

# The Farmington Enterprise

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## Petitions Flood State Office To Save Car Tracks

Huge Number Of Names On Appeals To Keep Grand River Car Line

Petitions bearing page after page of names of citizens of the entire Grand River area between Farmington and Redford, and including the latter community, asking retention of the trolley tracks to Farmington, have gone in a continuance stream to the State Highway Department at Lansing within the past few weeks, County Road Commissioner Isaac Bond told the Farmington Exchange Club, Wednesday noon.

Petitions are still being circulated and as soon as received at the County Road Commission office in Pontiac, are forwarded to Lansing, Mr. Bond said. The extent of the appeal on behalf of the tracks has exceeded anything of the kind in his experience, Mr. Bond told the Club.

Besides the petitions, resolutions on behalf of the tracks have been passed by organizations throughout the Grand River area, including Redford Exchange Club, three townships, and the City of Farmington. Farmington Exchange Club, immediately following Mr. Bond's report, unanimously passed a resolution asking that the tracks be kept.

"As a result of the efforts made in recent weeks, the State Highway Department will place the matter before the new State Administrative Board at its next meeting, according to Mr. Bond. It is believed that the State officials did not realize the number of people who would be affected by tearing up of the tracks, and the extent of the area, development of which might be seriously affected by loss of the rail transportation.

## FARMINGTON MAN HIT BY MACHINE, FIGHTING DEATH

Two Attracted To Road By Accident, Struck When Another Car Skids

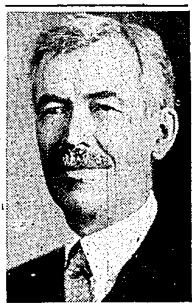
Durwood Lewis, 62, of Farmington, is in serious condition in Redford Receiving hospital suffering from severe injuries sustained when the car driven by Leopold Wiesback, 226 South Military street, Detroit, struck him and Ted Zigler, 19, also of Farmington, threw them into the ditch and then overturned and rolled over the two men. Sunday morning, Lewis has two broken arms, broken leg, and collarbone and skull fracture. Zigler escaped with only minor cuts and bruises. He was treated by Dr. H. E. Boice of Farmington and taken home.

The accident happened when the two men, who were standing on the pavement watching the removal of another car which had gone into the ditch and been wrecked, were struck by Wiesback's car which apparently had gotten out of his control on the slippery hill. They were hurled into the ditch, the car overturning and rolling over them. Police say that Zigler and Lewis were warned of the peril of standing in the street. Deputies William Tamm and Joseph DeVriendt investigated the accident.

Wiesback was released after making a statement to the prosecutor, Monday morning. Lewis is in the employ of the Farmington Fruit Juice Company and lives on the farm of L. C. Harger, near where the accident occurred. Zigler, lives with Lewis, being the son of Lewis' housekeeper.

**TO HAVE CARD PARTY**  
Farmington Chapter No. 239, O. E. S., will have a card party next Tuesday evening, January 13, in the chapter room. Bridge and pedro will be played, starting at 8:30.

## Heads Exchange



Presiding is not new to Postmaster Thomas H. McGee who conducted his first meeting as president of Farmington Exchange Club Wednesday noon. Not so many years ago, Mr. McGee was president of the then village of Farmington.

## To Aid Children Of Unemployed

Five Organizations Sponsor Affair To Be Given On January 29

A dance will be given to help the children of the unemployed of four townships, Farmington, Southfield, Livonia and Redford at the Oddfellows hall, Grand River at Eight-Mile road, January 29.

This dance is being sponsored by I. O. O. F. Lodge No. 427, Middle Belt Pedro club, Edgewood Rebekah, I. O. O. F. No. 290, Northwestern Athletic Assn. and the Boy Scouts of Clarenceville. This is the first big relief affair that has been sponsored by the united organizations in Clarenceville and will, it is hoped, be a big success. Warm clothing is the first-aim, and other relief that may come to the attention of those in charge.

A meeting will be held at the Oddfellows hall Saturday night, January 10th at 8 o'clock. At this meeting officers will be chosen to guide the dance. Tickets will be on sale in a few days. The co-operation of everyone is solicited. Willis T. Roberts is temporary chairman.

## FUNERAL SERVICE FRIDAY FOR AGED 9-MILE RESIDENT

Mrs. Augusta Wick, 70, Lived Nearly 40 Years In This Section

Funeral services will be held Friday afternoon at 2:00 p. m. for Mrs. Augusta Weisler Wick, who passed away Tuesday night at her home on Nine-Mile road, two miles west of Farmington road. Services will be at the Salem Evangelical church, with burial in Clarenceville cemetery. Mrs. Wick was 70 years old.

The deceased was born in Germany in 1861, and came to this country 40 years ago, settling in Pennsylvania. She moved to Farmington soon after.

Mrs. Wick is the widow of the late Christian Wick, and is survived by a daughter, Minnie and two sons, Carl Henry, and Fred. Also by a step-daughter, Elsie and stepson, William Herman, a sister, Mrs. M. Springer, and a brother, Charles Daus of Detroit, and seven grandchildren.

## SUFFERS BROKEN ARM

Broken arms seem to have become epidemic among boys in Farmington High School. The latest to suffer such a mishap is Willard Credit, of Clarenceville, who fractured his arm Sunday while skating at the Workers' Camp northwest of Farmington.

Mr. and Mrs. Walter Coon entertained on Sunday their parents, Mr. and Mrs. F. E. Bradley.

## Clarenceville, Oaklands To Get Mail At Houses

Territory Added To Route Two; Carriers Bring Mail To Boxes "At Door"

"An important change in both rural mail routes out of Farmington, which will give two areas mail delivery 'at the house' and will add some territory to Route Two, was announced Thursday morning by the Postoffice Department. By the change, the Clarenceville and Oakland Hills Orchard communities will obtain mail service typical of metropolitan sections. Residents will have their mail-boxes in front of their homes, and will no longer have to walk to the nearest main road for their mail.

The carrier on Route Two, A. W. Bidwell, will serve the greater portion of the Oakland Hills Orchards by leaving the present route at 13-Mile road and Greening boulevard, going south one mile to 12-Mile road, thence west to Orchard Lake road and north to 13-Mile road, resuming his regular line of travel.

Because of the super-highway construction on Grand River the carrier on Route Two will continue east on the Base Line road from the Angling road to the corner of Base Line and Grand River, making a left turn, serving at this corner the patrons who reside north of Grand River and east of Redford Inn. The carrier will travel from there west to Oxford avenue, thence north to Independence, west one block to Cambridge and south to Grand River, resuming his regular route at that point.

Until the completion of the curbing and grading on the north portion of Grand River, service will be given to the boxes on the south roadway.

A number of patrons will be added to Route Two in the Clarenceville section, these probably to be taken from Redford Route Three.

The changes will be effective January 16. They have been sought for some time by the Farmington Postoffice.

## TOWNSHIP REFUSES TO ACCEPT PLAT OF THE OAKLANDS

Township Body Against Proposal Unless New Road Bond Is Furnished

Farmington Township Board Tuesday evening voted to refuse to accept the plat of Oakland Subdivision No. 1, at Orchard Lake and 13-Mile road, after a discussion of the problems involved.

Discussion of the proposal that the Township accept the plat, which comprises about 450 acres of land, brought out the fact that the subdividers of the property had filed a bond with the Township for improvement of the streets in the subdivision, and that the bond apparently had lapsed. It was stated that the time on the original bond had expired some time ago, and that there has been no renewal.

Discussion revolved around the fact that if the Township should accept the plat, the burden of gravelling those streets not already improved would fall on the Township. Probably between 10 and 20 per cent of the streets have been gravelled, it developed in the discussion.

The resolution passed by the Board was to table the matter of the Oakland plat. "Indefinitely until sufficient security is given to meet their present obligation." Board members suggested that they might favor accepting the plat if a new bond to replace the one which has lapsed were furnished the Township.

It is understood that litigation is now being carried on in Circuit Court over the property, which includes the Bond School property and several high-grade homes.

## Halt Unlicensed Jitneys Running On Grand River

Illegal Competition With Trolley Cars Curbed; Machines Reported Unsafe

Two drivers of unlicensed "jitneys" on Grand River between Five Points and Farmington were arrested last week end, in a drive by authorities to stop unauthorized competition with the street railway system, and to protect the public from the danger of riding in the automobiles.

The two drivers, both caught in Farmington, were held on three charges, and were each placed on six months' probation by Municipal Judge John J. Schulte, Jr. Officials are seeking to arrest three others who are known to be operating without permits, with antiquated machines.

The first driver arrested was Charles H. Ripaldi, 36, Negaunee avenue, Southfield Township, who was nabbed Friday by Chief of Police Les Doyle at Grand River and Farmington road. Chief Doyle had ridden with Ripaldi from Five Points, and on alighting asked how much was due. "We can't charge," Ripaldi answered, according to a report made by Chief Doyle to the City Commission. "But whatever is right." After a brief discussion, Chief Doyle handed Ripaldi a dollar bill, and received 80 cents in change. Ripaldi was taken to police headquarters and arraigned Saturday morning on charges of operating without a Michigan Public Utilities Commission license, chauffeur's license, or commercial plates.

Caught After Chase  
The second driver arrested made an attempt to escape, and was caught only after a chase of a mile. Earl Meyers, who had been deputized for the purpose, arrested Geo. A. Schebel, 22, 6429 Floyd street, Detroit, on Saturday, at Farmington's main corner. Meyers directed Schebel to drive to the booth, police reported, but instead he shouted "Goodbye," and sped away, turning north to Thomas street, then east and back to Grand River. Meyers ran to the police booth, and with Chief Doyle caught Schebel at Grand River and Lakeway drive.

Schebel was arraigned immediately on the same charges as Ripaldi, and the same sentence was imposed.

One of the drivers said that he had been running about six weeks, but reports are that "jitneys" have been running between Five Points and Farmington, and anywhere passengers wanted to go for a number of months.

## Protect Public

Farmington officials became interested in the jitneys' running first through the efforts made to save the car tracks. The authorities feel that since they are appealing strongly to the State for retention of the tracks, and have worked hard to assure continuance of the car service, the least they can do is to exert every effort to stop unauthorized competition which has been cutting into the street-car revenues. Equally important, they feel, is the duty to protect the public, including citizens of Farmington, from possible serious consequences of riding the "jitneys." All of them are reported to be old cars, and in an unsafe condition for travel. Possibility of an accident is declared to be much greater than with the average well-conditioned automobile, and since the drivers carry no insurance and are usually not financially responsible, the passengers are not only in danger, but would have no means of redress in case of injury.

## TO GIVE CARD PARTY

Our Lady of Sorrows church will give a card party Thursday evening, January 15, at the parish house. Bridge, 500 and pedro will be played. All are invited.

## Cinderella's Slippers No Better Than These!

Cinderella may have worn silver slippers, but it is doubtful if they were more costly than a pair worn Monday evening by Miss Pauline Larkin of Negaunee avenue, Southfield Community.

Appearing in the pageant at the National Shoe Retailers' Association in Detroit, Miss Larkin wore a pair of slippers made of rhinestone and imitation rubies in an open shank design. The slippers are valued at \$1000.

## May Remove 'Road Closed' Sign Soon

Car Tracks In City Will Be Raised To Make Grand River Safer

The "Road Closed" sign which has bothered Farmington business-men and officials, and also County road authorities, may soon depart from its conspicuous place on Farmington's main corner, where it now turns only a small fraction of motorists from Grand River to the Cut-off.

Continual requests have brought the State Highway Department almost to the point of agreeing to removal of the sign, Road Commissioner Isaac Bond stated at the Farmington Exchange Club Wednesday.

## To Remove Hazard

The State Department has ordered the contractor to raise the car tracks east of Brookdale drive, in the City, to remove driving hazard, Mr. Bond said. It is expected that the raising will be done this week. The tracks for some distance are below the nearby pavement, which is particularly slippery in that vicinity in bad weather. Flares have been kept burning each night this winter to warn motorists.

It is anticipated that with this hazard removed, and in view of the very few vehicles which go around by way of the Cut-off, all objections to removal of the sign will end. The sign is in bad condition, having been struck by a heavy vehicle not long ago.

## FUNERAL SERVICE HELD FOR VICTIM OF AUTO CRASH

Michael Kreza Is Buried Monday; Granger Mason Is Recovering

Funeral services were held on Monday for Michael Kreza, 20-year-old University of Detroit law student, and resident of Commerce Lake, who was killed last Thursday night in an automobile accident at Northwestern highway and Lasker road. The services were conducted at 10 a. m. in St. Albertus Catholic church at Canfield and St. Aubin streets, Detroit. Burial was in Mt. Olivet Cemetery.

Kreza is survived by his mother, Mrs. Julia Kreza, one sister, Dorothy, and a brother, Fred, who is a student at Walled Lake High School. Kreza's father died recently.

Granger Mason, 21, also of Commerce Lake, was Kreza's companion and driver of the car in which the two boys, returning from Detroit, were riding. He is recovering in St. Joseph's Mercy Hospital, Pontiac, from severe lacerations about the face and head. One of his ears was badly cut.

Mason is the son of Mr. and Mrs. G. E. Mason of Commerce Lake, and is a student at Ferris Institute of Big Rapids. He was home for the holidays at the time of the accident.

The accident occurred when the car driven by Mason collided with that driven by Frank Sullivan of Detroit, who was also seriously injured.

## Report Township May Get School Money Next Week

Representatives Get Promise Of Loan From Bond Company; Suit Delayed

The Township-school districts money problem, which has perplexed officials of Farmington Township and the eleven school districts therein for nearly a year, may be favorably settled within the coming week, according to a report made Tuesday evening to the Township Board by Justice of the Peace, Willis T. Roberts.

Mr. Roberts, authorized three weeks ago to interview the bond company which issued the bonds for the former Township treasurer, reported that the company officials had promised to make a loan to the Township of approximately \$45,000, needed to pay the school districts the money due them. The promise was made to Mr. Roberts and Supervisor Arthur P. Coe, who together interviewed the bond company.

Mr. Roberts said he felt confident that the Township would have the money by Tuesday of next week. The money would be furnished as a loan to the Township for a number of years, probably five, to be paid back in yearly installments. It was indicated that only some unforeseen difficulty would prevent the proposed loan from going through.

## Ready To Sue

Starting of a suit in the near future was probably averted by the report Tuesday evening. Setrak Utjian, treasurer of Clarenceville School District No. 5, was present and advised the Township Board that his mission was to make a final demand for the money due, about \$12,000, the alternative being a suit. Mr. Utjian said the preparation for a suit would be deferred until later, in view of the prospects of obtaining the loan.

Mr. Utjian informed the Board that he has been advised there would be two ways of collecting the money, one by a judgment bond being issued against the Township, payment of which might cover a period of years by a bond issue. The other would be by the court ordering a special assessment, to be spread at once on the Township tax-rolls.

## Township 'Taxpayers' Association' Formed

A group of taxpayers met at Heiker's Hall, Saturday evening, for the purpose of forming an association in the Township to be known as the Taxpayers Association.

The board of directors consists of one member from each school district and the executive officers are chosen from the board of directors. A thorough investigation into township affairs will be made by the Association.

Mr. and Mrs. Edward F. Bauer entertained at bridge Saturday evening, Mr. and Mrs. J. J. Schulte, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Davis, Leo Gildemeister, and Mrs. Emma Urschel of Toledo. An enjoyable luncheon was served. Honors went to Mr. and Mrs. J. J. Schulte and Mrs. Emma Urschel and Frank Davis.

## Complete Map Of City Sewer System

Copies of a complete map of the sewer system of the City of Farmington were submitted to the City Commission Monday evening by George H. Ruhling and Co., employed for that work.

The map was made on direction of State authorities, and one copy will be filed among City records. The cost of making the map was \$199.10.