

NOW BEING READ
BY 4,142 FAMILIES
or 62.5% of the Citizens
of the Farmington Area

The Farmington Enterprise

LEADERSHIP--OUR PURPOSE SERVICE--OUR GOAL

SINGLE COPY
10c
\$3.00 PER YEAR

Wayne and Oakland Counties

SIXTY-NINTH YEAR — NUMBER 36

FARMINGTON, MICHIGAN, THURSDAY, JUNE 6, 1957

TWENTY PAGES

EXPECT LIGHT TURN-OUT FOR SCHOOL ELECTIONS MONDAY



A FLORAL WREATH honoring Farmington's war dead is placed on the servicemen's monument in Oakwood Cemetery by Charles Willard, Chaplain of the Groves Walker Post, American Legion, during Memorial Day Services held last Thursday. Representatives of the various service and civic organizations in the community took part in the annual parade and Memorial Service. Andrew Tompkins, Department of Michigan, American Legion, pictured in background, was the principal speaker at the service.

Record Senior Classes To Receive Diplomas At Exercises June 13

Members of the graduating classes of Farmington and Clarenceville high schools will receive their diplomas at separate commencement exercises to be held next Thursday evening, June 13.

A total of 161 seniors will take part in the annual Farmington graduation program which will be held at 8:00 p.m. in the Senior High School Gymnasium on Shawansee. Mr. Clyde Walker, Principal of the University of Michigan, will be the principal speaker. His address will be entitled, "Using Education For A Better Living."

The 81 graduating seniors of Clarenceville high school will receive their diplomas at commencement exercises to be held at 8:00 p.m. in the Senior High School gymnasium on Middlebelt Road. Donald Leonard, former Commissioner of the Michigan State Police, will be the commencement speaker.

Outline City Water Use Restrictions

City officials reported this week that considerable confusion seems to exist over the water use restrictions which were placed in effect on June 1.

The regulations affect all city water customers and pertain to use of water for outside purposes such as lawn sprinkling and washing cars. Under the provisions of the proclamation issued by the Mayor, residents living in even numbered houses are permitted to use outside water on even numbered days and persons living in odd numbered houses on odd numbered days.

This is the same procedure as has been followed in previous years. City officials stated that the regulations are being imposed to eliminate drops in pressure during peak use periods. It was emphasized that the difficulty is not due to a shortage of water but rather to the distribution of the supply. Officials stated that because of the limited size of numerous mains as well as restricted storage facilities, it is impossible to maintain adequate pressure during heavy use periods without some restrictions.



HERE WE ARE AGAIN... practically on our hands and knees urging you to get out and do your duty as a citizen in next Monday's Annual School Elections. We've been talking about this sort of thing for a good many years now, and frankly, we have run out of words. During this period the civic spirit of the community has shot up and down like a rocket in a test tube. Our voting record has skyrocketed to nearly 90% on occasions only to fall back to a mere 5% at other times. Unfortunately, the "other times" have usually been during school elections. Why bother to ignore this important organization of local government, so vital to the future of the community, is more than we can understand. Maybe the story will be different next Monday. Only you, the qualified electors of Farmington and Clarenceville School Districts, can make it so!

SEVERAL PARADES were very much in evidence during Farmington's annual Memorial Day observance last Thursday. The most significant, of course, was the community parade and ceremony conducted by the various civic organizations in honor of our war dead. However, there was another parade, holding forth on Grand River which was equally symbolic of the Memorial Day holiday. A parade of cars, jammed nearly bumper to bumper as far as the eye could see. Unlike the community parade, it lasted most of the day. It was a record and a pretty noisy and confusing one at that. Fortunately, the police did an excellent job and no major calamities developed.

City To Consider Hiring Property Appraisal Firm

A discussion on the possible re-appraisal of property values in the city by an experienced firm was held as an explanation of the methods of determining tax equalization factors by the county and, were heard by the Council at its regular meeting Monday.

A representative of the Oakland County Equalization staff outlined the procedures which are followed in determining the equalization factor for the city. It was explained that a certain percentage of property, both real and personal, is surveyed each year by the County as a measuring stick in determining the percentage of assessed value as compared to real value. According to the representative the county assessed at approximately 50 per cent while the city average runs approximately 65 per cent. This means that on county and school taxes the values are equalized to approximately double the valuation as assessed.

Earl Scherffius, City Manager, pointed out that present valuations are based on 17 per cent to 68 per cent of real value. He added that through a re-appraisal program this variation would be eliminated so everyone was paying their equal and just share of the load. It was emphasized that a re-appraisal would not necessarily increase the percentage of tax since it would undoubtedly raise the total property value and thus decrease the equalization factor.

FOLLOWING the discussion on equalization, two representatives of the E. T. Wilkins and Associates appraisal firm, explained the method of procedure in re-appraising property. Each home, business place and industrial plant is measured and physically examined by the appraisers in detail. The value of the property is determined by the local scale of construction costs as well as factors of age, location and condition. An equalized market is prepared on individual cards and is available for public examination. The procedure also includes for public hearings following completion of the project.

Scherffius emphasized that many communities are undertaking similar re-appraisal programs in an effort to bring their assessed valuations within the governmental units. The City Manager added that he had a sealed and unopened bid from the Wilkins firm, but suggested that if the Council decided to proceed with such a plan, that additional proposals be obtained. The Council agreed to consider the matter.

Woodcreek Farms Voters Approve Village Charter

The proposed charter for the Village of Woodcreek Farms was overwhelmingly approved by the voters of Section 12, Farmington Township at a special election held Monday.

According to election officials the charter proposal was approved by a vote of 90 to 31. A total of 124 votes were cast out of a registration of 149 electors. Voting took place at the home of Aker Clark, 28390 Wellington Road and involved only those qualified electors living in Section 12, Farmington Township.

In addition to voting on the charter proposal, the electors named the various Village officials who will serve the initial terms under the incorporation. The unopposed candidates elected were: Algor M. Clark, Village President; Arthur J. Busch, Clerk; M. W. Davengart, Treasurer, and Robert J. Swift, Assessor. In the lone contest, the following candidates were elected to the Village Council: Herman A. Dabson, Harry O. Lang, Jr., Norman E. Kreider and Zar A. Reader. Donald A. Wells, the first candidate for the Council, was defeated.

CHARTER COMMISSION Chairman P. G. Schlotterbeck, stated that the newly approved charter will become effective as soon as certified copies of the vote have been filed with the Secretary of State and the Oakland County Clerk. The charter provides that the copies must be filed within 30 days after the date of the election. The newly elected Village officials will take over their duties immediately following the effective date of the charter.

Council Upholds Bid Procedure

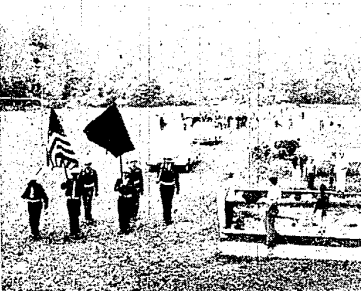
The City Council Monday evening endorsed the procedure being followed by the City Manager of opening sealed bids at an announcement to take place prior to the Council meeting.

An objection was raised to the procedure by Councilman Thomas Barber who stated that he would prefer to have the bids opened at a council meeting. Earl Scherffius, City Manager, stated that the procedure has been followed in order to save time and permit the tabulating of the bids prior to the Council meeting. He added that while the procedure is in accordance with the City Charter, the Council has the right to establish a different policy if they desire.

Earlier the Council approved a motion to table all bids on the location of fencing around the storm water treatment plant until negotiations are completed for the sale of a 200 foot buffer strip adjacent to the site. A request for purchase of the land fronting on Nine Mile Road has been received by an adjoining property owner and the Manager was authorized to advertise for additional bids.

Inside Features

- Six Seek Posts Pg. 2A
- On School Boards Pg. 2A
- Ephraim Pancake Supper Pg. 2B
- Hanned Tuesday Pg. 1B
- F.H.S. Teachers To Travel This Summer Pg. 6B
- Boys Republic Moved To New Quarters Pg. 1C
- Classified Adv. Pg. 4A, 5A, 6A
- Church Activities Pg. 2B
- Editorial Features Pg. 2C
- Michigan Mirror Pg. 2C
- Neighborhood News Pg. 2C
- Fg. 2A, 3A, 1B, 3B
- 1C, 3C, 4B
- School Activities Pg. 5B, 6C
- Sport News Pg. 7A



LITTLE LEAGUE baseball got off to a flying start at the Farmington City Park last Saturday afternoon as members of the various teams, coaches, managers and officials followed the flag raising and opening day ceremonies. Prior to the start of the traditional Little League double header, each of the youth players was introduced by his manager, and Mayor Pro-Tem V.O. Bates took the mound to pitch the first ball to City Manager Earl Scherffius, officially opening the 1957 season.

Roger Walker Elected Chairman Of United Foundation Committee

Roger J. Walker, Farmington, was elected chairman of the newly formed Oakland County Township's United Foundation Advisory Committee at the initial meeting of the group held last week in Pontiac.

The Committee, composed of the representatives from the townships of Farmington, Addison, Commerce, Groveland, Holly, Huron Valley, Lyon, Novi, Rose and Springfield, who recently signed agreements with the United Foundation, met to set up the initial organization. The group included acceptance of the by-laws, election of an advisory committee chairman, appointment of a representative and an alternate to the United Foundation Board of Directors and the establishment of a sub-committee to secure a campaign chairman for the Township's region.

Representatives from the Farmington community who were officially elected to the 1957 Oakland County Townships Advisory Committee include: Robert Clark, Mrs. Franklin Colton, Vern Willard and Roger Walker. Clarence O. Bales, Walled Lake, was elected representative to the United Foundation Board of Directors and Vern Willard being named alternate representative.

THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE shall consult with the United Foundation on special problems and on matters bearing on the operation of the UF program in this region. It shall advise and assist in the selection of a general chairman for its respective region. The Advisory Committee shall coordinate with the United Foundation in the establishment of the campaign quota for the Township's area. The Committee shall also assist in the recruitment of volunteer campaign workers and shall actively assist in a year-round promotion of the United Foundation program.

Walker stated that the Committee will meet again in June to receive a report from the sub-committee named to secure a campaign chairman and to help lay the ground work for this fall campaign.

Township Lacks Authority To Pass Dog Ordinance

The Township Board was advised last week by Harry Farmer, Assistant Township Attorney, that it has no authority to enact a local dog ordinance as previously proposed.

Farmer stated that there is no provision in the state law for Townships such as Farmington to adopt this type of legislation. Following a discussion on possible ways and means of working through the county, the Board approved a motion directing the Assistant Attorney and the Police Chief to discuss the problem and submit a report as soon as possible.

New C of C Elects Executive Group

Plans for the organization of the Greater Farmington Chamber of Commerce moved into high gear last week with the appointment of an Executive Committee to act as a temporary administrative group during the period of the pending election of the permanent organization. The committee was organized at a meeting held last Tuesday evening at the Farmington Savings and Loan. Other elected officers include: Vance Kefgen, first vice-president; Leo Fendi, second vice-president; Frank Holtzman, treasurer and Donald Pugh, executive manager. The Committee will serve as the administrative body of the Chamber of Commerce until a permanent organization is established. Work is expected to begin immediately on the preparation of a constitution and by-laws for the new organization.

Officials stated that plans are already underway for the organization of a community-wide membership campaign. Charter memberships will be accepted up to January 1, 1958.

A mass meeting for all interested businessmen in Farmington will be held Tuesday, June 18, at 7:30 p.m. at Farmington Savings and Loan.

Guest speaker will be William Wood, executive manager of the Highland Park Chamber of Commerce. He will give complete details of operation of Chamber of Commerce and answer any questions.

Farmington, Clarenceville To Vote On Board Members And Proposals

The qualified electors of both the Farmington and Clarenceville School Districts are expected in the Clarenceville District because of the larger number of candidates seeking election to the School Board. However, in both the Farmington and Clarenceville Districts, a minority vote is expected.

The polls will be open on Monday, June 10, from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. at both Farmington and Clarenceville. Farmington officials emphasized that all electors of the district will cast their ballots at the Junior high school gymnasium, 33000 Thomas Street. In Clarenceville electors will vote at the Senior high school building, 20210 Middlebelt Road. Voting machines will be used in both elections.

Three Injured In Auto Accidents On Orchard Lake

Three persons were seriously injured during the past week in two separate auto accidents on Orchard Lake Road just north of Eleven Mile Road.

The first accident occurred shortly after 2 a.m. Saturday morning when a 1956 Chevrolet, owned by Roger Rogerson, 17, of 32211 Shawansee Road, apparently fell asleep at the wheel of his car. The vehicle, proceeding south, left the road on the opposite side and crashed into two trees.

Rogerson is still confined to Redford (Receiving) Hospital suffering from severe head lacerations sustained in the crash.

The second accident, in nearly the same location, resulted around 4:40 p.m. Monday. Lanslaw Jack Wood and his wife, Frances Eltra, both of 2219 Indianapolis, Detroit, both suffered severe lacerations about the head and face. Mr. Wood's car suffered lacerations to the right arm.

Passing another car going in the same southerly direction, 1400 p.m. Monday, Saturday morning, the vehicle ran off the roadway and into the ditch where it overturned. THREE more were less severely hurt in other accidents during the week.

Fred Lynch, 18, of Detroit, received cuts about the left side of his face when the auto in which he was riding overturned.

(See ACCIDENTS, Pg. 8A)

Approve Extension Of Frederick St.

Authorization has been granted by the City Council to the Farmington Development Company for the extension of Frederick Street from a point south of Cloverdale to the Grand River Cut-Off.

The concrete roadway is to be constructed by the developer under the supervision of the city. Earl Scherffius, City Manager, stated that a legal form dedicating the street to a public thoroughfare will have to be prepared. He added that extension of the street had been previously approved by the Planning Commission in accordance with the master plan.

A letter was received from the Alta Loma Home Owners Association requesting action on a series of complaints concerning continuation of paved sidewalks, repair of check holes in roads, erection of speed signs, replacement of burned out street bulbs and correction of one street sign.

Scherffius stated that some of the complaints have already been corrected and the others will be taken under consideration.

CITY WAITS ACTION OF STATE ON BOND SALE REQUEST

City officials announced Monday that action is expected to be taken this week by the Municipal Finance Commission on its application for permission to sell \$25,000 in bonds for new Public Works Department equipment.

Approval of the Municipal Finance Commission is necessary before action can be started on the bond sale. Authorization to purchase equipment in the amount of \$25,000 was granted by the voters at the Biennial Spring Election in April.

Officials stated that the Public Works Department equipment will consist of new trucks, street sweepers and street maintenance machinery.

Biographical sketches of the various candidates seeking election to the Farmington and Clarenceville school boards appear on Page 2A.

Approval of the Municipal Finance Commission is necessary before action can be started on the bond sale. Authorization to purchase equipment in the amount of \$25,000 was granted by the voters at the Biennial Spring Election in April.

Officials stated that the Public Works Department equipment will consist of new trucks, street sweepers and street maintenance machinery.



SERIOUS injuries were suffered by Mr. and Mrs. L. J. Wood of Detroit Monday afternoon to the injured while awaiting an ambulance. The body smashed car is visible at the left of the photo.