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local news

By MARIE LONG GR 4-3114

Mr. and Mrs. Sam Turner of 21689 Albion, Farmington, flew home April 4 after a nine-month visit in Edinburgh, Scotland where they visited Mrs. Turner's sister and three brothers. (Mrs. Turner was born in Edinburgh). They also

visited with Mr. Turner's family. Martha mentioned the beautiful antiques around the Scottish country-side. So, a big welcome home to the Turners; we are glad to have them home again.

ALSO, TO WELCOME them home, were new grandchildren. Mr. and Mrs. Douglas Turner of Farmington, welcomed the birth of their first child, son Patrick Douglas born March 25 in Botsford General, six pounds, eight ounces. Maternal grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Rieder of Springbrook Dr.

Another son, David Turner, has been commissioned Lieutenant Commander with the U.S. Navy. David is home from Vietnam after 18 months and is now stationed in Albany, Ga. David is a 1961 graduate of Farmington Senior High School.

Mr. and Mrs. Michael Switken of Mt. Holly, N.J., are happy to announce the birth of son Dirk Barr March 14. Weight was six pounds, eight ounces. To welcome little brother home was brother Scott Barr. Maternal grandparents are the Sam Turners of Albion St. and paternal grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Fred Switken of Bryn Mawr, Pa. Mrs. Switken is the former June Turner, a 1952 graduate of F.H.S.

Mrs. KAY SULLIVAN of Chestnut Lane enjoyed a recent trip to Canada visiting friends on her way to the north of Canada with stops in Sarnia, Burlington. Kay spent two weeks on this trip. She is a member of the Senior Drop-In Center.

A welcome to Alice and Bill Brysper who have joined us for coffee at the Farmington Senior Drop-In Center.

Fred S. Davis, of N.B.D. Farmington, spent a very pleasant three weeks vacation in West Palm Beach, Fla., recently.

Mrs. Jay (Etta) Spear of Farmington is currently a patient in St. Mary Hospital, Livonia, room 505. Cards of cheer are welcome. Etta is a member of the Senior Citizens Social Club of Farmington.

Order Gas Lamps Now

FARMINGTON The City of Farmington's gas lamp "planting" program is now two weeks under way and orders are being received daily by the city manager's office.

Two weeks are left to place orders for this unique program conceived and implemented by the City's Beautification Committee.

The city is offering two Chardonnay models at a bulk-rate purchase price. The colonial model is priced at \$25 while the provincial model sells for \$45. Both of these models are available in black or white.

The installation cost will be \$29 providing the lamp is placed within 50 feet of the house. Slightly higher prices will be charged for those crossing driveways or walks. The total savings on this program will be from \$12 to \$21 depending on the lamp purchased.

Homeowners already owning lamps for the exterior are encouraged to consider another lamp for the pool, patio or garage area. Additional information and order forms are available through the city manager's office at 625-9759.

The gas lamps will be installed as groups of 25 are received, so those that are received early will receive their lamps early.

Youth Beautify

FARMINGTON The City of Farmington Beautification Committee is encouraging youth groups in the city to work on some project of beautification. Last year, over 20 youth groups, including the Brownies, Girl Scouts, Cub Scouts and Boys Scouts, Camp Fire Girls, etc. cooperated on this project.

A youth scroll will be placed in the Farmington District Library on Farmington Road for youth groups to sign when their work is completed. Work on these projects must be between now and the middle of May.

Honor Student

FARMINGTON Martha Davidson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Davidson of 28555 Westerleigh, Farmington, is one of 200 Valparaiso University students recognized for academic achievement at a recent special honors dinner held at the university. She is a senior in arts and sciences.

Mrs. Sarah Barnhart of Oak Hill Nursing Home, 34225 Grand River, since last winter after suffering a second fall breaking her hip again. Sarah was once voted by the Senior Citizens' Social Club the "Sweetheart of Farmington."

Please drop her a card today to show we remember her. Other Farmington residents visiting Florida recently include: Mr. and Mrs. John Pichurski; Billy and Kathy, of 26380 Dundack Lane; and Mr. and Mrs. Peter Kohnen.

Gil Vaughan of Farmington, director of sales for Ira Wilson & Sons Dairy Co., in Detroit and Wilson Dairyland in Carson City, has been elected president of the Downtown Lions Club, one of the oldest Lions Clubs in Michigan.

Vaughan, who lives at 29159 Bannockburn, has lived in Farmington since 1966. He was born in London, Eng., and came to the U.S. with his parents in 1922 and settled in Saginaw. He was a member of the 50th anniversary committee of the Downtown Lions Club which observed its 50th year of service Jan. 31, 1970.

Mr. and Mrs. Clyde Denko, formerly of Independence Ave., Farmington, are visiting in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Denko of W. Nine Mile Rd., Northville, for a two week vacation.

The senior Denkos moved to Wakefield, Mich., in the upper peninsula and are now operating a motel, trailer park and restaurant.

Pick Up Crab Trees

FARMINGTON Crab trees sold by the Farmington Garden Club will be available for pick-up at the Farmington Community Center April 25 and 26 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The Farmington Community Center is on Farmington Rd. between 10 and 11 Mile Rds. The pick-up area will be the west lawn behind the building.

Mrs. Chester Hartsell, chairman of the sale, says nearly 500 trees were sold. Since there are no storage facilities for the trees at the Community Center, she notes it is essential that all the trees be picked up during the two days.

Mrs. Hartsell suggests that if the purchaser can't pick up his tree, he make arrangements with a friend to get it for him. For further information telephone Mrs. Hartsell at 625-9759 or Mrs. Walter Gaertner at 474-5445.

By Wylie Gerdos

The Farmington School District came up with a "guesstimate" of \$14.4 million for next year's operating budget when applying for 30% of its operating millage.

School districts in Michigan are granted part of their operating millage by the county in which they are situated. This year the Oakland County Tax Allocation Board gave the Farmington district \$3.5 mills of the "winter" property tax, which supports the county, township and schools. Farmington School District gets the remainder of the 29.9 mills it needs to operate by going to the voters.

EACH APRIL, school districts must submit an estimated operating budget to the county allocation board so that the county has some basis for its allocation.

The Board of Education approved an estimated budget at its most recent board meeting, but admitted it probably will show little resemblance to the final budget.

Richard Peters, president of the school board, said the estimate of \$14.4 million does not take into account any changes in the state aid formula, which accounts for 46% of school income, or negotiated salary changes.

The estimate is about \$1 million more than the budget for this fiscal year. Peters pointed out the estimate includes the staff and operating expenses for the district's new third high school and another elementary school.

PETERS CALLED the budget and process "phony."

The allocation board insists on a balanced budget, he said.

"This is a patently phony thing that goes to them. They know it and we know it," the board president said.

"You know darn well it's not going to be balanced. We're unable to tell them the way it is."

Peters noted that the allocation board is composed of six persons: three county officials, two members appointed by a judge, and one member representing school boards.

"You quickly determine that the schools boards are not well represented," Peters said.

THE FINAL budget, Peters added, will be presented in August or September. Public hearings will be held on the budget then, he said.

We generally draw two or three people to the budget

Schools Seek Fair Slice
County Gets Tax Plea

hearing, I suspect this year we will have a larger crowd," Peters quipped.

The estimated budget also brought a request that the county and Farmington Township lower their request for millage, which also is allocated by the board. Trustee Richard Frankel said it is an appropriate

time for the county and township to reduce their requests.

"They too have benefited from increased assessments," Frankel said.

He noted that Farmington Township recently transferred \$140,000 from its general fund.

John Washburn III, another trustee, said the trend of the allocated millage has been down over the past 10 years. The last couple of years the allocated millage has remained about 8.5. Washburn added:

"We literally beg for an increase," he commented.

Runaway

Continued from Page 1A

Councilman Ralph Yoder suggested writing letters to Sen. George Kuhn and Rep. Raymond Baker seeking their support for a light at the intersection.

The first action taken by the council was approval of a motion by Yoder to install guard rails immediately wherever needed at the foot of the hill as recommended by the city engineers.

The council then passed a resolution made by Councilman John Richardson to request the Oakland County Road Commission to locate a traffic light at 10 Mile and Farmington Roads.

BUT THE MOST drastic action taken by the council was approval of a motion by Councilman Fred Siebert to have City Manager John Dinan contact the State Highway Department and request a feasibility study on the relocation of Farmington Rd. to a more southwesterly direction. Siebert would like Farmington Rd. to be rerouted about 1,000 feet north of 10 Mile and down the valley to reconnect with Farmington Rd. in the city.

Another step will be a "survey" to be taken by the department of public safety of traffic going south on Farmington Rd. from 10 Mile. Dead-end plans of stopping motorists at the bill, asking where they are coming from and going to, and issuing warnings about the dangers of the steep hill and sharp curve below.

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