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SIXTY-EIGHTH YEAR — NUMBER 34 FARMINGTON, MICHIGAN, THURSDAY, MAY 24, 1956 18 PAGES SEVEN CENTS A COPY

COUNCIL TURNS DOWN PROPOSED INCREASE IN CITY TAX RATE

Service Groups Plan Observance Of Memorial Day

Farmington And C'ville Plan Annual Parades

Special tributes will be paid to the community's war dead Wednesday morning during the Annual Memorial Day Services to be held at Farmington and Clarenceville.

The Farmington observance will begin at 10 a.m. with the annual parade from the Junior High School to Oakwood Cemetery. The parade, headed by the Farmington High School Band, will start from School Street and proceed along Grand River to the cemetery near the intersection of Shiawassee. The marchers will pause briefly at Farmington Road and Grand River to place wreaths on the World War I monument located in the Town Hall park. All service organizations in the community will participate in the parade.

George Goers, Parade Marshall, stated that a large delegation of National Guardsmen will participate in the ceremony, along with Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Brownies and Cubs. A number of pieces of heavy equipment will be displayed by the National Guard during the parade.

STARTING at approximately 10:30, special services will be held in the military portion of Oakwood Cemetery. Scott W. Cole, Northville, will give the Memorial Day address. Cole, an instructor at the University of Michigan, holds the Purple Heart, silver star, bronze star and two presidential

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CITY CLEARS WAY FOR PAVING OF ALTA LOMA

At a special hearing Monday evening, the City Council approved the special assessment roll for the paving of Alta Loma Drive and authorized the City Manager to advertise for construction bids.

Prior to approval of the roll, the Council stipulated that the special assessment installments were to cover a period of ten years, with the first payment due on July 1, 1956. The approval provides that individual property owners may pay the full amount of the assessment if they desire. Any unpaid balance is subject to 6% interest.

The total cost of the project has been set at $15,764.36, with 78% being borne by the property owners and 22% by the city. The paving will cover Alta Loma Drive from Farmington Road west to Cass Avenue. Earl Scherffius, City Manager, stated that the work on the project should begin in June.

VISITING OFFICIALS from Empire, Michigan, examine a sewer installation being completed in the Alta Loma Subdivision just north of the Grand River Cut-Off as part of their tour of the City in connection with the Annual Exchange of Mayors Day. The visitors stated that they were greatly impressed with the tremendous growth taking place in the Farmington area. Pictured left to right are: City Manager Earl Scherffius; Farmington Councilman Y. O. Bates; Empire Village President Alonzo Aylsworth; and Village Councilman Thomas Clancy. While the visiting officials were in Farmington, Mayor and Mrs. Robert Lindbert were guests of the Village of Empire.

Youth Struck By Auto Monday On Middlebelt Road, Fatally Injured

Funeral Services To Be Held Thursday For Nine Year Old Sherman Smith

Nine year old Sherman A. Smith, son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles W. Smith of 22831 Tulane Avenue, was fatally injured about 5 p.m. Monday when he was struck by a car on Middlebelt Road about a quarter mile north of Nine Mile Road.

According to police, young Smith darted from the west side of the highway near Astor and directly into the path of the oncoming auto, operated by Robert Bates Porter, Jr., of 543 Watkins, Birmingham, proceeding north on Middlebelt. Porter was not held. The youngster was pronounced dead on arrival at Pontiac General Hospital.

FUNERAL services will be held for Sherman, who was a fourth grade student at the Shiawassee School, at 1:00 p.m. this Thursday from the Thayer Funeral Home. Interment will take place in Glen Eden Memorial Cemetery.

Surviving besides his parents are two sisters, Bonnie Jean and Deborah, and his grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Sherman Smith of South Lyon and Mrs. Leona Monroe of Fowlerville, Michigan.

CITY ANNOUNCES NEW SCHEDULE OF OFFICE HOURS

Effective this week, city offices will remain open until 8:00 p.m. on Fridays and will be closed all day Saturdays throughout the summer months.

The new hours will remain in effect until September 1. Officials stated that the change is being made to accommodate those persons who are unable to get to the city office during the day.

Annual Poppy Sale To Open Thursday

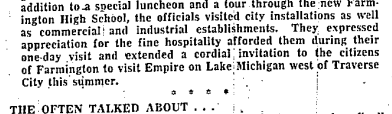
Plans have been completed for the Annual Farmington Poppy Days, to be held this Thursday, Friday and Saturday under the sponsorship of the Veterans of Foreign Wars and the American Legion Auxiliary.

The special days have been set aside by proclamation of Mayor Robert Lindbert for the annual sale of Poppies in the Farmington community. Members of the V. F. W. and American Legion Auxiliary will be stationed at key locations throughout the city and township during the three-day sale.

Mayor Lindbert has called upon all citizens to support the two organizations in their Annual Sale. Proceeds from the V. F. W. Buddy Poppy Sale and American Legion Auxiliary Poppy Drive will be used by the respective organizations to assist hospitalized veterans and the widows and orphans of servicemen who lost their lives in military conflict.

It is the expressed hope of both organizations that this year's Poppy Sales will be the largest in the history of the Farmington community. This is essential since the needs for assistance are continuing to increase each year. All citizens are asked to buy a Poppy this week end in memory of those men and women who gave their lives in defense of freedom.

AROUND THE BLOCK



ANOTHER SHORT WEEK . . . is staring us in the face, which means that we will need all the cooperation we can get in publishing the next issue of your home community newspaper. Since Memorial Day falls on Wednesday this year, it will be necessary to go to press on Tuesday to insure your getting The Enterprise on Thursday. Thus we urgently request that you forward your news copy to us prior to Saturday noon if possible. All final news copy as well as display advertising must be in our hands not later than Monday noon. Classified advertising will be taken up to 10 a.m. on Tuesday. Your assistance and cooperation will be very much appreciated by the entire Enterprise staff. Thank you!

* * * *

A COUPLE HIGHLY IMPRESSED . . . visiting officials headed back toward Empire, Michigan, Monday evening after a whirlwind tour of Farmington as part of the Exchange of Mayors Day program. The two officials, Alonzo Aylsworth, village president, and Thomas Clancy, Village Councilman of Empire, spent the day in Farmington as special guests of city officials. They were greatly impressed with the tremendous growth and development that is taking place in this area. In addition to a special luncheon and a tour through the new Farmington High School, the officials visited city installations as well as commercial and industrial establishments. They expressed appreciation for the fine hospitality afforded them during their one-day visit and extended a cordial invitation to the citizens of Farmington to visit Empire on Lake Michigan west of Traverse City this summer.

* * * *

THE OFTEN TALKED ABOUT . . . subject of a community house in the Farmington area has finally reached the organization stage with real promise of becoming a reality. The first open meeting of the Farmington Community House Association will be held at 8 p.m. this Thursday in the Farmington High School cafeteria. Because of the increased interest and need in such a project, we sincerely hope that a large delegation of citizens will attend and participate in the meeting. A lot of valuable information will be presented both by Don DeGroot, chairman of the local group, and Mrs. E. S. Schaffer, director of the Birmingham Community House. This is a community project which must have community support if it is to be successful . . . and you are part of the community.

Water District Petitions Filed With Township

Over 1,300 Property Owners Request Water

Petitions signed by 1,340 property owners in the southeast section of Farmington Township, requesting the establishment of a water district, were filed with the Township Board at its regular meeting Tuesday evening.

The petitions, along with an equal number of questionnaires, were submitted by Mrs. Philip Newberg, secretary of the Township Water Development Association. Mrs. Newberg stated that the petitions were the result of months of effort on the part of volunteers in behalf of the proposed water project. She added that the signatures represent only resident property owners in the 30 subdivisions included in the proposed district.

Mrs. Newberg stated that the number of signatures is proof of the interest in the proposed system and urged the Board to continue its efforts to secure water for these so-called "dry areas." Ward Eagle, Township Supervisor, stated that the petitions would be checked immediately. Eagle added that he plans to meet with Judge Arthur E. Moore early next week to discuss the financing of the project. It is proposed that water service be extended to the area from Detroit.

ACTION was taken by the Board approving the hiring of a fourth full-time police officer. Following the passage of the motion, the Township Clerk was authorized to proceed with the advertising for applicants. There was some discussion for the handling of dogs through the Township Police Department. It was pointed out that sufficient funds have been set aside in the operating budget for the hiring of a fourth police officer.

A petition was submitted to the Board by six subdividers seeking approval for the construction of a sewer line to connect with the Farmington Sewer Interceptor being planned by the City of Farmington. The proposed main would

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Set Bid Deadlines On Sewer Project

Sealed bids on construction work for the proposed Farmington Sewer Interceptor will be received at the Municipal Building up to Tuesday morning, June 5, Earl Scherffius, City Manager, announced this week.

Advertisements for the bids are running this week in various trade publications. Plans and specifications for the project are available from Pate and Hirn, Engineers, Detroit. According to the City Manager, the basic specifications cover only the requirements of the City of Farmington. However, an alternate has been added which includes a larger main from Middlebelt Road southeast to the connection with the Detroit system at the Hassell Drain. This provision has been added in case specific land developers in the Township are successfully

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RETIREMENT papers were presented to Rudolph C. Johnson of 24446 Oakland Avenue at the Farmington Post Office last week terminating his services with the postal department. Johnson is shown receiving official retirement papers from Postmaster Henry Trombley. A postal carrier since 1939, Johnson started work here when there were only three carriers compared with twelve now serving the district. A banquet was held in his honor by fellow workers the early part of this month. Because of his ill health, Mr. and Mrs. Johnson intend to make their home in Arizona soon.

A BIG MOMENT in the recent ceremony marking the official start of the new $1,000,000 Boys Republic center, was the laying of the corner stone by Dr. Milton Huber, right, director of the Republic. He is being assisted by two youth officers of the school. Looking on, left to right, are: William A. Baldwin, Judge George Edwards, and Lt. Governor Philip A. Hart, who participated in the corner stone laying ceremony. The new center is located on the north side of Nine Mile Road just west of Inkster Road in Farmington Township.

Launch Circulation Of Referendum Petitions On Race Track Zoning

Citizens Obtain 80 Petitions Calling For Public Vote On Proposed Race Track In Township

A total of 80 petition forms, calling for a referendum vote on the rezoning of 244 acres in the southwest section of the Township as a race track site, have been placed in circulation, Floyd A. Cairns, Township Clerk, announced this week.

The bulk of the petitions were picked up at the Township office during the past week end, Cairns stated. The sample form for the petitions was prepared by Judge Arthur E. Moore, Attorney for the Board, at the request of Township citizens opposed to the rezoning for the race track site. The petitions were drafted

The declaration of intent to circulate petitions calling for a referendum vote followed action by the Township Board last Tuesday approving the rezoning. A number of the Board members pointed out at the meeting that they were in favor of putting the question of a vote of the people. Immediately following the decision of the Board to rezone the property from residential to commercial, a number of citizens present at the meeting asked when petition forms would be available for circulation. The Board indicated that they would be ready within a few days.

ACCORDING to law, the peti-

(Continued on Page 6A)

Draft Work Plans For New H. S.

Clarenceville school officials reported this week that the final papers are being drafted in connection with formal application to the Municipal Finance Commission for permission to sell $750,000 in bonds to finance the first unit of the new high school.

Louis Schmidt, superintendent, stated that the final papers include the bond resolution as well as supporting legal and financial material. In addition to these papers, preliminary plans and specifications are being prepared by the school architect, Walter Anieka. The plans will be submitted to the Board for approval prior to their being filed with the State Department of Public Instruction.

The Board has indicated that they hope to take definite action on the sale of bonds within the next few months. Approval must be secured from the Municipal Finance Commission before the bond sale can be advertised. It is also the hope of the Board that actual construction on the first unit of the high school can be started early this fall. Based on this schedule, the classrooms would be available for use by September of 1957.

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Over 500 Sign Up For Baseball Play

Over 500 boys in the Farmington area have already signed up for summer baseball, it was disclosed this week by officials of the "Baseball for Boys" organization.

Approximately 360 boys in the area between Eight and Eleven Mile Roads are now working out vieing for positions on the Babe Ruth and Little League teams. Four Little League and four Babe Ruth League teams of 15 boys each will swing into action in June. The remaining 240 boys will comprise 12 farm club teams. Eight additional farm teams will be formed in the area from Eleven to Fourteen Mile Road, where an additional 160 boys have registered to play ball.

Because of the heavy registration of boys this year, need for additional financial help to provide diamonds and equipment is critical, Baseball for Boys officials said. A plea for financial help is being made this week to individuals and businesses so that continuation of the worthwhile and expanded recreational program will be possible.

As a result of a conflict with

(Continued on Page 6A)

Work On New Boys Republic Center Under Way

Start $1,000,000 Building Project On New Site

Construction work is now well under way on the new $1,000,000 Boys Republic center, being built on the north side of Nine Mile Road just west of Inkster Road.

According to Dr. Milton J. Huber, director of Boys Republic, the new buildings are being partially financed from money derived through the Metropolitan Building Fund which just recently completed a successful campaign. A total of $513,000 was raised by the Fund in behalf of Boys Republic. The new center is adjacent to the existing Boys Republic buildings on Inkster Road south of Nine Mile.

The new center, one of the most modern and unique in the country, will include an administration building and infirmary, three staff houses, three boys' cottages, dining quarters, auditorium, swimming pool, school, maintenance building and garage. The dining facilities will be broken down for each cottage but will be connected to a central kitchen. The auditorium, which will seat approximately 125 persons, will include a stage and sacred center. The school will contain four academic classrooms and a reading room as well as four shops for vocational education training.

A SPECIAL FEATURE of the center will be the nature building where natural science classes will be provided and where nature exhibits will be located. Dr. Huber stated that this facility is especially unique because of the fine collection of nature specimens, most of which have been supplied to the Boys Republic through special gifts.

Approve Motion To Continue 17-Mill Levy

Following considerable discussion, the City Council Monday evening turned down, for lack of support, a motion to increase the city tax rate from 17 to 19 mills.

Mayor Pro-Tem V. O. Bates, in proposing the motion, stated that the extra two mills should be placed in a capital improvement fund to meet sudden emergencies. Bates added that this is particularly important in view of the present tight operating budget of the city. The Mayor Pro-Tem cited the water situation as an example. He added that should an emergency arise, the money would be immediately available if such a capital improvement fund was set up.

Councilman James Cavanaugh stated that he objected to having such a fund in the budget which was not specifically earmarked and pointed out that the city could borrow funds quickly in case of emergency. Councilman Harvey Chapman added that he was in sympathy with the motion but was concerned about the size of the increase in view of the maximum 20 mill limitation imposed on the city by law. Councilman Paul Calkins also questioned the advisability of creating an accumulative fund which could not be specifically earmarked.

FOLLOWING the lack of support of Bates's motion, Cavanaugh moved that the tax rate be continued at its present 17 mills for the year 1956-57. The motion was seconded and approved by a three to one roll call vote with Bates casting the lone dissenting vote. In subsequent action the Council unanimously approved the operating budget of the City for the coming fiscal year. The budget is balanced at a record $250,325.

The Council authorized the City Manager and City Engineer to proceed with the construction of an underground drain along the easement between the Bel-Aire Subdivision and the lots facing on the north side of Shiawassee between Power and Prospect. A total of $3,000 has been placed in escrow by the developers of the subdivision for the construction of the drain.

L. N. Hayden, City Engineer, presented plans for the construction of a new storm sewer along the south side of State Street from Wilmarth to Cass to eliminate

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Plan To File Bond Sale Application

Formal application for permission to sell $2,000,000 in bonds to construct new school buildings in the Farmington District is expected to be filed this week with the Municipal Finance Commission, officials announced Monday.

Final legal papers are now being drafted by the administrative staff and bond attorneys in preparation for the filing. Permission must be secured from the Commission before the District can proceed with the sale of the bonds. The processing of the application usually requires between two and three weeks.

The bond issue, approved by the voters in March, will be used to finance the construction of a new junior high school building on Twelve Mile Road as well as three elementary schools in the city and township.

Plan Drive To Save Lives

Police Prepare For Heavy Memorial Day Traffic

All members of the Farmington City and Township Police Departments will be on duty Wednesday to handle what is expected to be a near-record flow of Memorial Day traffic.

Special emphasis will be placed on key roads throughout the City and Township, including Grand River, Orchard Lake Road, Middlebelt, Eight Mile, Nine Mile, and Twelve Mile Roads. Plans are being made for heavy patroling of these roads by local and state police, as well as Oakland County Sheriff's deputies. City Police Chief Joseph DeVriendt stated that arrangements have also been made for manually operating the traffic signal light at Grand River and Farmington Road should it become necessary to do so.

During the period of the Annual Memorial Day parade, traffic along Grand River will be re-routed in an effort to ease any tie-up. Portions of Grand River will be blocked off from 10 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. and from about 11 a.m. until 11:15 a.m. The bulk of the traffic will be routed along North Farmington Road and Shiawassee to the cemetery. Persons who wish to witness the parade are asked to come early and park in one of the public lots or on one of the less traveled side streets.

A special appeal is being issued jointly by local and state police urging all citizens to use the utmost caution while traveling during the one-day holiday. The largest concentration of State Police ever to patrol Michigan highways will be in action during the Memorial Day period and they will be assisted by 217 National Guardsmen. Not only have passes days been cancelled, but the State Police force will also have the additional strength of 200 troopers granted at the special session of the legislature. All of them are trained and now in service.

Six aircraft, two of them helicopters, will be used for aerial observation. Two will be State Police planes and the others are being loaned by the state aeronautical department and the National Guard.

"Memorial Day falls on Wednesday, making it a one-day holiday for the majority of drivers," State Police Commissioner Joseph A. Childs stated. "Our intensified patrol coverage will be in effect from noon Tuesday to midnight Wednesday, and we are going to exert every effort to hold down the accident toll. But I must emphasize again that even with augmented patrol coverage it is still up to the driver to police himself," Childs added.

There were 18 persons killed in 15 fatal accidents during the 78-hour Memorial Day week end last year. Four of the 18 persons died as a result of auto crashes in the Farmington area while another five persons were seriously injured.