

# Editorial Page

## Negative Or Positive

We're getting more and more concerned, in fact somewhat aggravated, with some of the "negative" talk we have been hearing about business possibilities in Farmington and the chances of this becoming a truly fine community in which to work and live.

A "positive" approach is needed and needed now. What has happened in the past should be no great barrier to what can be accomplished in the future.

True, the Downtown Farmington area is rather "sickly" looking right now and badly in need of a rejuvenation program. It might also be true that some of the shopping centers in other areas in the community are finding business going a little rough right now. But is this any reason to throw up our hands and say it's a hopeless case? We don't think so.

Yes, competition from shopping centers and business districts outside of Farmington city and township is keen. This competition will not be lessened by a lot of "negative" talk.

It is a clear fact, in our opinion, that strong outside competition is a part of the way of business life for all in community as close to a large city like Detroit such as Farmington is. This competition will always remain and continue to get keener as the area grows.

We are confident that most Farmington residents would skip in Farmington and support local business establishments if they could get what they wanted at a price not substantially higher than what they would have to pay elsewhere. Friendly service and convenience are two things which businesses here have to sell and we think many should be selling them a lot harder than they are.

With tremendous growth of the community a substantial amount of business can go to outlying areas and there can still be enough for local concerns to operate profitably. They need only strive harder to capture a small percentage of the new potential customers moving into the area weekly.

Farmington business might well follow the examples set by some other communities with similar problems. We are reasonably certain that Northland center is no less attractive to families in the Birmingham area than it is to many Farmington residents. A considerable amount of money has been and is continuing to be spent in this nearby community, much of it by the merchants themselves, to provide additional off-street parking. Other improvements and "shop locally" projects are being undertaken. Kalamazoo might also serve as an example. The old, out-dated business district there recently took a big venture into the modern tomorrow. A permanent downtown shopping mall was established. Latest word is that most merchants are very well satisfied with the results. It cost them some money, it is true, but it is also bringing some results.

Maybe Farmington is not ready for anything as bold as the Kalamazoo project. But it is long overdue, in our opinion, for positive thinking on the part of every merchant having an establishment here and some united efforts to capture more of the local business.

## Anti-Industry Faction

It is interesting to analyze some of the arguments given against industrial development in Farmington.

One of the most recent ones voiced to us is one which we feel is the most unrealistic. That is that location of a plant or plants here will attract an exceptionally heavy number of people and thus cost local taxpayers more to provide them with the services they will need.

Let's face it, Farmington is growing and will continue to grow until practically every piece of usable property is developed. If some areas were not set aside for industry then houses would soon be going up there. Setting aside some areas for industry, therefore, actually reduces the amount of land that can be developed residentially.

It is a proven fact that land with successfully operating industrial plants located on it yields more in taxes than the same amount of area developed residentially.

The party voicing opposition to industry here to us went to some length to quote statistics on the number of people a given sized industrially developed area would bring with it.

We hate to say statistics don't always paint a true picture but in this case we have to. True, in an isolated community a plant may bring with it nearly all of the workers in that plant and thus increase the population and the services that community would have to provide for them substantially.

But, this is a different case. As we said earlier, the area is going to develop anyway. Furthermore, it does not hold true in this area that a plant brings with it most of the workers in that plant. People in the Detroit metropolitan area travel to their work. We have several friends who work in industrial plants and most of them do not actually live in the community in which the plant in which they work is located.

## Farmington Acres

MARIE J. MILLER  
GR. 6-2059

Fortunate as we are, to have democratic privileges, the least we can do is to make use of them. Being able to vote is the most important of these civil rights. REMEMBER—you are eligible to vote unless you register. Register NOW for all coming elections in the City Hall, 3332 Grand River. It is your vote that will count.

Our heart warmed thanks goes to those who are employed by the City of Farmington, whose job it is to find the paved streets, under all that snow. Give a fine job to make, plowing through it all to make our streets drivable.

Obviously there's just not enough snow here for Mrs. Vera Fisher, who is leaving next week on a trip to Toronto, Canada. She is planning a five day visit with her brother and sister. Hope you won't forget to take your snow shoes Vera!

Mrs. Althea Thibodeau of Grand Rapids, spent the week end with son Neale, his wife Pat and Children, Michael, Bobby and Nannette were thrilled with Grandma's visit.

Lock your doors and windows! There seems to be a most unfriendly and unwelcome visitor dropping in on nearly everyone in the Acres. He comes uninvited and make himself quite at home, staying for a two or three day period. He is, of course, Mr. Flu Bug, a prominent member of the term family. Our hats off to all gentlemen. This day chivalry are the workers in our subdivision have taken time out to push a fringe driver or two out of snow drifts, which at present seem to over populate the citizens.

A courageous three - some braved the snows last Thursday evening to play canasta at the home of Mrs. Kathy Forster. While the winds whistled, Vera Fisher and Kay Hansen won the game from Pat Thibodeau and Kathy Forster. Refreshments were served and fun had by all.

The Women's Civic Club of Farmington Acres will hold their monthly meetings at the Universalist Church on latter end of March. This month's program is a statement made in last week's Enterprise - that a meeting would be held at Farmington Savings and Loan Association. It seems that their hall could not be available on the nights of the meetings. Notices will be delivered to one and all to the time and place of the next meeting.

STAY HOME!! Anyone who would be interested in joining a women's bowling league should contact Mrs. Maren Plouffe - GR-6276.

## CAP Cadets See Air Guard Base

Cadets of the Farmington CAP Squadron had a full day of instruction recently at the Michigan Air National Guard base located at Detroit Metropolitan Airport.

Technicians from the Air Guard explained in detail the workings of the RF-84F photo recon jet aircraft, the type of jet seen over the Farmington area so often. Each cadet had an opportunity to take a look at the controls and instruments of the planes while sitting in the cockpit.

Several hours were spent in the engine room where trained technicians displayed and explained the turbo-jet aircraft engine.

The Farmington squadron will make a return trip to the base in the near future to visit the photo lab. Other trips planned for coming months include the control tower, traffic control center and weather bureau at Detroit Metropolitan airport.

Any boy or girl 14 years or older who would like to be in the CAP would be pleased to hear from Major T. A. Dickinson at GR. 6-2817 for information.

The pocket gopher is one of the few animals that can run backward as fast and as easily as it can move forward.

## The Farmington Enterprise

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WHEN THIS Farmington High School was built in 1918 to replace the original Farmington High that burned. On the right are the charred remains of a building, possibly the old school. The fire engine in front serves as a reminder of the protection the new building will have. This is a familiar sight to the newcomers here as it is the old east end of the Farmington Junior High School. (Picture courtesy of Mrs. Henrietta Adams.)

## West Point Park News

MISS L. A. AULT  
Phone GR. 4-2954

Another affair honoring Mrs. O. R. Ault, visiting here from Fort Pierce, Florida, was a delightful luncheon party, given by Mrs. V. C. Reddy at her beautiful home on Shady-side Avenue. About twenty friends, old neighbors and relatives of Mrs. Ault, who formerly resided in this community were present. A delicious meal was served. Wednesday, March 2nd, was the date.

Mrs. Ault spent this past week as the house guest of her son-in-law and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. A. D. Ault, Brentwood Ave., Farmington.

Four sisters, Mrs. Albert Owen, of Mayfield Ave., Mrs. Ralph Voorhis, of Shady-side Ave., Mrs. A. D. Ault, of Brentwood Ave., and Mrs. Norman Gedig, from Detroit, together attended a luncheon given by Mrs. George Thorne, near Ypsilanti, last Wednesday.

The Kenneth Skow family, of Mayfield Ave., spent last Sunday with Mr. Skow's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Adolph Konopka, in Detroit.

The Edwin Johnsons, Clarita Ault, spent the week-end with relatives in Grand Rapids.

Mr. and Mrs. Howard Middlewood, of Farmington Rd., are grandparents again. A son, Thomas Michael, was born to Mr. and Mrs. Dagrel Middlewood, February 2nd.

Mrs. and Mrs. Bob Soos, from Lansing, were visiting at the home of the former's parents, Mr. and Mrs. William Soos, on Shady-side Ave., Friday.

The Forrest Ault family, of Hubbard Ave., and Mrs. Emerson Ault, of Mayfield Ave., spent last weekend with the Johnsons, near New London, Ohio.

Honoring his 75th birthday, relatives from Holland Mich., visited with Mr. Chas. A. Armstrong and Mrs. Armstrong at the Armstrong home on Mayfield Ave., last Saturday.

Dele Graham, Mayfield Ave., left Wednesday for a visit with relatives in Detroit.

## Total Eclipse Due on Sunday

ANN ARBOR—On Sunday, March 13, early morning sky gazers will see a total eclipse of the moon—the first visible in the Midwest since November, 1892, reports a University of Michigan astronomer.

This total lunar eclipse can be viewed from anyplace in the U.S., weather permitting, says Associate Prof. Hazel M. Loh (Ph.D.). Conditions require the moon in full phase and in direct line with the sun and earth.

At that time the moon in its monthly revolution will pass through the earth's shadow.

## Not Too Dangerous

Hunting is not a particularly dangerous sport. According to insurance statistics, hunting rates seventeen in terms of accidents per 100,000 participants.

On the basis of accidents it is preceded by football, baseball, horseback riding, skiing, boating, skating, swimming and several other popular participant sports.

relatives in Eugene, Oregon.

Mr. and Mrs. Herman Schult, Shady-side Ave., visited at the home of their son, Fred Schult, over in Farmington Twp., Friday. Fred Schult was the victim of an unfortunate traffic accident Wednesday evening. He received numerous painful, but not necessarily serious injuries.

Mrs. Louvenia Manner, from Detroit, the formerly of Shady-side Ave., was visiting with her old neighbors Wednesday.

While their parents attended the Flower Show Monday evening, the grandchildren of Mrs. A. D. Ault, Brentwood Ave., visited with her for a few hours.

The young guests were Bobby Thorne, of Ypsilanti, Phyllis Cathy and David Read, from South Lyon. Ruth Ann Oman, of Brentwood Ave., was also a guest.

Terry McMillin, from Detroit, was calling at the home of his uncle and aunt, Mr. and Mrs. V. C. Reddy, on Shady-side Ave., Tuesday evening.

E. W. Stange, Mayfield Ave., is recovering from a recent illness at the Veterans' Hospital, Dearborn.

## Looking Back Thru The Enterprise Files

15 Years Ago  
MARCH 8, 1935

Red Cross Drive  
Extra efforts are being put into the Red Cross drive, which reportedly got off to a rather slow start.

In an effort to step up the rate of contributions to meet the \$2,000 quota set for this area, Mrs. Joseph DeVincenti, chairman of the drive has requested all residents who have not as yet been contacted by a member of the committee to call her and arrange to make a contribution.

Blood Bank  
The date of the next visit of the Blood Bank to the Farmington area has been set as May 8. Registrations for donors will be taken beginning April 1.

Mrs. Howard Warner chairman of the blood donor service in Farmington anticipates an excellent response to the coming visit of the blood bank as more residents are becoming aware of the acute need for blood plasma.

George Clifford, 3079 LaMar, father of four children, has already donated 12 pints of blood in honor of Richard Goli, a Farmington soldier now stationed in France.

10 Years Ago  
MARCH 9, 1950

Falcons Lose Out  
After winning the first district basketball tournament game over Bentley by the impressive score of 75 to 39, the Falcons went down to defeat in the second game in the second overtime period losing to "Wal-lad Lake 41 to 38."

The Falcons fought an uphill battle all the way and finally caught up to the Vikings at the end of the third period, 28 to 28. Each team scored nine points in the last quarter and the game ended in a deadlock at 37.

A three minute overtime period was played to no avail. Each team scored two points. After a brief rest the teams came back on the floor for the second and sudden death overtime period. The Vikings scored in the opening seconds and ended the season for the Falcons.

Smoke Aschenbrenner was a high man for Farmington with 10 points and Dave Dirmeyer followed with 12.

5 Years Ago  
MARCH 10, 1955

McGehee Ruled  
A resolution requesting the Oakland County Road Commission to take action on improving McGehee Hill near Farmington Road between Shawwauee and Ten Mile Road was unanimously adopted by the county council Monday night.

The baby daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James Rhone, Shady-side Ave., is convalescing from a severe ear infection and tonsillitis.

Since Thursday, Mrs. Albert Owen, Mayfield Ave., has been ill with flu.

George Carnell, of Parker Ave., is a patient seriously ill in Redford Community Hospital. Birthday cake appeared again in Neighborhood Sunday School Sunday, the 28th. Another teacher had a birthday.

The cake was ceremoniously served at the close of the session.

Kenneth Skow, Jr., who had his hand badly fractured a few weeks ago, is ready to have the cast removed.

William Soos, Shady-side Ave., who, for some time has been a patient in Henry Ford Hospital, is expected to return home soon for further convalescence.

Goodwill Industries collected household discards in this area again Tuesday, March 8th. Call Miss Lora Ault, GR. 4-2954 to arrange for a pick-up.

## Business News

### Bell Hour Has Top American Music Slated

Some of America's favorite music will be presented on the Bell Telephone Hour at 8:30 p.m. (EST) Friday (March 11) over NBC-TV in a program entitled "Main Street, U. S. A." The fall-hour concert will star Howard Kessel, Carol Lawrence, Connie Francis, the Hi-Lo's, Roger Williams, Eddie Hodges, and the American Ballet Theatre, with Donald Woolf and the Bell Telephone Orchestra.

Keel, singing star of musical "Annie Get Your Gun" and "Show Boat," and in the Broadway production of "Saratoga," will be host. He'll also be accompanied on a singing tour of "Main Street" by Eddie Hodges, child star of the Broadway hit musical, "The Music Man."

Miss Lawrence, who appeared with Keel in "Safer a Role in 'West Side Story,'" will sing songs from across the land.

Miss Francis, now only 21, will sing a medley of popular arrangements. She began her TV career at the age of 12 on Arthur Godfrey's Talent Scouts.

She started making records three years later, and in 1958 and 1959, was elected "best female vocalist" by the nation's disc jockeys.

The Hi-Lo's, young male quartet that reached success on records, and have appeared on television, in theaters, concert halls, and supper clubs during the last three years, will join Miss Francis in popular arrangements.

Williams, whose piano interpretations have landed him on major TV programs, will offer his piano renditions with vocalists and the orchestra. Completing the program will be the American Ballet Theatre, dancing "Gypsy" and "The Music of Johann Strauss."

The next Bell Telephone Hour show will be a repeat of the Science Series program, "The Alphabet Conspiracy," which explains the language of the world. It'll be seen at 6 p.m. (EST) Sunday, March 20, over NBC-TV.

John Clappison Sells Insurance  
Phone GR. 4-5111

## DRUG FACTS

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It was also pointed out that McGee Hill and the Bridge across the Rouge River so as to avoid the sharp turn at the point, and to build a bridge sufficient to serve the anticipated future increase of traffic.

The council pointed out that Ten Mile Road has recently been improved between Powers and Farmington Road and that a public school is now located on Ten Mile and a new Catholic School is being planned near the corner of Ten Mile and Powers, all of which will greatly increase the traffic on Farmington Road.

It was also pointed out that McGee Hill and the Bridge across the Rouge River was at present a great traffic hazard. This section of Farmington Road is a connecting link between the downtown area of the city and the northern part of the city and township.

Out of Tournament  
Both the Farmington Falcons and the Clarenceville Trojans lost out in the first round of Class B tournament playoffs.

The Trojans lost to Bentley 75-52 and the Falcons were knocked off by Redford Union, 62-49.

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## FASCINATING FACTS ABOUT NATURAL GAS

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