

'North Farmington? It's...It's...

You know, I don't think you can get there from here...'



Cartoon by Deborah Perlberg

By DAN McCOSH

Shorty Wolcott used to have a poolroom upstairs in his general store at 14 Mile and Farmington Rd. They used to sell horse collars, that sort of thing," recalls Floyd Cairns, Farmington Hills clerk.

Shorty's store shared the dusty intersection with a couple of other buildings, and the corner was called "North Farmington" until its identity was blurred by new subdivisions.

But the 1974 AAA map of Michigan shows "North Farmington" and "Farmington" as the only cities in the area, ignoring the one-year-old municipal "baby," Farmington Hills.

FARMINGTON HILLS has been having a rough time at the map publishers.

"North Farmington" persists on the AAA Southeast Michigan map. And while a lot of residents realized this wasn't exactly Denver when they dreamed up the "Hills" for a name, the AAA map reduces the city to "Farmington Hill."

Quakertown and Wood Creek Farms, both absorbed when the new city was incorporated, persist on the new map.

The errors were brought to the attention of the Farmington Observer & Eccentric the other day.

Realizing thousands of AAA members residing or traveling through the area were being led astray by the map, we called AAA headquarters in Dearborn.

The idea of someone from Muttonville, (which is southeast of Richmond) coming to Farmington Hill looking for a ski slope or something was appalling.

JOHN MOSCHELLI works in the cartography department at AAA.

He had just completed driving 1,500 miles without leaving the vicinity of Benton Harbor, checking spellings and locations of street signs.

He told us we were not the first to call.

"The spelling is already being corrected," he said. "We weren't exactly sure whether Wood Creek or Quakertown should have been eliminated, so we left them in. If you eliminate some of these towns, you get people awfully mad. It's a lot of trouble to put them back in, and we couldn't do it until next year."

Quakertown and Wood Creek would go at the next edition, he assured us.

But North Farmington?

Someone had challenged the existence of the tiny town, shown clearly as a brown square at the intersection of 14 Mile Rd. and Farmington Rd.

"We sent a field man out there," Moschelli said. "He said he found a couple of signs that said 'North Farmington,' so we left it in."

North Farmington has been on the map as long as he has had the job.

Moschelli explained, and as far as he knew had been there a long time.

The state-wide Michigan map is printed using different plates than the Southeast section map, he said.

The larger-scale map is produced at the national headquarters in Virginia. "It's pretty big. They put it together with ten separate plates."

"Each one has something different—different colors, one for double-lined roads. It's really tough to proofread, because you only see one plate at a time, until they print a rough copy."

MOSCHELLI is currently supervising the revision of AAA maps and the installation of some new printing and platemaking equipment.

The southeast map is scribed mechanically at actual size, which makes corrections difficult, but speeds up the process of revision, according to Moschelli.

"We're not as up-to-date as we should be," he admitted. "But we just don't have the staff. Members phone in most of the corrections, then we send a field man out to check it out."

He was concerned about the status of North Farmington. "We want to get it right. If you can find out something about it, let me know."



School budget adds cost while program is reduced

Continued from Page 1A

However, according to Superintendent Marinus Van Ameyde, that raise was not as high as it has been in some districts, since the Farmington teachers had a 6 percent cap on their cost of living increase in their contracts.

The number of elementary classroom teachers has been reduced by 17.

The increase in money budgeted for the remaining teachers is \$24,000. The teaching staff in the secondary staff has been reduced by 11.

THE DISTRICT will be spending \$413,000 more on the salaries for the remaining 333 teachers than it spent last year.

Included in that figure is \$8,000 which will be for one teacher on sabbatical.

The number of art and music consultants has been reduced by four in each category, leaving each group with five consultants.

These cuts have dropped the budgeted figure for art consultants from \$142,000 to \$86,000 and the music consultants from last year's figure of \$129,000 to \$89,000.

The elementary schools will also be losing one physical education teacher and one instrumental music teacher.

Both the elementary and the secondary schools have lost librarians.

THE BUDGET calls for expenditures of \$299,000 for this year's 18 elementary school librarians as opposed to last year's \$281,000 for 19.

In the secondary schools the budget item for librarians has been reduced by \$7,000 by reducing the staff by two.

The secondary schools have reduced the counseling staff by one.

Here too, despite the reduction, the budgeted expenses for the remaining counselors is \$426,000, an increase of \$28,000 over last year's \$398,000.

A substantial increase in this year's budget has come from the inclusion of the Cycle IX program.

However, a majority of the funds for this teacher-in-training program will be coming from state and federal funds.

Out of the \$130,000 which has been budgeted for the 15 Cycle IX interns, three teachers, and one coordinator, the school district will only be paying approximately \$12,000.

THERE WILL be one less elementary school principal and assistant principal, as a result of the closing of Bond.

There has been \$450,000 budgeted for the remaining 17 principals and 17 acting principals, an increase of \$5,000 over last year's figure.

The secondary school program will be retaining the eight principals, eight assistant principals and seven administrative assistants it had last year.

This year there has been \$588,000 budgeted for their salaries.

OFFICE STAFF for all the departments in the district will cost approximately \$823,000.

This figure includes all the office help for the elementary, secondary, and special education programs, administration office, and transportation, plant, and maintenance departments.

The figure also includes the salaries of 10 co-op students who are employed in the district as office workers, and leaves each department varying amounts of cash for extra help.

If the volunteer program is not successful, and the district reverts back to the present policy requiring the walkers to return home for lunch, an additional \$10,000, or \$31,000 will be spent for the lunch program.

These figures both represent a substantial cut from last year's budget which indicated the \$54,000 was spent for the noon aides.

THE SPECIAL education program has a budget of \$1,696,000.

A portion of those funds will be reimbursed by the government.

Of this figure, \$965,000 will be used for the teaching staff, and for specialized teachers, such as the deaf and speech therapists.

Special personnel such as psychologists, social workers, physical and occupational therapists, and aides constitute \$561,000 of the budget while \$78,000 of it will be for the salaries of the director and two supervisors.

The district is anticipating expenditures of \$337,000 for books and supplies for the elementary, secondary, and special education programs.

ALTHOUGH THE budget indicated pay raises for some of the central office administration, those raises have not been approved yet.

In the non-academic areas, the school district, like everyone else has been hit with the rising costs of postage, gasoline and oil, and heating fuel.

The budget allows for an anticipated \$437,000 increase in postage costs, a \$19,000 cost increase in gas and oil, and an increase of \$168,000 in heating costs.

All improvements to sites and buildings have been eliminated.

Approximately \$180,000 was spent on these two items last year.

The furniture and equipment expenditures have also been reduced by \$20,000.

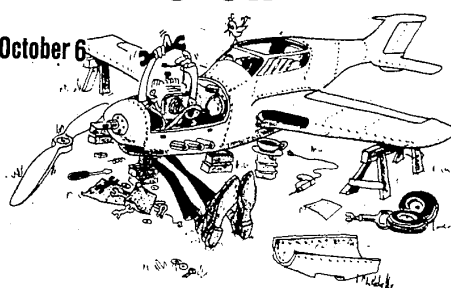
The salary costs for the supervisors in the plant operations department has been reduced by \$10,000.

Costs for head custodians have been cut by \$12,000 and the costs for wages to the rest of the custodians has been cut by \$100,000.

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