

The Farmington Enterprise

"A Continuing Journal Of Progress" Established 1888

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In Our Opinion . . .

Long Term Versus Short Term Financing

What are the advantages of long term financing of capital improvement projects in a rapidly growing community? This is a question that many taxpayers in Farmington have been likely asking themselves as they are urged to approve more and more bond issues and tax millage proposals to run for the next 20 or 30 years.

The natural reaction of those with an old-fashioned upbringing such as we received is that cash should be plunked on the line for everything whenever possible and that anything that must be financed should be financed for as short a period of time as possible.

On personal expenditures the theory is sound, good to us but we must admit that we've weakened and fallen with more and more frequency on this point in recent years. The temptation to buy now and pay later in easy monthly installments is great as we all know.

While the cash or short term financing policy is good on personal acquisitions there is a very good argument against sticking to this practice when it comes to financing capital improvement projects for rapidly growing communities or areas such as ours.

The argument very simply is that short term financing puts too heavy a burden on present local taxpayers to provide facilities that newcomers benefit from than those who actually stood the bulk of the cost. By financing over an extended period of time more of the cost is shared by a greater number of taxpayers as the growing community builds up more and more.

Why should present citizens of a community pay a lion's share of the cost for new schools, libraries and other new buildings and facilities that newer homeowners will benefit from as much if not more than present home and property owners?

Of course everyone must weigh against this argument the fact that the longer any item is financed for the greater amount of interest to be paid becomes. It's true that governmental bodies usually get exceptionally good interest rates but, despite this fact, a lot of interest money must still be paid.

Your careful consideration of this matter should be given since there are going to be a lot more bond issues and tax millage questions placed before you as taxpayers in the growth years ahead.

Since we are a rapidly growing community that still has a lot more years to go yet in getting totally built up, the use of long term financing on capital improvement projects and tax millage proposals becomes more and more apparent to us.

Some years back we were advocating the virtues of building up substantial cash reserves in Farmington so that the money would be on hand to provide the capital improvements as they were found desirable or necessary. The likelihood of ever being able to do much of this now is quite remote and the practicalities of this approach appear less and less desirable to us anyway.

We urge you to give this matter some very careful consideration.

A Salute to A Very Dedicated Worker

The Farmington Junior Chamber of Commerce paid special tribute last Saturday night at its Annual Awards Banquet to Mrs. Mildred Droegge, longtime librarian in the Farmington Public Library.

Her unselfish and never tiring dedication to her job and to the task of providing an ever improving recognition and praise from the whole community and not just one service club.

The Enterprise and members of its staff wish to add a personal special salute to Mrs. Droegge for the assistance she has given and the services she has rendered to us.

The Farmington Public Library system has expanded and improved considerably in the past decade. A lot of the credit must go to Mrs. Droegge, in our opinion.

Much must still be done to provide a really adequate public library system for the Farmington community. We are certain that as long as Mrs. Droegge has a part in the direction of our library system that everything possible will be done to see that it is run effectively and economically and that service to patrons will be the finest possible.

Looking Back in the Files

5 Years Ago
JANUARY 28, 1960

FHS Cagers Bow
The Farmington High School basketball team bowed to Inter-Lakes Conference rival South Lakes in cage action last week 80 to 70.

Man of the Year
The Farmington Junior Chamber of Commerce has voted Charles F. Bridges as Farmington's Most Outstanding Young Man of 1960. Bridges was presented with the Distinguished Services Award at a joyous banquet held Tuesday night.

Champion Debaters
The Farmington High School debate team, coached by Lloyd Smith, walked away with the Inter-Lakes Conference Championship for the third consecutive year, thus earning the right to keep the league trophy permanently.

Plan Development
The City of Farmington has pledged support with property owners and local business men to aid in the development of a new commercial district in downtown Farmington. The project is aimed at providing jobs for the third consecutive year, thus earning the right to keep the league trophy permanently.

Attending National Mgr. Conference
Robert A. Spear of Farmington is attending the National Managers' Conference of Appleton, Wis. The conference is being held in Benton Harbor, Mich. Spear is president of the Farmington branch, regional and territorial managers of the appliance firm. He is also attending two days touring the facilities of the Whirlpool Corporation and a meeting executives concerned with the production and sales of new Whirlpool products.

Honor Gridders
The Farmington Exchange Club last week fettered letter to the City. He has two children

attending college and one serving in the armed forces.

Building Inspector
The Farmington Township Board has taken steps to hire a building inspector to administer the Township's newly adopted building code ordinance.

Vote Registration
About 200 new names which were added to the rolls of eligible voters in Farmington Township boosted the total number of voters to 5,441.

Falcons Lose
The Farmington High School basketball team lost a 56-51 overtime cage dual with Inter-Lakes Conference rival South Lakes in the Bluejay hardwoods last Friday night. Jerry Rice was high point man for the Falcons with 15 points.

First Cage Loss
The Farmington High School basketball team suffered its first setback in 11 outings last week when it was defeated by the Bluejay Vikings wrestled a narrow 44-42 decision from the Falcons in an Inter-Lakes Conference cage dual.

15 Years Ago
JANUARY 26, 1950

First Cage Loss
The Farmington High School basketball team suffered its first setback in 11 outings last week when it was defeated by the Bluejay Vikings wrestled a narrow 44-42 decision from the Falcons in an Inter-Lakes Conference cage dual.

10 Years Ago
JANUARY 27, 1955

New Councilman
V. O. Bates of School Street has been appointed to fill the seat on the Farmington City Council caused by the resignation of Kenneth Loomis. He will serve for the balance of the term which expires in April of this year. Bates is employed by the Detroit Edison Company and is an 11-year resident of the City. He has two children



THE NEW MAINTENANCE building for the Farmington Public Schools was completed this week and is now ready for occupancy. Above: Inspecting the new building (L to R) Ralph Vert, Assistant Superintendent of Schools James Reed and Les Tinson. Vert and Tinson will be supervising the building.

Sound School Maintenance Saves Many Tax Dollars

BY MARJORIE EICKER, Community Relations Coord.

A sound maintenance program can save dollars - every dime - for the taxpayers. It is happening in the schools, taxpayers can feel doubly blessed for it's their tax dollars that are being husbanded.

In the Farmington Public Schools, this stewardship is guided by Ralph Vert, superintendent of buildings and grounds. Vert and his staff of maintenance men work through the seasons to keep the equipment and grounds of 23 buildings in tip-top shape.

THEY USE A rolling stock of four trucks, four cars, three tractors, two self-propelled mowers and two towed mowers. They also have an assortment of plows, discs, seeders and tandem rollers.

The equipment is used to maintain over 300 acres of occupied grounds. Minimum care such as weed control is given also to whatever undeveloped land the school holds.

To provide grass space for the equipment and house the workshops, the building, a new maintenance building at Middlebelt near Ten Mile Road.

THE ONE STORY cement block building has 6,800 sq. ft. of floor space. From this headquarters, 13 Jack-of-all-trades depart each morning at 7 a.m. to get the school district's 15 elementary school buildings opened. They turn on the lights, move snow from the grounds, operate in the heating systems and take care of immediate snow removal to provide access to the buildings.

By the time the teaching staff and building custodians arrive, the maintenance men have returned to their building to pick up the job that must be done by the balance of the day. These jobs can be anywhere in the system. The jobs range from mowing lawns to digging ditches or building walls.

SOME OF THE MEN will be working on the thousands of linear feet of walkways. The school system provides walkways for the children who do not qualify for bus transportation. The walkways must be kept free of brush, weeds, grass and snow. Some of the men are on stairs that must be kept in safe condition.

Repairs and reconditioning of school property never ends, according to Vert. During the summer all the buildings are reconditioned. In the carpentry workshop the maintenance crew repair furniture and refinish and build cabinets.

Using a forklift, they can refinish a small desk, at half the cost of a \$16 new one and have a "better product," said Vert.

"THE COST WILL drop more when we get the new planer in the maintenance building," added Leslie Tinson, assistant maintenance supervisor. "We're able to cut out the hand work."

In the electrical shop, repairs are done on all school owned equipment, except in areas where there could be conflict with township or municipal codes.

The versatile maintenance crew repair all of the departmental vehicles. They do all of the repair and reconditioning of the individual power to mowers housed in each school building.

UNTIL FIVE YEARS ago most of the repair work was done at this kind of service. As growth and expansion have increased the need has increased the maintenance staff from two to 13. The dollar savings have been twice building growth.

An example of tax dollars saved was the decision to buy two electric coils to clear drains and sewers.

Students Learn About Hawaii From Lecture and Color Slides

In connection with the Orchard Hills school children's imaginary trip to Hawaii Jan. 21, a lecture and color slide showing was presented by Mrs. Frank Puchert, 2381 Greening, and Mrs. Puchert spent 3 weeks in Hawaii, assisted by her daughter, Mrs. Robert Puchert. The islands and plan to return Jan. 21, 1965, for the first time.

Two kindergarten classes and the children and their eagerness to receive the Lei and kiss, made the traditional greeting of the Lei, kiss and gifts were presented to Mrs. Batten, kindergarten teacher, and Mrs. Smith, 5th grade teacher.

Mrs. Puchert's granddaughter, Patricia, attended kindergarten at Orchard Hills.

The same show was presented at the Novi Elementary School for Mrs. Hart and her

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WHAT IS CAMP FIRE?

The Camp Fire Girls organization was founded in 1910 by Dr. and Mrs. Luther Gulick to satisfy a growing need for interesting and constructive after school activities for girls. Dr. Gulick said, "The keynote of the program is our wish to develop girls to be women. They chose for this group symbolism that which would identify it with the early beginnings of this country - Indian lore. This has continued through the years as evidenced in the Indian names chosen by the girls when they become Camp Fire members. Indian names are also used to identify each particular group.

THE GOALS ARE best stated in the Law of Camp Fire Girls: Worship God, Seek beauty, Give service, Pursue knowledge, Be trustworthy, Hold on to health, Glorify work and be happy.

Their watchword is **W-H-E-L-O** which comes from the words work, health and love.

Today's Camp Fire Girls program, operating on an international basis, is comprised of four groups: Blue Birds for the second and third grades, Camp Fire Girls for fourth through sixth grades, Junior High Camp Fire for seventh through ninth grades, and Horizon Club for high school girls.

BLUE BIRD activities center around having fun, making friends and working together. They do not use Indian names. The other Camp Fire groups have seven different areas of activities that are called "Crafts." Within these crafts each girl is called an "Honorary." These honors are things they can do to have fun, to try something new, or to learn more about what they already like to do best. Some of the group activities; others are for the individual.

On every grade level each girl has the opportunity to achieve a "Rank." This marks a further step, a growing in living service, in acquiring new skills, and in having good times in their Camp Fire group. Each rank has its special symbol with its special meaning.

You will recognize the Camp Fire Girl from her service uniform of navy skirt, white blouse and red Camp Fire tie.

OUR FARMINGTON area now totals ten active groups of Camp Fire Girls. Four of these are Blue Birds, five are Camp Fire Girls and one is a Junior High Camp Fire group. New groups are being formed. There are openings for two to four fourth graders in Mrs. Marvel Steiger's group which meets the second and fourth Wednesdays of each month at her home at 23197 Quail Hollow. She plans a mother's meeting for new girls on Sunday, January 24. Mrs. Steiger's phone number is GR. 4-0098.

Mrs. Joyce Ross of 38002 Lyrain Road has room for three or four fifth graders which meet Wednesday. Her phone number is 475-5484. Girls interested in any age groups may contact Barbara Kull at 474-5681.

The first gold rush occurred at Dahlonega, Ga.

Public Letter Box

Letters submitted to The Editor for publication must be signed. Names will be withheld upon request. Opinions expressed in this column are those of the writer and do not necessarily represent the policies of this newspaper. Maximum length is 100 words.

Cubs Like Enterprise

Dear Mrs. Woods:

We would like to thank you and also all of the other Enterprise employees who made our (our of the newspaper office and plant so interesting and informative.

Everyone was so gracious and thoughtful in explaining each phase of the newspaper's operation to us.

Thank you from
Cub Scouts, Den 9, Pack 175,
Jack Hall, Michael Collins,
Mike Moreen, Mike Colombo,
Dick Myslinski & Den Mothers,
Mrs. John R. Hall and
Mrs. Joseph Colombo.

First Baby Winner

To The Editor—

Dear Sir:

My husband and I want to express our sincere thanks to the Farmington Enterprise and to all the Farmington merchants who participated in the First Baby of the New Year Contest for 1965.

We received a very lovely gift. We greatly appreciate the kindness expressed by everyone concerned.

Yours truly,
Mrs. James H. Ebel
21478 Birchwood
Farmington, Mich.

Plan Class Newspaper

Dear Management and Staff:

Our fifth and sixth grade class would like to thank you for an interesting tour of The Farmington Enterprise last week.

We learned of the work involved in printing a newspaper. This will help us in the creation of a class newspaper of our own.

Thank you again,
Sincerely,
Room Four
Beechview School

Thanks Enterprise

The Farmington Kiwanis Club wishes to thank the Farmington Enterprise for the fine articles and the advance publicity given to our recently sponsored "T.M.S. Magazine" contest.

Coverage like this shows a real community interest in the field of music on the part of our newspaper.

The venture was a big success and the Youth of Farmington have benefited.

Very truly yours,
John W. Beechview
Publicity Chairman

Eagle PTA Sets 2nd Open House

It's Open House season at Eagle School, Middlebelt and Fourteen Mile roads. On Monday night, February 1, the children of the fourth, fifth, and sixth grades will be home to their parents and friends, at which time current projects and art work will be displayed.

There will be a time for parents to tour the school and visit as many classrooms as they would like.

DUE TO THE rapid growth of the Eagle School enrollment, it was necessary this year to hold two open house sessions. The first was held January 18 for the children of the kindergarten, first, second, and third grades. A large turn-out was recorded.

The Parent-Teacher Association, which sponsors the Open Houses, will serve refreshments, and provide an opportunity for those parents who cannot attend already done so by the organization.

Donald Niepoth Wins Contest

Our Lady of Sorrows High School, Farmington, Michigan, has notified T.M.S. Magazine that Donald Niepoth has been named the local winner in T.M.S.'s 26th annual Current Affairs Contest.

Other high-scoring local students are James Cuntlio and Kathleen Smith.

T.M.S.'s Current Affairs Contest, given this year to more than 150,000 college and high school students in the U.S. and Canada, consists of 100 questions on national and foreign affairs. Also included are such categories as business, sports, entertainment, science, religion, literature, journalism, education and the arts.

Top scorers in each of the more than 3,000 classes enrolled in the T.M.S. Magazine program receive a certificate from Bernard M. Auer, Publisher of T.M.S., The Weekly Newsmagazine.

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