

Libelous Statements In Story, Twp Attorney J. T. Brennan Charges

Township Attorney Joseph T. Brennan revealed to The Farmington Enterprise Monday that he is demanding a retraction of derogatory statements made about him in the lead story on the front page of last week's Observer, Livonia newspaper distributed in Farmington.

The statements, published in the story "Back to Prevent Village Green," were alleged to have been made by Joseph H. Larson, Attorney at Law, who resides at 36415 Padelford Road in Farmington Township.

Attorney Brennan states that unless a retraction is made (and published in a prominent position in the paper in the same fashion as the derogatory statements made about him were) within the next 15 days, he intends to start libel action against Larson.

BRENNAN TOLD The Enterprise that he felt a serious injustice was done to him in a paragraph in the story, containing what was reported to be statements made by Larson:

A copy of the letter which Attorney Brennan has sent to Attorney Larson demanding the retraction reads as follows:

"Dear Mr. Larson:

The Farmington Observer Newspaper on Wednesday, March 10, 1965, published the following statement attributed to you:

"FURTHER, he feels that Brennan, in rendering the opinion, was guilty of conflict of interest. This was, he says, because Brennan does legal work for Duke. He believes such an arrangement clearly violates the Bar Association's Code of Ethics."

This publication in the newspaper resulted, I am informed, about a week or so later, in the presence of witnesses and in the course of an interview with a reporter from this newspaper. During the interview, meeting itself you made a public statement that I am guilty

of conflict of interest in the hearing of the Township Board and persons in the audience.

Your remarks in the presence of the Board and to the reporter for the obvious purpose of publication in the newspaper are completely false, were made maliciously and constitute libel and slander per se.

IN ACCORDANCE with Section 2111 of the Revised Judicature Act of the State of Michigan, I hereby serve notice upon you to publish a complete retraction of this libel within fifteen days after you receive this See LIBEL CHARGE Page 8-A, Col. 1

Orchard Ridge Bldgs. Okayed

The first phase of the proposed \$10 million development of the 147-acre Orchard Ridge Campus of Oakland Community College in Farmington was approved by the College Board of Trustees at a special meeting last week, George Mosher, B-ard chairman, announced.

Seven buildings, comprised of six academic structures and a power plant, make up the first phase of construction at a cost of \$4.5 million and will enable the College to accept 2,000 students at the campus in September, 1968.

ORCHARD RIDGE Campus is located at 1-696 and Orchard Lake Road and will have a total capacity of 4,500 students when completed.

Final development of the campus, scheduled for September, 1969, will include the construction of eight additional structures. There will be a student center, an instructional resources center, a lecture hall, a library, a physical education building and a pool.

Study Action to Improve Cab Service in City

Possible steps that might be taken to improve cab service in the City of Farmington came in for considerable discussion at the regular Council meeting Monday night.

Now being considered is a proposal to allow a second cab company bond plates to operate within the city. At the present time the Checker Cab Co. of Livonia is the only company permitted to operate in the city. Dissatisfaction has been expressed with the lack of service being rendered of late by this cab firm and particularly during the nighttime hours.

At THE COUNCIL meeting two weeks ago, councilmen instructed the city manager to check into this matter and report back.

Manager John Dinan stated in his report Monday night that he had met with officials of the Checker Cab Co. and that they had explained to him that they were not taking steps to correct some internal organizational problems resulting in a decrease in service. Death of one of the heads of the company was given as the reason for the service problems that are now being experienced, Dinan stated.

Learning of the city's dissatisfaction with present service, the Farmington Cab Co., owned by Vernon Foster, has requested that the city change its present policy of allowing only one cab company to work in the city. They have made an official request to the city to issue five cab bond plates to their company to render service in the city along with the Checker Cab Co.

FOSTER TOLD councilmen that he would be in a position to provide 24 hour service in the city and would have new 1965 cabs available to serve all customers. Foster claimed that he has had over 5,000 calls for service during the past 3 1/2 months and has regretted not being able to come into the city to serve them.

The councilmen instructed the city manager and public safety director to check out the matter more thoroughly in the next two weeks and report back to the Council at its next meeting making a recommendation regarding the requests of both the Checker Cab Co. of Livonia and the Farmington Cab Co. for bond plates to operate in the city.

B.C. to Meet With Retailers

The directors of the Farmington Board of Commerce are sending out invitations to retailers in all areas of Farmington City and Township for a breakfast meeting, Thursday, March 25.

The purpose of this meeting will be to discuss with the retailers ways they feel the Board of Commerce can better serve them and also to outline to the retailers ways the board of directors feel they might be able to work in closer harmony with the B. of C.

The meeting is scheduled for 8 a.m. in the dining room at Himmelpach's Restaurant. All retailers are welcome to attend.

On the following Tuesday, March 30, a general membership meeting will be held in the Friendship Room at First Farmington Savings & Loan. Organized music will be offered from 6:30 until 7 with the meeting starting promptly at 7 o'clock. Legal and auditing matters as well as taxes will be the topics of discussion by the speakers.

Meet the Candidates Nights Set



SPECIAL HONORS were extended to Mayor Robert Lindbergh at the City Council meeting Monday night, the last official meeting of the council he will chair. A special plaque of tribute to Lindbergh was presented on behalf of the Farmington Board of Commerce by Bill Conroy. It reads in part: "A tribute to outstanding and distinguished service rendered to the City of Farmington encompassing vision, loyalty, faithfulness and unselfish efforts resulting in a lasting contribution to the community." Fellow councilmen also congratulated Lindbergh on his long service to the city. Lindbergh expressed his gratitude not only to fellow councilmen but also to all city employees for the fine service they had rendered during his tenure as mayor.

Human Relations Council, Jaycees To Sponsor Separate Programs

Murder Trial Jury Verdict Is 'Not Guilty'

A jury of five men and seven women returned a verdict of "not guilty" in the first degree murder trial of Wells S. Herrington, 43, of Farmington. The jury returned its verdict after two and one-half hours of deliberations in the Oakland County Circuit Court of Judge Stanton Dondoro shortly after 4 p.m. on Tuesday, March 16.

Herrington, a Detroit brewery executive, was on trial for the September 16 gunshot slaying of Birmingham dentist Dr. John R. Foster, 41, in Herrington's Farmington West apartment. Foster was attempting to break up a reconciliation between Herrington and his 41-year-old wife, Betty Jean.

JAMES P. LAWSON, the Farmington attorney defending Herrington, presented a case of self defense at the week-long trial which opened in Judge Dondoro's courtroom on Tuesday, March 8. Lawson is a member of the law firm of Lawson and Anderson, 22300 Orchard Lake Road in Farmington. Foster was shot twice with a .28 caliber revolver after he had forced his way into Herrington's apartment, using keys taken from 19-year-old Danielle Herrington, who had driven her mother to the reconciliation and was waiting in a car parked next to the apartment house.

Foster, who had been seeing Mrs. Herrington over a period of several months while she and her estranged husband were separated, had first gone to Herrington's home at 33011 Grand River Avenue in Farmington where he learned Mrs. Herrington was at the Farmington West apartment with her husband.

TESTIMONY was brought out at the trial that Foster had attempted to gain entry into Herrington's apartment by pounding on the door and then returned to the parking lot to take the keys from Danielle. Herrington's statement to Farmington City police was that he had warned Foster See ACQUITTED Page 8-A, Col. 7

Announcements were made this week by two individual local organizations that they are planning separate "Meet the Candidates" night programs prior to the April 5 election when voters will go to the polls to select a state senator for the 14th District and in the City of Farmington three city councilmen.

The first of these special programs will be this coming Monday evening, March 22, under the sponsorship of the Council on the second will Farmington Human Relations

be sponsored by the Farmington Junior Chamber of Commerce and held on Thursday evening, April 1.

The program to be sponsored by the Farmington Human Relations Council, this coming Monday will be held at the Antioch Lutheran Church on 13 Mile Road at Farmington Road and start at 8 p.m., according to John Milhose, chairman of the Council.

THE PROGRAM for the evening will include the presentation of the candidates and a question and answer session of both candidates seeking the 14th State Senate seat—Edward McNamara (Dem.) and Farrell Roberts (Rep.).

Also on the program will be the seven candidates vying for the three seats to be filled on the 5-member Farmington City Council. These candidates are Wilbur Brotherton, John Allen, Virgil Cornwell, Henry B. Forrest, Robert Rogers, Ernest E. Sauter, Jr. and Ralph Yoder.

Mrs. Dale Johnson, program chairman for the Human Relations Council, emphasized the fact that the panel presentation planned was for all residents of Farmington City and Township and expressed hope that a capacity crowd would be in attendance.

"The question and answer period will be the highlight of the evening," Mrs. Johnson stated, "and the majority of the candidates have expressed a willingness to answer all the questions put to them."

The program will follow the format part of the program See CANDIDATES Page 8-A, Col. 8

Let Contract to Raze Elks Bldg.

The contract for the demolition of the Elks Temple (the old Grace Hotel building on the north side of Farmington Road in downtown Farmington) was officially awarded by the City Council at its regular meeting Monday night.

The contract was awarded to the Chisholm Construction Co., the lowest bidder of seven firms seeking to undertake the demolition job, at a bid price of \$2,100. The second lowest bid ran \$100 higher and the five other bids were substantially higher than these two.

The city manager assured councilmen that the company was well qualified to do the demolition work and would carry adequate insurance to protect the city during the course of tearing down the building. He estimated that it should take the company no longer than three weeks to complete the landmark completely removed.

The Elks Club is moving into the old City Hall building a few doors to the west.

Bonds Okayed For Twp Sewers

The Municipal Finance Commission announced last week that it had approved \$300,000 of bonds for Special Assessment Bonds, Series 'I' for the Township of Farmington.

The proceeds will be used to construct sanitary sewers in Special Assessment Districts 22 and 23 in the Township of Farmington. These districts include Meadowbrook Hills, Fairgreen Hills, Golfshire Hills and Coventry Hills subdivisions.

The bonds are payable primarily from a like amount of the future due and unpaid installments of special assessments.

County Report Shows Growth Here Fastest

A report released this week by the Oakland County Board of Supervisors points out that during the past decade the county's population has nearly doubled, reaching an estimated 757,000 people. Oakland County today is the fastest growing area in the Detroit metropolitan region, the report states.

Deios Hamlin, Chairman of the Oakland County Board of Supervisors, enumerated in the report the major accomplishments by county government which have resulted in tremendous growth over the past ten years.

THE FARMINGTON area benefited substantially from county action, such as the accomplishments which served 23 cities, 16 villages and 24 townships, or more than 80 per cent of all municipalities within the county.

Of the 23 projects costing \$42,180,500 undertaken by the county DPW, a total of eight projects directly serve the Farmington area, accounting for nearly 25 per cent of the total amount spent for public works projects.

R. C. Alexander, Director of the Oakland County Department of Public Works, commented that the \$10,911,000 spent on water and sewer projects in the Farmington area speaks well for the "progressiveness of the local government."

See COUNTY REPORT Page 8-A, Col. 2

Name Member to Beautifying Council

Mrs. Glenn Leland has been named to replace Mrs. Harold Brown as the City of Farmington's official representative on the Beautification Council of Southeastern Michigan.

Official action approving the change in official representation was requested in a letter from the Farmington Garden Club was taken by councilmen at their regular meeting Monday night.

Facts Given on C'ville Bond, Millage Proposals

Voters of the Clarencville School District will be asked at the polls on Monday, March 29, to approve a \$3.5 million bond issue for additions and improvements to present schools and an enlarged multipurpose room.

Approval will also be asked on a 4 mill (\$4 per \$1,000 state equalized valuation) increase in the present millage operation levy of the district for school system operations.

Clarencville School officials emphasize that approval of both of these proposals can be given without any increase in the present tax rate of the school district being necessary. New state legislation relative to bonds makes this possible, they state.

The 1963-64 school district enrollment was 3,385 and by the current school year it has increased to 3,674. The enrollment projection by the 1965-66 school year is set at 3,850 and for the 1966-67 school year at 4,025.

A CRITICAL need for more classrooms is expected to be felt by the fall of 1966. Since it takes 18 months or longer to build a new classroom building, work completed, the school officials point out that it is necessary to get started right away.

Skating Arena To Be Proposed

An ice skating arena and outdoor golf driving range will be proposed at the next meeting of the Township Zoning Board on March 25. Rezonning will be requested for two tracts of land at 26551 and 26555 Orchard Lake Road, between 11 and 12 Mile roads, to permit construction of the facilities.

A request for rezoning will also be made for the southwest corner of Orchard Lake and 14 Mile roads to permit construction of a Shell Oil Co. brick retail-style gasoline service station.

REVIEWS WILL BE continued on the proposed Heritage Hills Subdivision on 14 Mile Road from Drake to Farmington roads; the proposed Colony Park Subdivision to be located southwest of 13 Mile and Farmington roads; the 100-acre proposed multiple development, Hunters Ridge, southwest of Orchard Lake and 14 Mile roads; and the multiple development proposed at the northwest corner of Gill and Nine Mile roads.

New City Zoning Ordinance, Map Officially Introduced Monday

The City Council took official action Monday night introducing for official adoption the new zoning ordinance and map for the city. The planning commission's recommendations were approved without question.

It was the culmination of more than a year-and-a-half of study and revision work undertaken by the planning commission and the city's planning consultants in an effort to provide the city with the best possible zoning and zoning controls.

The new ordinance and map, as originally proposed, was actually ready some months back but became entangled in problems because of zoning changes recommended in two or three locations. The most highly controversial of these was the change in zoning recommended by the planners for the 22 acre strip of vacant land along the west side of Farmington Road between Alta Loma and Freedom Drive.

THE PLANNERS' decision last week in favor of retaining this parcel for single-family home development, as vigorously insisted upon by the Alta Loma Homeowners Assn., rather than re-zoning it to permit ERO (education, research and office) development, cleared the last major roadblock.

One possible other roadblock in getting the new ordinance and map introduced and adopted was avoided by an Oakland County court decree handed down earlier.

SOME OBJECTION had been voiced to establishing commercial zoning on the property which the Shell gas station is now located at the corner of Farmington Road and Alta Loma. An opinion given by City Attorney Robert Kelly to the Council Monday night made it clear that the city had little choice but to zone this parcel commercial because of the earlier court decree. The councilmen unanimously accepted the attorney's opinion.

The proposed new ordinance must now be published in its entirety in The Enterprise along with the zoning map as revised before official action on adoption of the new ordinance can be taken.

Spring Term Adult Ed Registration Dates Set

A total of 34 adult education classes are being planned for the Farmington School District for the Spring Term.

New classes proposed to be added this term, if sufficient interest is shown, include gift instruction, creative writing and driver education.

Most of the classes are to be conducted at Farmington Senior High and the locations for classes other than at this school are indicated. The majority of the classes will run from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. but some are during different hours as so indicated.

Registration for classes has been set for Wednesday, March 24, and Thursday, March 25, from 6:30 until 9 p.m. both nights at the adult education office at Farmington Senior High.

A rundown of the courses proposed on the various nights of the week is as follows:

MONDAY

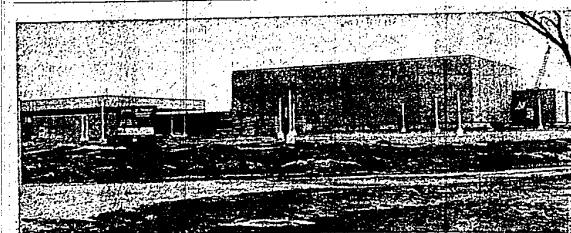
Business English, \$9; Typing, \$9; Woodworking, \$10, 7:00-10:00; Watercolors, \$10, 7:00-10:00; North Farmington High; Spanish I, \$9, 7:00-9:00; Modern Math for Parents, \$9, 7:00-9:00; Reading, \$9; Bishop III (Religion), \$15; The Slims, \$9, 7:00-9:00; Danek Jr. High; and Golf Instruction, \$10, 7:00-9:00; All Star Golf Range.

OFFICE Practice, \$10, 7:30-10:00; Stocks & Bonds, \$9; Arts

Sanitation Problem Aired by Councilmen

City Manager John Dinan reported to councilmen at their meeting Monday night that he had met with the management of the A & P Store and the Tyme Restaurant in the Downtown Center and that they had agreed to cooperate in keeping the areas to the rear of their stores as neat as possible.

Dinan reported that the restaurant had made arrangements to move a burned up by them onto private property across the street and that the grocery chain store's manager agreed to keep milk cases stored inside as much as possible.



THE SISTERS OF MERCY High School campus and provincialate is now rapidly taking shape at 11 Mile Road and Michigan Avenue in Farmington Township. A college will also be developed on the site although the high school and provincialate buildings will not be ready for use this year.