

# The Farmington Enterprise

"A Continuing Journal of Progress" Established 1888

P.O. Box 455 23623 Farmington Road, Farmington GR. 4-6222

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Letters submitted to this editor for publication must be signed. Names will be withheld upon request. Editors are not responsible for return of unsolicited material. Letters are those of the writer and do not necessarily reflect the policies of this newspaper. Maximum length is 200 words.

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# In Our Opinion

## An Important Victory for Township

A major victory for Farmington Township in its efforts to control community growth and keep population density within reason was scored earlier this month when the State Supreme Court ruled that the township was within its rights in requiring 20,000 square foot minimum lot sizes in areas with the highest zoning classification.

The victory was no easy one. The challenge of this minimum lot size requirement first came way back in 1961. After passing the hurdle of being upheld by the Oakland County Circuit Court, the case was carried on up to the State Supreme Court by the plaintiffs.

The odds were really against the township and in favor of the owners of the property seeking to have the minimum lot size requirements reduced. In many past years, the State Supreme Court has ruled in favor of the land owners and against the communities with substantial minimum lot size requirements.

The Farmington case represents a change in thinking on the part of the Supreme Court judges that will not only be beneficial to Farmington Township but should also be helpful to other suburban communities in keeping their population density within reason.

Sharp criticism has been leveled by many in past years against township officials for allegedly siding with developers as growth of the community has continued to take place. There are those who have argued that the minimum lot sizes in the township in nearly all areas should have been set much higher than what they are even though prior Supreme Court tests had shown that setting lot sizes too high was going to be ruled out by the courts.

## Community Facts Booklet Coming Soon

The Farmington League of Women Voters will soon have a facts and information book on Farmington City and Township available and we are anxiously waiting receiving a completed copy.

Only an outline of what will be included in the final booklet has been received by the League. It has been received by us to date but it sounds like a publication that is going to contain a lot of information about the city and township that every taxpayer and citizen should know.

Copies of similar booklets put out by League of Women Voters groups in other neighboring communities that we have had an opportunity to see have been packed with valuable information and the Farmington book is being modeled after them. The booklet has been in the preparation stages for over a year now and it gives some indication that it will have thorough coverage on important community facts.

A number of directories, brochures and booklets on Farmington have been published in past years but it sounds as though this new League of Women Voters booklet will be more complete and information packed than any of the past.

It has been very disturbing to us on many occasions over the past several years to find many people in our community who know very little about their local governmental bodies and how they operate or about the community in general and what its attributes and shortcomings are. The people can obligate themselves to \$20,000 or \$30,000 of debt on a home mortgage they will be paying back on over several years and know so little about the community they have invested their money in is exceptionally hard for us to understand.

Perhaps our community leaders and officials have failed in the past in making information about the community as readily available as they should have. But a good portion of the blame, in our opinion, rests with the citizens themselves who have not been willing to put forth the time and effort to really know what they know about the community they have chosen to live and raise their families in.

The soon to be available League of Women Voters booklet should prove to be an easy way for many to obtain a lot of information about the community. As soon as these booklets are available we strongly urge all families in the community to obtain one.

## Looking Back in the Files

### 5 Years Ago

**February 18, 1960**

**Detroit Water**

A bonding proposal will be placed before the voters of the City of Farmington this spring to determine if funds can be made available to construct connection lines from the City's Detroit water supply into the large Detroit water main under construction along Eight Mile Road.

**Eliminate Steps**

One of the projects proposed by the City Council during this week by the Downtown Farmington Businessmen's Association was the elimination of the steps along the north side of the Grand River in the Downtown Business Section.

**Falcons Win**

The Farmington High School basketball team staged a late victory over the Waterford Skippers, 54 to 46, in Inter-Lakes Conference action last Friday night.

**Undeclared Matinee**

Farmington High has five wrestlers who are going to wrestle in the "undeclared" dual meet tonight at 7 p.m. at the Detroit Athletic Club.

### 10 Years Ago

**February 17, 1955**

**Primary Election**

A total of 25 candidates are seeking nominations for various City of Farmington offices in the Biennial Election held on February 21. All of the candidates are Republican. No Democratic candidates filed petitions.

**New Twp. Office**

Farmington Township Board officials were unanimous in their decision to move the Township office from its present location to a centrally located site in the Grand River area.

**Dog Vaccinations**

A total of 380 dogs received rabies vaccinations at the special rabies vaccination clinic held last week in Farmington.

**Falcons Win**

The Farmington High School basketball team staged a late victory over the Waterford Skippers, 54 to 46, in Inter-Lakes Conference action last Friday night.

### 15 Years Ago

**February 16, 1950**

**FHS Swamps Holly**

The Farmington High School basketball team swamped the Holly cagers in Inter-Lakes Conference action last Friday, 79 to 28. Captain Dick Tupper led the Farmington scorers with 16 points. Coach Bob Hutten used a starting line-up of Smokey Aschenbrenner, George Barrons, Les Tyler, Dave Dineen and Tom Tupper.

**Lighted Ground**

A proposal from Curtis H. Hall, Trustee, on the Farmington School Board, to have a one mill levy voted on by Farmington taxpayers to provide for a lighted athletic field. Trustee Hall said the levy would be carried for a two-year period and could increase present gate receipts from football at least four times to make much of the existing athletic program self supporting.

**Street Lighting**

The Farmington City Commission has given priority to the Flora Park area of the city as the next location to come in for street lighting.



**EAST JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL** students presented a musical comedy, "Live by Your Heart", Saturday evening, February 13, at 8:15 p.m. in the Farmington Junior High School gym. Pictured above at one rehearsal are (L to R) Don Ross, conductor and hand director, Margery Mowat, string director; Judy Davis, choral director; Gayle Donovan, student director; and Neil Steinman, stage manager. Leading roles in the performance were taken by Candy Kimbrough, Neil Boff, Dick Cripps, Nanette Wheeler, Donna Olson, Joyce Melon, Diane Northen, Bill Reader and Bob Barkdull.

## Teen-Age Drinking Becoming Serious

To the Editor:

Recently, three boys showed up at a local high school dance. These boys were not students of the school, and had been drinking. They were with their parents. The police officer in attendance went out to their car and found eighteen bottles of beer! Yet nothing was done except to take the beer away from them with understanding that someone over twenty-one could pick it up the next day if they so desired!

The driver of the car has had other brushes with the local police, and has been in jail. Yet here he is with beer in the car and on his breath and nothing is done to take the beer away from him. We shudder at the horrible accidents that have happened with drinking minors, yet this one is permitted to get in his car and drive away! At this rate, the punishment for murder will soon be that you'll have to surrender your gun to the police!

## Teachers Meet For Arithmetic Training Prog.

The Clareneville Elementary Staff has been and will be involved in Arithmetic meetings at the Clareneville Elementary School. February 2 saw the first grade teachers gather, while the second and third grade teachers had a meeting February 9. The February 13 meeting will be primarily for fourth grade teachers, but all other elementary staff members are invited.

At each of these meetings the many areas of today's arithmetic will be discussed, demonstrated and reviewed. Both regular teachers and specialists will take part in the programs designed to help the classroom teacher put it into better arithmetic practice.

These meetings will take place after school and thus early dismissal of students will not be necessary. This is another part of the inservice training programs offered by the Clareneville Teaching Staff.

## News From Briar Hill

I want to thank everyone for their good wishes following my operation. I returned home on January 22 and am now able to go back to work on the column. Any and all contributions for the column will be appreciated.

Two new families in Briar Hill are Sam and Margaret Magaddino and Tom and Carol Riekse. Sam and Margaret are renting the former McCarthy home on Briar Hill. They have one boy, Brian, who was 2 years old November 6. Sam works for the Knollwood Country Club as Caddy Master.

TOM AND CAROL RIEKSE (pronounced Rick) moved to Briar Hill just before Christmas from Royal Oak. Their child, Barbara, is almost 17 months old. Tom is a company representative for the Washington National Insurance Company.

Ruth Adams bowled a 300 series with a 209 game. Meanwhile, Ann Stephan managed to knock over the 7-9 split.

## Slate States' Rights Panel

Mrs. Virginia Crawford becomes the sixth member of the panel which will discuss "States' Rights" at the Farmington Community Forum on Thursday, February 25, at 8 p.m. The forum is held at the Farmington Universalist Unitarian Church, Warner Street north of Grand River.

Mr. Crawford holds a Master's degree in Nursing, is a housewife active in community affairs and a member of the John Birch Society and other patriotic groups.

Other members of the panel include Detroit Attorney George Crockett, Detroit Councilman Thomas J. Poindexter, Author James Boggs, former Editor Grace Lee Boggs, Editor Allen Rosenfeld, Lee S. Peel will moderate the program.

The panel will discuss in formal the meanings and implications of States' Rights. Questions and discussion from the audience will be part of the program. The panel has been especially chosen to represent a wide diversity of opinions.

Tickets may be obtained from the Farmington Savings and Loan office or the Book Center in the Downtown Shopping Center. Students may buy tickets at half-price.

## Honor Pupils At Lady of Sorrows Named

**SENIORS**

Katherine Atkinson, Judith Davidson, Michael Gudwah, Carol Kaunista, Michael Kiley, Richard Korte, Patrick McPeak, Daniel Mancuso, Ruth Ann McLaughlin, Kathleen Rose, Josephine Schumacher, Katherine Thornton, Evelyn Lash, Amy Carragher, Mark Kiley, Judith Klapper, Michael McLaughlin, Suzanne Nichols, Barbara Rudzki, Sandra Savage, Richard Smith and Mary Sue Theisen.

**JUNIORS**

Mary Bahr, Judy Brakora, Collette Baur, Mary Burgel, Paul Hoffman, Marilyn Korzka, Hector LeBlanc, Nancy McCune, Paula Miklas, Michael Morris, Gary Novara, Kathleen Randolph, Paul Waleaky, Rita Walker and Mark Benner.

**SOPHOMORES**

Lynda Appleby, Kristen Kiley, Nancy Kollaba, Adrienne Niles, Mary Phillips, Elizabeth Strand, Anthony Tucker, William Burgel, Mary Columbia, Emil Grohman, Therese Pasull and Diane Rudzki.

**FRESHMEN**

Roland Bergeron, Judith Bouchard, Elizabeth Brader, Michael Brigid, Diana Burgel, Vicki Champagne, Susan Coffey, Beverly Esper, Rebecca Esper, Maureen Jones, Michele Meigs, Bernadette Regan, Catherine Ruyale, Maureen Solar, William Verge, Judith Wyss, Diane Hoffman, Jane Waleaky, Susan Walsh and John Van Dusen.

## Students Attend Science Day

Nine Farmington students represented their schools in the 9th National Science Youth Day observation held at Greenfield Village on Thursday, February 11. The occasion was timed to commemorate the birthday of Thomas Edison.

Sponsored locally by the Engineering Society of Detroit, the 500 students who participated in the program were chosen for their interest in science.

**ATTENDING FROM CLARENEVILLE HIGH SCHOOL** were Tracy Black, 2388 Eldred; Doug Reed, 2120 Parkway; and Mike Probst, 2840 Grand. Farmington High School representatives were Terry Bacon, 2218 Maple and Donald L. Smith, 3228 Leomin.

**NORTH FARMINGTON HIGH SCHOOL** sent Steve Gordon, 2845 Westleigh; Matthew J. Frisbie, 2664 Leomin; and John Koops, 2871 Quail Hollow Court. Paul Hoffman, 2090 Alyce Kay, represented Our Lady of Sorrows School.

## Enter Edison Cook-Off Now

Entries are now being accepted for the fourth annual Detroit Edison Company cook-off to select the "Queen of the Kitchen" among women who work the electric is open to any woman working full time who lives in Southeastern Michigan.

Farmington can boast of a finalist in the 1962 cook-off. She is Mary Ann Klein of 3349 Hamlin Court.

Entrants should submit a recipe for a one-dish meal that can be cooked in an hour or less. The recipe may be sent to the local Edison office before midnight Friday, March 5. The cook-off will take place on Thursday, March 25.

For further information contact the Detroit Edison Company.

## Sch. Dist. Buys Lots for a Little

The Farmington School District has purchased seven residential lots adjacent to the Bond School property for a total of only \$1. The purchase was approved by the Board of Education at a regular meeting on Monday, February 8.

The seven lots were owned by the Land Section of the Department of Conservation, State of Michigan, acquired through the tax law, and were offered to the School District provided that they would be put to use to use and revert to the State if the use ever ceased.

The School District accepted the offer and designated six lots north of the school site as playground area, which adjoin the playground, and the seventh lot on the east side of the site was designated for public parking use.

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