, without any assistance.

Boiled down, the criticisms of the program are:

- Is this service needed?
- Who should pay for it?
- What is its priority in the budget?

In answering the first question, Lichtman is based primarily on the assumption that a sizeable number of Farmington kids graduate from high school and want to go directly into the job market, rather than to college.

An aggressive high school graduate who has a clear idea of his own skills, who knows all the "ins" in looking for a job, and who knows just how to present himself to an employer, obviously doesn't need any such service.

**UNFORTUNATELY,** the average graduate who isn't bound for college has only a fuzzy idea of what's involved

**Editorial**

in looking for a job. The question is raised, why aren't the schools doing this? It is a good question, and a corresponding one is why don't the schools finance the program?

The answer is at least partly in statements made about the schools by Lichtman, Stader and John Anhalt, president of the Farmington Chamber of Commerce, who personally argued for the program before the board.

All these businessmen made derogatory comments about the school system preparing kids for the "real world."

In making that transition to the "real world," graduates need to feel that they have put school behind them, and are now looking for experience in a new and strange job market place.

Earl Baumunk, chairman of

## Community Center Holding Antique Show At Festival

**FARMINGTON**  
An antique show, sponsored by the Farmington Community Center, will be featured at the Farmington Founders Festival July 28 and 29, from 1 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Sally Conroy, a local antique dealer, has organized the show with most of the same dealers who were represented last year, with several additional ones, according to Hope Nahstoll, co-chairman of the show.

Mrs. Nahstoll, from the Community Center board, has been assisting lining up the volunteers necessary.

Richard Pryor, FCC board, is lining up Boy Scouts to clear out the center the night before, and to replace the furniture after the show.

Donna Tupper, Carel Cernan, Pat Chesley, Ginny Kobman and Pat Tadiff are directing a group of 29 women in preparing the buffet food service during the hours of the show.

**HAZEL FEDERSPILL** is organizing a complimentary dinner for the dealers on "set-up" night.

**THE DEALERS** will include specialists in: 18th century American furniture and accessories; English period

MESC is also a badly-run bureaucracy that will never be as effective as a well-run local agency.

**WHO SHOULD PAY** is still open to question.

The area covered is primarily the Farmington School District.

The school district was tapped for \$4,750 in "in-kind services," mainly office space. This isn't "real money," since it doesn't make for the tough budget decision both the city and township have to look at.

The city approved the proposal for \$2,700 at a recent council meeting, although they have the same budget problems as the township.

City officials are generally enthusiastic about the program.

The organizers are also tapping local contributions, looking for federal funds, etc., all of which are coming up with some money.

Lichtman asked why the employers aren't asked to contribute, which is a good question. It doesn't seem likely that the full funding for the program could come from a fee system, but with 1,000 applicants expected a year, a sizeable income could come from fees.

**THE PRIORITY** is the real nitty-gritty question.

Youth employment is a service that isn't a life or death issue to the township. It is a service that fills a very real need in the community.

It will probably be used at one time or other by most families who live here, and local employers will obviously get real benefits.

With the support of the city, the schools, several service clubs and the chamber of commerce, only the support of the township board is needed to get it off the ground.

It isn't "mollycoddling" youth, any more than paved

roads "mollycoddle" automobiles, or piped-in water "mollycoddles" residents who could get along with wells.

It is simply another service to the community, and one worthy of support.

By DAN MCCOSH

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### Miss Aldrich On Dean's List

**FARMINGTON**  
Gale A. Aldrich, 2935 GHI Rd., Farmington qualified for the dean's list during the spring term at Hope College, Holland, Mich.

### Drills Begin

Wayne State University's football team will begin 1972 pre-season drills on Sept. 1.

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