Special Clean-up, Fix-up Paint-up Edition

The Farmington Enterprise

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Swap of Elks, City Buildings Appears Likely

An exchange of the old Grace Hotel building which the Farmington Elks Club now occupies and the presently vacant old city hall building a few doors to the east on Grand River Avenue now appears quite certain, it was indicated in a brief report made at the city council meeting Monday night.

Private negotiations for an exchange of the two buildings and property they are located on has been under discussion for some time now between officials of the Elks Club and city officials.

DETAILS regarding the exact transaction that has been worked out have not as yet been disclosed but it is understood that there are several considerations involving much more than just a swap of the two properties.

It was reported at the council meeting that the building committee of the Elks Club had agreed to the plan of property exchange which city officials are agreeable to but that the proposal must still be put to the general membership of the Elks Club for approval.

No information was given as to when the Elks membership might be voting on this matter.

IT IS UNDERSTOOD that if the building exchange is completed the city plans to tear down the Elks Club building and provide an access route from Grand River Avenue to the rear area of the other business establishments on the north side of Grand River.

Hopes are to develop a substantial amount of additional off-street parking to the rear of these store buildings in the downtown business section and get them all occupied with good permanent tenants.

THE MANGLED WRECKAGE of the car which carried one 18-year-old youth to his death and resulted in injuries to five other persons is pictured above at the scene of the two-car collision last Saturday night in Farmington Township. The accident happened at the intersection of 13 Mile and Middlebelt roads. It was the fourth traffic fatality recorded in Farmington this year.

Two-Car Crash in Twp. Kills One, Injures Five

Charges of negligent homicide have been filed against an 18-year-old Redford Township youth who was involved in a two-car accident at the intersection of 13 Mile and Middlebelt roads in Farmington Township last Saturday night, May 2, which claimed the life of a passenger in his car.

Under investigation by township police is Ronald R. Brant of 12159 Laverne St. in Redford Township. Brant's car was headed south on Middlebelt at 9:45 p.m. on Saturday and collided with an eastbound car on 13 Mile Road.

DAVID E. MILLER, 18, of 11231 Karen Street in Livonia, was the passenger in Brant's car killed in the accident. Miller was dead on arrival at William Beaumont Hospital in Royal Oak.

Miller was one of three passengers in Brant's car. He was seated in the right rear seat and was thrown from the car on its impact with the other vehicle. He suffered a broken neck and skull fracture.

The other two passengers in Brant's car, Sherry Ann Barnes, 17, of 26313 Southwestern in Redford Township and Betty Sue Rae, 17, of 11319 Dixie in Redford Township, were treated at William Beaumont Hospital for injuries.

INJURED IN THE other car were the driver, Shirley Susanne Fox, 17, of 1202 Greenleaf Drive in Royal Oak, and a passenger with her, Edward R. Fagg, 19, of 813 Ellen Street, Royal Oak. Both Miss Fox and Fagg suffered serious injuries.

Miss Fox told Farmington Township Police she saw Brant's car approaching the 13 Mile Road intersection at a high rate of speed and increased the speed of her own car at the last moment in an attempt to avoid a collision.

Brant at first told police he had stopped at the red flasher

See FATAL ACCIDENT Column 7, Page 8A

Kiddie Rides in Center Okayed

City council approval was given Monday night to a request from the Downtown Center Corporation for permission to hive kiddie rides in the parking lot area from Tuesday, May 19, through Sunday, May 24.

The council approved the request at the reduced fee rate of $10 per day but with the stipulation that they would allow nothing other than kiddie rides. They made it clear that they wanted no games of chance such as ball throwing games or the like.

Some councilmen indicated that they did not like the idea of having the attraction operating on Sunday but took no action ruling out the Sunday date.

Blood Bank Set Here for May 19

The semi-annual appeal for blood donors is again being made by Mrs. DeWitt Goodrich and Mrs. Earl Lathrop, chairman and co-chairman, respectively, of the Farmington Community Blood Bank.

"There are only 13 pints in the bank at the present time," stated Mrs. Goodrich, "and we need at least 200 pints to carry us through the next six months."

Donations may be made on Tuesday, May 19, at the St. Francis K of C Hall, 21900 Middlebelt Road between the hours of 1:45 p.m. and 7:45 p.m. No appointment is necessary.

'Man of Year' Honors Given John W. Anhut

John W. Anhut, prominent Farmington innkeeper, has been named the University of Notre Dame's "Man of the Year" in Detroit for his business leadership and alumni activities.

Anhut, who was chairman of Michigan Week activities for Farmington last year, operates the Botsford Inn at 28000 Grand River Avenue in Farmington. He is also a member of the Farmington Kiwanis Club.

A MEMBER OF Notre Dame's Class of 1944, Anhut is a past president of the Notre Dame Club of Detroit and the Detroit Hotel Association.

The citation he got stated:

"The University of Notre Dame and the Notre Dame Club of Detroit, Michigan, hereby recognize as the Notre Dame Man of the Year for 1964 John W. Anhut, who, by years of generous service and wise counsel to the Notre Dame Club of Detroit, has earned its sincere appreciation.

"Who, as club president and again as chairman of major events such as Universal Notre Dame Night, has brought honor to its club and to Notre Dame.

"And who, by his impressive leadership in his own industry has earned the respect and admiration of his associates and his community.

"Therefore, he is awarded this 16th annual citation by the Notre Dame Club of Detroit."

Council Wants Crackdown on Truck Traffic

The problems caused by large trucks using Grand River Avenue in particular but other major roadways in the City of Farmington as well came in for some rather lengthy discussion at the regular council meeting Monday night.

The discussion was prompted by a letter of complaint written to the council by Mrs. Philip B. Day of 33611 Oakland Avenue. She stated that she was appalled by the vast amount of dirt coming into her home through the windows and attributed much of the problem to the large number of dump trucks loaded with dirt using Grand River.

Mrs. Day felt that an ordinance should be adopted requiring all such trucks to have their loads covered with tarpaulins.

DURING THE discussion which followed the reading of Mrs. Day's letter, it was the general feeling as expressed that such an ordinance could not legally be put on the books since it would be a restraint and interference of legal operations on public right-of-ways.

Individual councilmen did express concern over the large number of trucks using Grand River through the city and with the problems resulting; however, they felt that greater police enforcement action should be exercised on this matter.

Councilman Hugo Peterson was very critical of the speeds trucks are traveling at on this main artery road. He stated that he felt that trucks which were dropping dirt and other debris on the roads in town should be ticketed under provisions of the city's anti-litter ordinance.

MAYOR ROBERT Lindbert expressed agreement with Peterson as did Councilmen Sandy Brotherton and Howard Thayer. The mayor voiced particular concern over the dangers caused by speeding trucks.

Maurice Foltz, director of public safety, was instructed to have his force begin a stricter enforcement on the speeds of truck traffic and also to have them start ticketing drivers who have their trucks improperly loaded.

Car Pound to Open May 15

City Manager John Dinan reported to councilmen Monday night that he had been informed by the Bezesky Brothers Auto Parts Company that they should have the combined city-township car pound in operation by the fifteenth of this month.

Dinan felt that if the pound in the western portion of the township can be in operation by this date the city should start a drive, in connection with the clean-up campaign, to get all abandoned cars removed from service station properties.

Councilmen were in full accord with this plan. It was pointed out by Councilman Howard Thayer that the situation at the Pure Oil service station where the city police order most cars hauled is getting worse and worse. Junk cars should be hauled away from this station as soon as possible after the pound is put in operation, he said.

Area Clean-Up Campaign Being Kicked Off Today

Both Farmington's city and township governmental bodies are lending their full support to the fourth annual community clean-up campaign sponsored by the South Farmington Township Civic Association which is being kicked off today, Thursday, May 7, and will continue through May 30.

The township board and city council have taken official action proclaiming the month of May as clean-up, fix-up, paint-up month in the community and are asking that all citizens make an all out effort to get not only their own property cleaned up but also vacant property around their homes or business establishments.

SHOWING MORE than just verbal support, township and city officials have made arrangements to have special trash pickups during the campaign. All trash that can be hauled which is placed out at the roadside at the prescribed time will be picked up, officials asserted.

Arrangements have also been made with a local junk dealer, to get junk cars and scrap metal hauled away.

Separate stories appearing in the special Clean-Up, Fix-Up, Paint-Up Section of this week's newspaper give complete details regarding the times that special pickups will be made in both the township and city.

While stories and information as well as advertising related to the special clean-up campaign are concentrated in the one section of this week's paper, the whole paper contains interesting stories and information for you. The advertisements throughout the paper all contain special bargains and buys you won't want to pass up.

THIS SPECIAL Clean-Up Edition of The Farmington Enterprise, which was first published four years ago in cooperation with the South Farmington Township Civic Assn. for the southern portion of the township only, has now grown greatly in scope and interest to include the whole community.

DOING THEIR PART to keep Farmington clean are Township Supervisor Curtis H. Hull (left) and City Manager John Dinan who signaled the start of the month-long Clean-Up, Paint-Up, Fix-Up campaign now underway in the community in brief ceremonies staged Friday, May 1.

Vehicle Safety-Check Program Set May 15,16

One of the first vehicle safety-check programs planned in southeastern Michigan is slated to get under way in Farmington on Friday, May 15, and will run through Saturday, May 16.

The Farmington area vehicle safety-check program will be staged at three different locations throughout the community, Farmington Road at Grand River, Farmington Road at Twelve Mile Road and Grand River at Orchard Lake Road. Safety-check lanes will be open from 12 noon to 8 p.m. on Friday, May 15, and from 9 a.m. until 6 p.m. on Saturday, May 16.

Motorists driving in the Farmington area at those times during the two-day safety-check program, May 15 and 16, are urged to pull in for the free inspection of their vehicles.

FARMINGTON Mayor Robert Lindbert urges all motorists to "Join the Circle of Safety: Check your car, check your driving, check accidents. Even our best drivers are poor risks if they are driving cars with bad brakes, worn tires, or other neglected items," says Mayor Lindbert.

Mayor Lindbert added: "This voluntary Vehicle Safety-Check gives every motorist a chance to do his part in making his community a safer place to live.

"Equally important in our Safety-Check is the challenge to all drivers to check their conduct behind the wheel. Both safe cars and safe drivers are needed to check accidents."

Check lanes will be set up at three shopping centers in

See SAFETY-CHECK Column 4, Page 8A

Twp Re-Zoning Hearing Set

A public hearing on proposed zoning changes on property situated on the south side of Grand River Avenue east of Middlebelt Road has been set by the Township Zoning Board for its next regular meeting on Thursday, May 28, at 8 p.m.

Marie H. Aldrich, owner of the property, seeks to have the present portion of the parcel zoned for business use enlarged. It will require a change from residential zoning on the north 120 feet of one parcel and the remaining portion or two-fifths of a parcel on which commercial business is now being conducted.

Official notice of the public hearing appears elsewhere in this week's issue of the paper.

Changing Twp. Vote Precincts

Township Clerk Floyd Cairns announced this week that changes in the township's voting precincts are now in the process of being worked out by him.

He indicated that he expected to have the changes he deems necessary at this time to comply with state law regarding the number of registered voters that are allowed in each precinct completed and ready to be submitted to the township board for approval at the regular meeting this coming Monday night.

One new voting precinct will be added, Cairns indicated, however, that this was not going to require a complete change in the boundaries for all the precincts but only minor changes in one area.

The township clerk also announced that the voting place for those living in Precinct 1 in the township would be changed from the old Town Hall building in downtown Farmington to the Gill elementary school on Gill Road between 8 and 9 Mile roads. The old Town Hall building was sold recently to the Farmington Masonic Lodge and is now in the process of being remodeled.

Plan Workshop For Teachers On 'Drop-Outs'

Farmington elementary teachers will meet at East Junior High School Friday, May 8, at 8 a.m. to learn more about the reasons that children leave school. The program has been developed with a view to developing techniques of "Detecting Educational Fallout."

Miss Grannis McCarty, principal of the Gill Elementary School, said, "We feel very fortunate in having obtained Dr. George Brown and Mr. Clifford Bireson to speak to us at this workshop. Both of these men have had experience as teachers and administrators of elementary schools. They have also taught in the teacher education field. They have done a considerable amount of action-research on the question of the 'school dropout.'"

Another feature of the workshop, it was pointed out by Miss McCarty, will be the presentation of different facets of developing a positive self-image by panels of elementary teachers, principals and consultants.

"The children of Farmington will be the beneficiaries of the understandings that our teachers will gain from this workshop," Miss McCarty concluded. (See picture on Page two, Section B.)

TRIGGERED BY FORREST

Council Has Heated Discussion On Farmington Center Addition

Everything went along very smoothly and in routine fashion through most of the regular city council meeting Monday night until it came time to bring up miscellaneous items of business.

At this point Councilman Henry Forrest brought up the subject of the city's recent action in allowing the Farmington Center Corporation to construct four new stores extending to within two or three feet of Grove Street and some really heated discussion followed.

Forrest stated that he was vigorously opposed to the action that had been taken in allowing the corporation to construct the addition as it is now going up. He made it clear that he wanted a letter which he had directed to the city manager outlining his reasons for opposing the construction now in progress made a part of the official city minutes.

THE PROBLEM which had to be resolved, in connection with the expansion of the center which is now taking place has to do with whether or not the corporation should be permitted to add as much square footage as it now is. A protest had been voiced at the time footings were starting that approximately 2,000 more square feet of building area than called for in original plans for the total center development was being added.

What had to be determined was whether or not the open areas at some stores could be legally determined to be a part of the total footage for the center allowed. Attorney Howard Bond, with offices in Pontiac, was retained by the city to render an opinion and his opinion was that as the city's ordinance on this matter reads, the open areas should not be considered a part of the total development.

THE FIERY councilman objected to the fact that this matter had been discussed and resolved in private sessions rather than at regular, public council meetings. Forrest further implied that he felt Attorney Bond's opinion was not really his own but was dictated to him by a city official.

Forrest warned that the action taken in allowing the corporation to build as it now is could result in serious problems for the city in time to come.

Those owning older establishments in the quadrant where the center is agreed to pay special assessments for the city parking lot adjoining it on the basis that no more than 77,000 square feet of center stores would be built, he said, and they may now refuse to pay the balance on the special assessments they owe. Allowing stores to be built as close to the Grove-Orchard Street curve makes this an extremely dangerous corner, Forrest stated, and he feared many serious accidents would result.

A MOTION was made by Forrest to revoke the center's building permit recently issued but it died for lack of support.

Councilmen Sandy Brotherton, Hugo Peterson and Howard Thayer all took strong exception to Forrest's remarks.

Brotherton pointed out that the danger, if any, which is being created at the Grove-Orchard Street junction point could not be eliminated even if only one new store was constructed since the corporation or anyone else has the right to build a commercial building to its property line under present city regulations.

A motion was made by Brotherton and supported by Forrest that the council be provided with a plot plan to show exactly where the lot line is at the Grove-Orchard Street junction point to assure that no portion of a building is extending beyond the point that it should. The motion carried unanimously.

Grant Women Thursday Use of Lighted Field

A group from the Farmington Women's Softball Team appeared before the city council Monday night to work out details for use of the lighted field at the city park.

The three women at the meeting, all members of the local team, raised questions regarding which nights they would be able to use the lighted field, what lighting regulations would be and whether the city would lime the field.

The council granted the women's ball team use of the field on Thursday nights at no charge but stated that they did not have the personnel to take care of lining the field and that this would have to be the team's personnel responsibility.

Games will start at 8:30 or 9 p.m. and a schedule will probably be announced next week.

Introduce Change In City Zoning Map

An ordinance to amend the city's zoning map changing the zoning on the 1.2-acre of property owned by DeVere Fleming on Freedom Drive just west of Farmington Road from single family residential to R-1-O (one family office district) classification was introduced at the regular council meeting Monday night.

Councilman Henry Forrest, cast the only "no" vote.

UNSIGHTLY CONDITIONS which exist around the community are the aim of citizens supporting the Clean-Up Month campaign now underway throughout Farmington. The owner of the lot pictured above has considerable work to do before his yard can be an asset to the neighborhood. Residents should go all out during the month of May to make sure their property isn't one of the detractors from a good, well-kept neighborhood.