



ROBERT R. FOX of 13 Mile Road, Farmington, has been appointed vice president of marketing of Thompson-Brown Co., Farmington-based developer, builder and real estate firm. Fox, who joined the firm in 1968, heads five marketing divisions—new and used residential sales, industrial-commercial and land sales, property management and insurance. A graduate of the University of Denver, Fox served in the Seabees in China and the Pacific during World War II and is a member of Lions.



OUT OF THE PAST — Inauguration of the newly elected city officials Monday night in Bentley High School auditorium recalled the fact that Livonia is celebrating its 20th birthday and the scene in the old city hall, with its central heating system, when the first administration took office. Seated (from left) are Treasurer Carl J. Wagenschutz, Mayor Jesse Zeigler, Councilwoman Nettie Carey,

Councilman Jack Whitehead (deceased) and Leo Nye, justice of the peace (deceased). Standing (from left) are Harry S. Wolfe, council president; W.W. Edgar, vice president of council; Councilmen Ray Grimm, Harvey John (deceased) William Taylor (deceased), constables Ray Owen and Jack Miller.

## Big Inaugural 'Dream' To Livonia In 1950

By W.W. EDGAR

When Mayor Edward McNamara and other newly elected officials took their oath of office on the fern festooned stage of the Bentley High School auditorium Monday night, it was a far cry from the city's first inaugural.

On that night, just 20 years ago, the officials of the new city took their places behind a large oil stove in the center of what is now the Civil Service Commission building on the north side of Five Mile Road and less than 100 persons were able to crowd into the tiny quarters that were to serve as the City Hall.

In contrast to the gathering in Bentley High School auditorium that came to wish success to the new administration, there was a feeling of emotion and wonderment on that first night.

The inaugural marked the start of the transition from a rural community to a home rule city, and it was much like a high school baseball player going to the major leagues. There were many who sat wondering if the new plan of government would work.

### Redner Gets Second Medal

FARMINGTON Army Staff Sgt. Alan A. Redner, son of Mr. and Mrs. Frank A. Redner of 30041 Northbrook, Farmington, has earned his second air medal near Chu Chi, Vietnam.

He earned the award for meritorious service while participating in aerial missions in support of ground troops in Vietnam.

Redner, a squad leader with Co. A, 2nd Bn. of the 25th Inf. Div.'s 14th Infantry, entered the army in July 1968, completed basic at Ft. Knox, Ky., and was stationed at Ft. Ord, Calif., before being assigned overseas.

He also holds the Army commendation medal.

A 1966 graduate of North Farmington High School, Redner attended Oakland University in Rochester.

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Those who were entrusted with the reigns of government were: Jess Zeigler, mayor; Councilmen Harry S. Wolfe, W.W. Edgar, Ray Grimm, Nettie Carey, Jack Whitehead, Harvey John and William Taylor. With them was Carl J. Wagenschutz, the former township treasurer who is the only one of the group still in office.

Others in the first official family included: Leo Nye, justice of the peace. Les French, director of Public Works, Jim Hagen, director of Public Safety; Clarence M. Hoffman, director of recreation; Ray Owen, constable; William Brashear, city attorney and Cal Roberts, chief of the Fire Department.

Three members of that first council are deceased—Harvey John, William Taylor and John Whitehead. Leo Nye, who later graduated from justice of the

peace to the first municipal judge, also has passed away, as has Dan McKinney, first head of the Water Board.

ON THE NIGHT of that first inauguration the Bentley High School Auditorium was but a dream—and the city hall was an edifice that seemed far in the offing.

At the time the population of the new city was slightly more than 18,000—there were 27 farms under cultivation within the city limits and anyone who would have dared to mention that Farmington Road would some day be a boulevard would have been the laughing stock of the community.

Great changes have taken place in 20 years and the inaugural ceremony Monday night was proof of how far the city has advanced since its birth in 1950.

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### Nurse Attends Conference

FARMINGTON Mrs. M. Jansen, R.N., of Farmington, a nurse at Redford Community Hospital, was among those attending a recent conference on "Cancer in Children" at the University of Michigan. The conference was cosponsored by U-M and the American Cancer Society.

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