

Farmington, Socially Spreaking

The Republican Women's Organization of Farmington held its first meeting of the season on Sept. 21 at the home of Mrs. Frank DePodesta, where 50 women listened to reports given by three speakers.

The office of the Republican headquarters at 3316 Grand River invites visitors to stop in for information and literature.

Mrs. Richard Gaul, president, Mrs. Frank DePodesta, Mrs. Glenn Leland, Mrs. Arthur Grosop and Mrs. Grace Richardson attended the state meeting of the Republican Women's Federation of Michigan at Muskegon, Mrs. Richardson and Mrs. Leland also attended the national convention of the same organization at Louisville, Ky.

Michael Vizioli and family mourn the loss of his father, Catino Vizioli, who passed away at home the night of Sept. 13, after an illness of many months' duration.

He is survived by his wife, Emelia, a son, Michael of Allen Park, a daughter, Mrs. Phyllis Serafa of Livonia, a brother, Raymond of Detroit, and two

sons, Carmella of Buffalo and Theresa of Taylor, as well as nine grandchildren.

The Senior Citizens Social Club members who have signed for the Color Tour trip on Thursday, Oct. 1, are reminded that the bus leaves the Methodist Church parking lot at 9:30 a.m. sharp. Time for boarding the bus is 9:15 a.m.

The 4-H Club of Farmington held its first fall meeting at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Allmeyer, 21505 Parker, Farmington. Meetings are scheduled for the third Tuesday of each month. It is National 4-H Week, Sept. 26 to Oct. 3.

The club would welcome some new members. The ages must be from 10 to 16 years old. Interested parties can call Mrs. Allmeyer at GR 4-7668.

Kathie Drury, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Drury of 38475 W. 13 Mile Rd., was united in marriage to James Kenyon, Jr., of Cincinnati on Saturday, Sept. 26. The wedding was held in the Church of St. Fabian.

The newlyweds are making their home in Cincinnati. Mr. Kenyon is a former Farmington boy.

Henry Ford was crestfallen when Thomas Edison found imperfection in the Greenfield Village restoration of Edison's Menlo Park laboratory. But he brightened when Edison's only complaint was: "It's too clean."

Lessons learned by experience seldom need explanations.

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THOMAS DUKE states the case for the Village Green, as residents look on during last Thursday's meeting of the Farmington Planning Commission.

Human Relations Group Meets

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Two of the young ladies and several committee members over the pros and cons of integration. The argument was polite but very earnest. When the smoke of battle cleared, the lady left—her views apparently completely unchanged.

There was general admiration for her forthrightness, and a hope that she would return to continue the debate. It was the first such debate since the committee came into existence. As one of the panelists noted, the absence of such debate has been the committee's main weakness up to now. It has been gathering of like believers talking only to themselves. It was hoped that the Wednesday meeting would mark a turning point—that a constructive dialogue on race relations was beginning in Farmington.

The committee is not sponsoring a "move in" campaign. Nor is it planning any demonstrations.

This does not mean that it intends to be merely a debating society. It is compiling, and making known, a list of houses in the Farmington area which are available for sale without discrimination. It is seeking to destroy various racial "myths," such as the belief that Negro residents lower property values in a community. They are seeking assurance from the law enforcement agencies that law and order will be maintained in integrated areas. They plan to sponsor neighborhood meetings in situations where tension exists.

There are presently several

Negro families in Farmington. One of them—that of Wellington D. Hullin—traces its roots in Farmington to before the Civil War. Wellington's great grandparents came here from Virginia, as runaway slaves. They lived in the area of Grand River and Nine Mile for a time, and then moved over to Eleven Mile and Orchard Lake Road. They make their living mainly as apple growers. When their orchard petered out, they hired out as farm hands. One of them became an Oakland County Deputy Sheriff, serving with Joe DeVreundt.

Wellington D. Hullin still lives on that property. He served

with the Army in China, Burma, and India during the Second World War. He now owns Pete's Television & Radio Service in Farmington Township.

Another Negro living in Farmington is the Reverend Joseph Pellham. He is Rector of the Trinity Episcopal Church in Farmington Township.

Paul Ingram is another distinguished Negro resident of Farmington. He teaches social studies at Boys Republic.

Farmington Citizens for Better Human Relations represents a real cross section of the community. John Milhorne, the Chairman, is a member of the editorial staff of the Detroit Free Press. Robert Leidehl, the Vice Chairman, is a builder. Other officers are Warren Dillebeck, an engineer; Robert Eddy, Pastor of the Universalist Unitarian Church; Rabbi Sherwin Wine; Fred Harrison, a local businessman; Clifford Meredith, a Post Office employee; Juanita Wilmoth, a teacher; and house wives Agnes Hansen and Conner Mills.

Members of the group have been handing out pamphlets, explaining their views at local shopping centers. The reaction to this effort has been encouraging. Approximately one two, out of each 100 they have approached, have been hostile. (None of the volunteers has met with any physical violence, though there are occasional threats.) Approximately the same percentage of those approached have reacted favorably, and a few have offered to join.

Village Green Gets OK

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bringing in a total revenue of approximately \$120,000 annually. By contrast, the Village Green apartments will house approximately 260 children. The adult residents of these apartments would not be in the apartments but in the homes, valued at \$800,000—approximately 10% of the present total Farmington Township school tax.

With the fear of higher taxes eliminated as an effective argument, the unorganized and informal forces arrayed against the Village Green proposal now concentrated on delaying tactics. Robert Eddy, pastor of the Universalist Unitarian Church, argued that "there are many considerations besides money. A \$5 million dollar project would have a terrific impact on the community. Therefore, I don't think it would be fair to make a consideration tonight."

Mrs. Arthur Schlesinger proposed that a study be made. Many in the audience agreed with her. Among those who did were Aldo Vagnozzi, the Democratic candidate for Township Superintendent, and Martin E. Gluckstein, Democratic candidate for a seat on the Township Board of Trustees.

Mr. Leman, the Township planning consultant, argued against this proposal. He explained that land planning is based on the residential unit plan, not on whether the structures are studies or not. That is to say it is based on how many people will use and support a given amount of facilities—schools, roads, sewers, etc.

"We haven't found any studies that in our minds indicate how much multiple a community should have. Studies that have been made have been someone's opinion rather than fact. We can put the likely spots on the map, but this would not be very scientific. We must judge each case individually, and see if it fits the picture."

These arguments satisfied the board. At 10:40 p.m. it voted. Mrs. Grace Richardson, Charles Lorian, James Stillman, and Charles Williams voted for rezoning. The two dissenters were Dave Mills and Charles Hannan.

In the aftermath, there were questions raised as to the propriety of Mr. Duke's appearance before the Board to request rezoning. Aldo Vagnozzi made the point that Mr. Duke is a member of the Township Board, which appoints members of the Zoning Board. Final approval of the project must come from the Township Board on which Mr. Duke sits as a member.

Mr. Duke is taking unfair advantage of the public position he holds for personal gain."

Martin E. Gluckstein, a candidate for a seat on the Board of Trustees said that "Duke's rights, as an individual to request rezoning are clear. But he should do so as an elected trustee is a conflict of interest."

Gluckstein regarded it as more than a coincidence that all of the members of the zoning board were appointed for the time during Duke's incumbency on the Township Board—except Mills and Hannan, the only members who opposed the rezoning request. Informed of the charges leveled against him by Vagnozzi and Gluckstein, Duke, a Republican, said he was withholding comment for the time being.

A member of the zoning Board privately conceded to The Observer that there was only one reason the Board had approved the Village Green, and that was the enormous revenues it would bring to the township. He admitted, however, that the rezoning was the only advantage apartments would bring to the community, and this was the sole consideration of the Board in reaching its decision.

Because the Township zoning ordinance does not require site inspection of multiple dwellings, the zoning Board, in effect, gave Duke a blank check. As it now stands, he does not have to conform to the high level plans he presented to the Board. He does not have to include a golf course or any of the other luxuries he has promised.

Though Duke has kept his word in the past, the Board was clearly uneasy about issuing this blank check. As a result, it can be reliably reported that the Board will, at its next public hearing, pass two resolutions to both of which Duke would be bound. One would call for site approval of multiple housing developments. The other would require two parking spaces per apartment.

In the other case heard Thursday night, the Board agreed to resume the southeast corner of Twelve Mile Road and Middlebelt Road—legally described as "SW corner Twelve Mile & Middlebelt Rd. in the NE Sec. 14"—from its residential to B-1 business classification. This will permit the construction of a 2 bay gasoline station. The property has 100 ft. of frontage on 12 Mile Road, and 160 ft. of frontage on Middlebelt. The property is owned by Wineman Realty Co., 150 Michigan Ave., Detroit. It has a purchase option agreement with the Marathon Oil Co. Marathon applied for rezoning.

Candidates

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safely, Vagnozzi said "there is the same record of stalling. The last township meeting, he had adopted a resolution indicating that they would come up with the traffic survey report by the next meeting."

"That was two months ago, and we still haven't had a public airing of the findings of that report. Last March, we were promised that the survey would be completed in a couple of months, and that the changes would be put into effect at the time the school started this fall."

"The children have been back to school for some time now, and still no major improvements in the safety patterns."

Mr. Hall responded with his side of the argument:

"The Farmington Township Board requested the Oakland County Road Commission and the Michigan State Police to make a traffic survey of our community, last Spring. Such a study is extremely complicated, and affects not only Farmington but neighboring communities as well."

"We have been in constant contact with the Oakland County Road Commission and the Michigan State Police, and the survey has been proceeding with due dispatch. The results of the study and recommendations are awaiting action by Michigan State Police Commissioner, Joseph A. Childs."

So it goes in the race for Farmington Township Supervisor with election day little more than a month away.

Facts, Opinions

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whether spent in the board of education office; the Township Hall, or City Hall.

When they reported for duty this autumn, teachers in the Farmington system were delivered, along with more technical papers, a Memorandum from the Superintendent, G. V. Harrison.

Supt. Harrison explained that he wanted to give the staff a chance to read an article which had appeared in an official national school magazine. It was written by Dr. A. B. Shaw, formerly a Superintendent in Scarsdale, N.Y., and now an editor.

In view of Facts and Opinions' concern with the breakdown of authority in some areas involving youth, a commendation of the Superintendent for passing on the article, portions of which say:

"Public schools have many assignments, but one of them has top priority now. That crucial challenge is to build and rebuild a respect for the law."

"It is not a matter of meek submission to authority, arbitrary or otherwise, or even of just playing by the rules. The issue is whether we can make our representative democracy work—or whether we shall cast off the thin, laboriously acquired veneer of civilization and go back to the jungle."

"Governors defy federal courts. Drivers obey traffic laws that are convenient. Union leaders steal from trust funds. Income tax returns invite borderline dishonesties. Boards evade the federal law. Travel vouchers are inflated. Little groups of fanatics drill with weapons. Contractors kick back. The list is endless."

There are many explanations. Government is increasingly more distant and less accessible to our citizens. Family and neighborhood controls have broken down. Mass communications deal sensationally with law-breaking. Amendment of law inevitably lags behind the need. People live closer together, yet psychologically more apart."

"Building respect for law and loyalty to our governments is a titanic task, not fully possible to the schools alone. Yet if we read from the earliest times, it is a central purpose and expectation of public education."

"There are resources. We have programs. And school people have the commitment and the ingenuity to make other resources and to devise new ways. We need to be alert to shape every activity and every curriculum to build in the understandings, habits, and commitments implied in law-abiding, loyalty citizenship. The large ideal must be made real and reachable."

"We do not propose indoctrination in blind loyalty or unreasoning obedience. But we do propose that by example, precept, and practice, we shall consciously help young people grow, according to their maturity, in their understanding of, respect for, and acceptance of, the need for law and orderly procedure for its adoption, amendment, and repeal."

"It is no election-year shibboleth to say that we are truly being tested to see whether government of the people, by the people, and for the people can endure. As informed, loyal citizens, as respecters of the law, as supporters of due process, as those committed to making our society work, as those who see this growing generation as our last, best hope for a free and a fairer world, and as public school heads, we have a special charge. We cannot do it alone, but unless we try, all else may fail."

Editor

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of The Observer's expanding news coverage in Farmington and Farmington Township," Chandler said.

"We intend, with our expanding staff, to provide the most complete coverage available of Farmington community news, political events, police reporting and human interest features to the residents of this area," Chandler said.

Farmington Observer offices have been opened at 33425 Grand River Ave., just west of Farmington Rd., and editorial, advertising and circulation staff members are on duty daily from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., said Chandler. They can be reached by telephone at GA 2-0900.

So it goes in the race for Farmington Township Supervisor with election day little more than a month away.

Clip 'n Save Elementary School Lunch MENU



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- OCTOBER 6 - TUESDAY
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- OCTOBER 7 - WEDNESDAY
Parent-Teacher Conferences
- OCTOBER 8 - THURSDAY
Hot Dog on Bun, Noodles, Buttered Corn, Cole Slaw, Date Square, Milk.
- OCTOBER 9 - FRIDAY
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