

the Farmington enterprise & observer

Weekend of October 31-November 1, 1970

YOUR HOMETOWN NEWSPAPER

15c a Copy

today's
hot line

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what's inside

Our Endorsements

Today's edition of the Farmington Enterprise & Observer includes our editorial endorsements for Farmington Township offices, the State Senate and House, and the Oakland County tax proposal. Daniels Den takes a look at the political campaign just concluded and measures the height of grassroots.

Pages 12A, 4B,

11 Pages For You

Farmington residents desiring more information on local candidates or arguments on the annexation question have a wide variety of reading which could pre-empt today's college football games. Statements by candidates, the issues of annexation, and views of our readers are available inside.

Pages 2A-12A, 4B,

Planner Dropped

An exclusive Polynesian restaurant is being planned for Farmington Township with an architectural style claimed to be unequalled this side of China. The Farmington Township board has given the restaurant a liquor license and, at the same meeting, appointed two new members to its planning commission by dropping a member.

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Parting Shots

Carl Pursell and Paul Kadish, rivals in the 14th State Senate District, take their parting shots as election day draws near, this time over the issue of parochial aid and taxes.

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Fewer Pupils

Incredible as it seems, schools in Oakland County, the growing area in the state, this year showed an enrollment drop for the first time in a generation. Clarenceville had a decline, and Farmington the tiniest increase in years.

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He's In Business On Your Street

The 50¢ you pay your Farmington Enterprise and Observer carrier each month encourages him to give good service, insuring success in his first business venture. Be sure to ask for a receipt, which will guarantee delivery of the Observer.



Township Offices, Merger Will Be Decided Tuesday

By EMORY DANIELS
Some 25,000 Farmington Area residents have registered to vote in Tuesday's election which will result in a decision being made on the annexation question as well as the selection of national, state, county and township officials.



Beware that all is not "innocent" fun on Halloween night. There are those whose "pranks" can spell serious injury or even death to little trick-or-treaters. Police ask parents to accompany tiny beggars on their rounds to neighborhood houses, check all fruit and candy for pins, razor blades or "funny" tastes to prevent tragedies and insure a safe Halloween for all. (Fran Evert photo)

OK Police Pay Hike; Delete Review Step

A pay settlement has been reached with the Farmington Township Police Department, and a labor contract will be signed as soon as agreement is reached on grievance procedure for police officers disciplined or discharged.

The cost to the township for salary hikes alone will amount only to about \$40,000. There will be some additional expense to the township for higher life insurance premium payments and an additional paid holiday.

THE TOP OF the pay scale for members of the Farmington Township Police Officers Association (FPQA), will be \$14,500 compared to last year's maximum salary of \$10,400.

The pay schedule agreed upon for 1970-71 includes a starting salary for patrolmen of \$10,200 which is an \$800 increase from last year.

Life insurance coverage furnished by the township will be raised from \$5,000 face amount to \$10,000. Another provision negotiated provides that two officers will be assigned to a patrol car when there is a six-man shift on duty.

Supervisor Curtis Hall says the settlement places Farmington Township at the 90th percentile in comparison with salaries paid police in neighboring communities which would mean only 10% of the neighboring communities pay their police now.

When Hall submitted a labor contract to the board last Monday for approval, an objection was raised by Trustee Fred Lichtman, who said the contract changes the existing grievance procedure.

Lichtman noted the contract said that when an officer is disciplined or discharged, he may appeal to a board composed of two POA representatives, two township administrators or trustees (but not including the supervisor), and a fifth party.

Lichtman reminded the board that the police manual, approved by board resolution, states the township board should be the review board.

"Are we not abrogating by this contract the grievance procedure we established in our police manual?" Lichtman asked.

Lichtman questioned whether a collective bargaining contract could supersede a resolution passed by the board.

PAUL BIBEAU, assistant to Township Attorney Joseph T. Brennan, said the police manual is not an ordinance but a procedural rule book adopted by formal action of the board.

"We have not amended our police manual," countered Lichtman, "and here we are getting ready to change it by passing a labor contract."

Bibeau said the labor contract, if approved by the board Monday night as presented, would supersede that provision in the manual dealing with grievance procedure.

"I wonder why the township board should relinquish its responsibilities by ratifying this contract," said Lichtman. "It is our responsibility, and I don't think we should give it up."

HALL SAID he felt action taken on grievances would be further removed from political criticisms by handling griev-

ances as suggested in the contract.

A grievance is not resolved by board decisions. Hall added, because the matter can always go to state arbitration. He said he felt the contract procedure was more functional and a better procedure than having the township board making the judgments.

Lichtman questioned the wisdom of establishing an appeal board consisting of two POA members and two township representatives excluding the supervisor, of ruling on the action taken by the police chief.

"The elected officials of this township are responsible for hiring the chief and should be responsible for his actions. We put the chief's command position in jeopardy with this procedure."

Lichtman continued that the board is responsible to hire, train, staff and equip the police department and shouldn't give away or have taken away its right of review.

"The discipline or discharge of a police officer are not matters of negotiation," stressed Lichtman. "These are not matters to be bargained over with the POA but are decisions of the command to be reviewed by the board if a grievance is filed."

Hall explained the provision in the contract up for ratification is similar to civil service procedure and similar to procedures used in other communities.

BEFORE A grievance goes to mediation, Lichtman said, the board has a responsibility to be involved.

"I don't go for the present attempts to run this township

for the general election. This is an increase of 1,000 eligible voters from the Aug. 4 party primary when 18,946 residents were registered.

A year ago, when consolidation was on the November ballot, there was a total of 18,805 residents from the township registered to vote.

Cairns says an indication of perked-up interest among voters is the number of requests being made for absentee ballots. Saturday (Oct. 31) at 2 p.m. is the deadline to apply for absentee ballots except emergency cases such as a person being admitted to the hospital.

As of Thursday, Cairns reports, some 600 requests have been received for absentee ballots. Of this total, some 150 requests came from south end

township residents who will be voting on the annexation question.

CITY CLERK Elizabeth Brines reports a total of 3,102 city residents have registered for Tuesday's balloting.

The city's registration totals show an increase of 365 voters from the August primary. Mrs. Brines says some 255 residents have requested absentee ballots as of Thursday.

All of the absentee ballots given out by the city, of course, will include the annexation question since all city residents are eligible to vote on the matter.

For the township, only those residents living in the area proposed to be annexed can vote on the question.

ANNEXATION IS the only

local ballot proposition on the ballot for Farmington Area voters.

The question asks for the merger of the southern portion of Farmington Township to the City of Farmington. The affected area is all territory south of 10 Mile on the east side of Quakerstown and south of 11 Mile west of Quakerstown. Those residents in favor of annexation should vote "YES" and residents opposed should vote "NO." If the question passes, the Oakland County Board of Commissioners will establish the effective date of the annexation which will be 30 to 60 days after a yes vote.

ANOTHER PROPOSAL on the Tuesday ballot will be a request to raise the Oakland

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Keep Halloween Safe, Police Urge Parents

By LYNNE LUTHER

Chief Robert Deadman of the Farmington Dept. of Public Safety knocked on wood as he said: "So far, no kids have been hit by cars" on Halloween.

Halloween in Farmington and Farmington Township seems to be observing a traditional fashion by most families, with the number of vandalism incidents rising, only slightly in proportion to the rising rates of other cities.

"We've had no incidents of razor blades in apples or poisoned candy," Chief Deadman said. "We've heard of it in Novi and Detroit, but so far not here."

"WE STEP IN when pranks stop being the harmless toilet paper type and start getting

into the area of vandalism," he said.

October is one of the higher months for vandals, although most adults condone the window-scooping and toilet-papering that so often accompanies Halloween.

"Devil's Night (the night before Halloween) is traditionally 'prank' night among teenagers," Deadman said, "and Halloween night is usually reserved for the little ones."

The trend seems to be moving toward getting an early start on Halloween-pranks. "Kids started as early as three weeks ago cutting garden hoses, vandalizing outdoor lamps, throwing eggs and paint at houses," Deadman said.

LT. RUSSELL CONWAY of the Farmington Township Police Dept. added that very few in-

cidents of "real vandalism" have been reported in the township and no incidents of razor blades or pins in fruit have occurred.

Both Police departments and the National Fire Protection Assn. urge parents to take precautions with children on Halloween to insure that innocent fun stays that way.

They recommend:

1. Young children be accompanied by parents or older brothers and sisters.

2. "Beggars" start making their rounds early and return home early.

3. Use charcoal or other makeup on faces instead of masks that could hamper vision.

4. Be sure ready-made costumes, wigs and beads carry a "flameproof" label.

Levy Answers Hall's Blast

Dr. Burton Levy, Democratic candidate for Farmington Township trustee, has responded to what he describes as "last minute name-calling by the Hall political machine" by outgunning Supervisor Curtis H. Hall who said Levy was a "chief muckraker" and a "liar."

LEVY WAS responding to a statement read Monday night by outgoing Supervisor Curtis H. Hall who said Levy was a "chief muckraker" and a "liar."

Saying voters are too smart to be fooled by last-minute name calling, Levy said:

"I made charges to Attorney General Frank Kelley on Sept. 15 calling for an investigation of possible conflict of interest by Hall and others, in his political machine."

"Hall had more than five weeks to file a libel suit against me or to speak out. But he waited until the last minute before the election."

"Two of the three newspapers that serve the township will not have another edition before the election except that having Hall's name-calling. And he still hasn't lied as lawsuit."

"I HOPE EVERY voter will have a chance to read Hall's full statement. In my judgment, he documents the unethical behavior — I originally talked about."

"It is my belief that a township election official should not be in a private business venture with a township civil servant."

"Certainly, it is highly suspicious to have the township board rezone an area and then just three or four months later

have members of the township board go into business with those who received favorable zoning."

"I promise the voters, if elected, that I will sponsor a conductor in ordinance that will apply to members of the board of trustees and to appointed officials."

LETTERS will be sent to parents of Farmington school children next week explaining the district's policy on free or reduced price lunches. Included in the letters will be income criteria determining eligibility of the students and an application form to be filled out and returned.

Eligibility of children who qualify for the program is decided by the office of the director of Administrative Services.

Identities of children receiving free or reduced price lunches are not known to their fellow students. This is assured by issuance of cards to all children who pay for lunches by the month as well as to those not required to pay.

Names of the children are not published, posted, nor announced in any manner. They are not required to fulfill any conditions other than those contained in the application.

Now is there any difference in the quality or quantity of lunch received by paying and non-paying students.

Policies regarding provision of free or reduced price lunches will be effective as of Nov. 1, 1970. Any questions may be directed to 474-1133.