The Farmington Enterprise

"A Continuing Journal Of Progress" · Established 1888

P.O. Box 435 · 23623 Farmington Road, Farmington · GR. 4-6225

RUSSELL S. STRICKLAND, PUBLISHER · MICHAEL J. KILEY, MANAGER - EDITOR · WINONA WOODS, ASST. MANAGER - BUSINESS

THOMAS F. ISLEY, NEWS EDITOR · DONALD R. STEWART, ADVERTISING MANAGER · VICTOR HOWARD, PLANT SUPERINTENDENT

Member of MICHIGAN PRESS ASSOCIATION · NATIONAL EDITORIAL ASSOCIATION

Represented Nationally by AMERICAN NEWSPAPER REPRESENTATIVES

In Our Opinion . . . .

Our Hopes for the Community for 1964

This is the time of year when all of us are making our own personal resolutions for the new year and are also doing a little looking back and reflecting on the right and wrong moves we made during the year now coming to a close.

What the new year will hold in store for the business people and individual residents of Farmington City and Township is a question we don't have the answer to. The national authorities, however, are predicting another good year for the country as a whole and, if they are right, we should share in this prosperity.

We do have some strong hopes for the community for 1964 and feel it will be a better place in which to live and work if a major portion of them can be realized.

These are our hopes:

1. That citizens of the community will start showing a greater interest in the affairs and problems of the community as a whole. We need more people who will first become better informed on local matters and then show greater interest by attending local government meetings and expressing their views.

2. That businessmen in the entire community will see more clearly the need for working together in an effort to keep a greater percentage of Farmington business in Farmington. The "go-it-alone" attitude of far too many business people of Farmington in the past has hurt the community badly in reaching its maximum business potential.

3. That even greater efforts will be put forth in 1964 to attract more good industrial and commercial enterprises here to improve our poor and still sliding tax base. We would personally like to see the City and Township work in greater harmony on this project rather than both governmental bodies going their own way in this effort.

4. That an active movement will be started to get a community swimming pool in Farmington. We feel that it would be best to have such a year around pool at one of the high schools but that it could also be provided in a separate building and under the supervision of the YMCA or some other like organization.

5. That a serious effort be started to provide satisfactory walkways other than road right-of-ways for children to walk on in traveling to and from their schools. We feel that such walkways would only be needed along the major roadways and that taxpayers' money should be spent to provide them.

6. That the anti-blight and anti-litter ordinances that we now have in effect in the community be enforced to the fullest and that an even more vigorous campaign be waged to get unsightly buildings and all other unsightly conditions in our community cleaned up.

7. That our elected officials in both the City and Township will move with extreme caution in granting re-zoning requests and approving plans for new subdivision developments. The developer has the right to reasonable use of his land but present property owners must be protected against developments which are going to downgrade rather than upgrade our community as it presently exists.

8. That there will be even greater harmony between school, township and city governmental officials in working for the common good of the community. In 1963 big strides were made in this direction and we sincerely hope they will be continued.

9. That the service and social clubs and organizations of the community find it possible to better coordinate their programs and projects so that the greatest possible amount of good community improvement can be accomplished.

10. That citizens of Farmington get behind a county-wide movement in the works to provide for an Oakland County community college complex with three or more branches.

11. That community officials will see the need for providing more recreational facilities and activities for the youth of our community other than those offered through the school program.

★ ★ ★

Your Help Needed to Do Better in '64

At this time each year we, like all other business operations, take stock of what we have accomplished during the past year and lay plans for what we hope to accomplish during the coming year.

Looking back, we can naturally see where we could have handled certain matters in connection with the publishing of your newspaper a little differently than what we did. There was some news left out which probably shouldn't have been and there were some stories written which probably could have been handled a little more thoroughly and made more understandable to our readers.

All in all, however, we feel that we did a relatively good job of keeping our readers informed on what was going on in the community. We also feel that at least some of our editorial comments stimulated some thinking for the good of the community.

One of our objectives for 1964 will be to report in even more depth than we have in the past what is taking place in the community. Another will be to push even harder editorially for community improvements and things which will make this a better place in which to live.

As in the case of nearly all community newspapers, we will have to depend on your willingness to contribute news to us (and prior to the established deadlines) for the bulk of the stories that go into our paper. We can give personal coverage only to the major governmental and community meetings or activities which take place.

The one point that we feel we must continue to repeat is the fact that the amount of news we can include in the paper is directly dependent on the amount of advertising we are able to procure. Like all papers, from the largest to the smallest, a certain percentage of advertising in relationship to the amount of news that can be carried in the paper must be maintained.

Subscriptions alone cover only a very small percentage of the amount it costs to put out a newspaper each week.

While we pledge ourselves to give the best and most thorough local news coverage we can in 1964, we hope that you will understand that how well we will be able to do this will be directly dependent upon how much advertising support the newspaper receives.

You can be a big help to us in 1964 and the years to follow by supporting the local merchants who advertise with us and letting all merchants know that you look for their advertising in your local paper.

Looking Back in the Files

5 Years Ago
JANUARY 1, 1959

Armed Bandits

Two armed bandits held up the Grand Halsted Service Station at 8 Mile Grand River Monday morning as the proprietor, Angelo Jamie of 28252 Shiawassee Road in Farmington arrived to open for business. The two thugs ordered Jamie to hand over $910, four day's proceeds, and to remain in his car until they made good their getaway.

Township Primary

The slate is ready for Township voters in the February Primary Election. The only races presented on the slate are among office seekers vying for a place on the Republican ticket. All of the Democrats are running unopposed.

10 Years Ago
DECEMBER 31, 1953

Kiwanis President

Lloyd Smith this past week was elected President of the Farmington Kiwanis Club. He will be inducted into his new office in the annual installation ceremonies planned this coming week.

Exchange Club Head

Lee Stevens was inducted as the President of the Farmington Exchange Club this past week at the semi-annual installation of officers.

Adult Education

Four Adult Education classes will be offered in the Farmington District Schools this winter for area residents.

New Grade School

A delay of several weeks is expected before the new Westbrook Elementary School can be opened for classes

15 Years Ago
DECEMBER 30, 1948

Speed Control

A speed control zone has been approved and will be established around Farmington or Grand River and the Grand River Cut-Off, Poline Commissioner Kenn Loomis announced this week.

Rubbish Pick-Up

The Farmington City Clerk Harry Moore, announced this week that rubbish pick-up would be expanded to include the Floral Park area beginning January 7.

Dwelling Fires

Two fires which swept Farmington area dwellings this past week left families homeless and reduced a cheery Christmas for them. A trailer and a home were damaged to the extent of $2,500 in the two separate fires.

At Home in Old Homestead

MARY CHECKETTS · 474-5705

Old Homestead is growing by leaps and bounds these days with two new residents joining us just prior to the holidays. Ray and Beverly Goeman, nephew of Gus Goeman of Lyman Road, moved recently into their new home at 35942 Quakertown Lane near Lyman Rd.

Moving into their gorgeous home on 35350 Old Homestead Road during the past week is Jack and Mary Ann Eckerly and their two sons Mike, 17 years old, and Pat, 16, a two-year-old daughter Polly and Jack's mother, Mrs. Elton Eckerly, who is making her home with her son.

BIRTHDAYS celebrated this past week were few. Linda Braun, Eric and Helen Braun's only daughter, became 16 years old on Tuesday, December 17.

Janice Craig, Joe and Yvonne Craig's youngest daughter, Quakertown Lane, with the help of a playmate and her parents and grandparents celebrated her fourth birthday on Wednesday, Dec. 18.

John Weston, eldest of John and Doris Weston's three children, observed his 40th birthday on Thursday, December 19.

Happy Birthday Linda, Janice and John, from all of us.

Harry and Kay Steele, 36579 Quakertown Lane, celebrated their 16th wedding anniversary December 20. Congratulations.

I have been requested again to please ask all of you who own pets to please keep them either confined in a pen or tied up and not let them run loose. Put yourself in your neighbors place. Would you like another person's dog to come to your home and ruin your shrubbery? Tip over garbage pails and scatter tindans and such all over your back yard? Leave messes for you to clean up? We all know our dogs behave beautifully at home and never seem to do anything bad, but for some odd reason, nobody knows why, they always seem to prefer to go to the other person's property to do their duty and rummaging. Try to be considerate of your neighbor all year round, not just at this time of the season, please keep your pets at home. I know a lot of people would be happy if you would.

The walls of our house are still standing although I thought there for a second the roof just might lift off into orbit. If the kids had as much fun as the squeels indicated, they had a whale of a time. I hope they did. I tried to count the noses, and they're a lot easier to count you know than ears or feet. I think I had forty-seven here last Saturday afternoon for the children's Christmas party. I'm sure that all forty-seven didn't eat any dinner that night either. Approximately sixteen dozen cookies disappeared someplace and there wasn't any chairs to hide them under either.

I wish everyone could have seen the scramble when the two piñatas broke. It was really something to behold. Unless you had actually seen it you wouldn't be able to imagine. I don't think, the scene when they all started diving for the toys and candy . . . which they promptly started to chomp away on. There were 500 toys of different sorts and several hundred candy bars in the piñatas so I hope each got a bag full to take home.

Just before everyone started to get into their snowsuits, we cut down six bunches of balloons and watched them scramble for them too. Why none broke in the melee, I'll never know! What an experience!!! Wooeee!

Again I want to thank the women who helped me out. Without them I really and sincerely don't know what we would have done. I hope I don't forget anyone, please forgive me if I do. Ruth Shobe, Ann Plazibat, Rose Gruenwald, Jo Bouffard, Betty Gazvoda, Ed Zegler. Whoops! Mistake! Nope, he was the only brave man in the sub-during enough. He came over for an hour to show the cartoons before he retreated to the safety of his own four walls. I think, though, the coffee I made to serve the grownups gave him some courage. I know it almost ate the inside of the pot out! I guess I wasn't paying any attention to what I was doing those last few moments before the party started.

Mary Ellen Orvis, Lorry Zegler and Paula Gruenwald deserve an extra pat on the back. I REALLY DON'T know what I would have done without them in the morning and during the party. They blew up 60 balloons and helped me finish decorating the house on Saturday. We finished about 10 minutes to 1. They helped with the bow suits and boots and led the children towards the end of the party in a couple of games.

We've had three Christmas parties for the younger set in a week, at three different homes, covering all ages from 1-8 years of age, and about 111 attended. Pat Morgan, Eliza-

both Orvis and myself all experienced the thing in common that you as parents should know about. Not ONE thing was broken, not one child misbehaved to our knowledge, and no one smoked or tried any rough stuff. Every parent whose child went to the parties should be as proud as punch of their child. We just can't get over the wonderful behavior of everyone of them. One example: I had a cookie house I had made for my boys that was sitting on top of the TV set and NOT ONE PIECE OF COCONUT WAS DISTURBED. And I had the 2-7 years olds! I was absolutely amazed! Who says that the children nowadays aren't good They don't know what they're talking about.

I've enjoyed giving the kids parties and their behavior made such an impression on me that I'd do it all over again for them. What a wonderful bunch of kids.

Don't forget the Holiday open house at the Gazvoda's house tonight from 8:30-11 p.m. I hear there's going to be loads of hors d'oeuvres among which are to be Swedish meat balls and sausages. The donation will cover the ingredients of the punch that is to be served. See you tonight.

Avoid Winter Traffic Jams

These tips—heartily endorsed by the International Association of Chiefs of Police—on how to avoid winter traffic jams were issued by the Farmington Township Police Department this week:

Alter your driving schedule, if possible, to avoid rush hour traffic.

Consider the possible benefits of an alternate route which bypasses known areas of traffic congestion, slippery hills, and other obstacles and danger points with which you may be familiar.

DRIVE WITH GREAT caution to avoid skids which could result in an accident. Accidents, in addition to being very unpleasant, and sometimes tragic, can tie up traffic quicker than anything.

Use proved traction devices in bad weather. Winterized tires can't be installed at a moment's notice, perhaps, but a set of tire chains in the car trunk can provide instant traction when needed.

Allow a safe distance between cars. Otherwise, if the fellow ahead gets into trouble, you're in trouble, too — and a traffic jam is born.

OBEY ALL TRAFFIC laws. They were established to prevent confusion and traffic tie-ups.

In extremely bad winter weather, if your trip isn't really essential—stay home.

"We sincerely appreciate the cooperation of everyone in holding serious traffic jams to a minimum so far this winter," Farmington Township Police Chief Irving Yakes said.

Meeting Set Jan. 10 By Senior Citizens

The Farmington Senior Citizens Social Club will hold their regular meeting on Friday evening, January 10, at 7:30 p.m. in the social hall of the First Methodist Church of Farmington, Grand River Avenue at Warner Avenue.

A speaker from the American Association of Retired People will be present to explain what other senior citizens are doing throughout the country. A social hour will follow the program.

Anyone in need of transportation is asked to call Mrs. Lee Ratliff of the Junior Chamber of Commerce Auxiliary, GR. 4-0464.

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 1,000 words.

Township Citizens Committee Proposed

Members of the
Farmington Township Board
Farmington, Michigan

Mrs. Avery and Gentlemen:

Over the past few years I have had numerous opportunities to appear before you to express my views on various issues. Often I have been critical, occasionally complimentary. I sincerely hope, however, that you consider my actions in the same manner that you would like me to consider yours — a desire to maintain and improve the quality of our community. I trust that you will accept this letter in that light.

During the seven years I have lived in Farmington and the five years that I have been attending meetings of your Board, I have noticed one significant failure which I feel can be fatal to any business whose "market" or responsibility is—or should—be growing. This is systematic planning for overall and orderly growth. Be certain that I do not assess this failure to any negligence, malice or "plot" on the part of the Board, for I recognize that in some areas—Industrial Development and Zoning, for example — work is being done. But in the most significant area, that of government structure and organization, there has been no systematic and concentrated study or planning action. This failure renders all other planning actions vulnerable to attack and possible defeat.

I therefore respectfully suggest that it would be appropriate for the Township Board to appoint a Citizens' Advisory Committee to study our organizational needs and recommend possible courses of action to assure that this Township does not suffer fragmentation into small, economically insufficient units. This is a real danger, and as growth continues, its likelihood increases.

In making this suggestion, I do not presume to know the results of such a study. However, to assume that either the status quo or some radical change would serve the community without such a study is dangerously presumptious.

Such a Committee could well be organized along the lines of the one established by the School Board to assist it in its endeavors, that of a number of study sub-committees and a central committee composed of the chairman of the sub-committees and key, "staff" type members. Clearly such a committee should have its membership selected from among the most interested and able members of the community, regardless of political or "regional" affiliations. It should also have available to it, on a limited basis, the services of persons such as the Township Attorney, Auditor, Police and Fire Chiefs, Engineer, etc., and, if possible some secretarial help. It should also include among its members at least one of your number, and representation from the Zoning Board, Board of Review, and Industrial Development and School Board Committees. A total of perhaps 15 members appears to me to be reasonable.

The organizational details of the committee could best be left to the members, but could include sub-committees in areas such as Public Safety, Taxation, Roads, Zoning, Forms of Government, Recreation, Utilities and Communications, Health, and Intergovernmental Relations, and it would be the responsibility of the main Committee to correlate the sub-committees studies and render recommendations to the Township Board.

By appointing this type of Citizens' Committee, you would allow deliberate and thoughtful study of our future needs, without the pressure of impending fragmentations. I sincerely hope you will see fit to meet this Community need. I would be happy to discuss with you, individually or collectively, any other thoughts I may have in this regard.

My best personal wishes to all of you for a happy holiday season.

Sincerely,
Martin E. Gluckstein,
Ph.D., P.E.

Army Training For P. Ryerson

Pvt. Patrick A. Ryerson, son of Mr. and Mrs. Raymond C. Ryerson, 33018 Slocum, Farmington, completed field artillery training as a cannoneer at the Army Artillery and Missile Center, Fort Sill, Okla., Dec. 13.

RYERSON received instruction in artillery communications, ammunition handling and storage, loading artillery guns, howitzers and heavy machine-guns.

The 23-year-old soldier entered the Army in August 1963 and completed basic training at Fort Knox, Ky.

Ryerson is a 1959 graduate of Farmington High School.

Michigan's upper peninsula has been a leader in promoting the sport of skiing since the Civil War, according to the Michigan Tourist Council.

The first ski club in the United States was organized at Marquette in 1863 and the National Ski Association was founded at Ishpeming in 1904.

Michigan ski resorts boast a total of 20 chair lifts, 42 T-bar and J-bar lifts, 19 pomalifts and over 350 rope tows, according to the Michigan Tourist Council Winter Sports Guide. Snow-making machines are in operation at 28 of the 85 winter sports areas.

The highest genius is willingness and ability to do hard work.
—Robert S. MacArthur

Winter vacation travelers to Michigan winter sports areas totaled a record 200,000 during the 1962-63 season, according to the Michigan Tourist Council. They created a $20 million winter recreation business for the state.

I never did anything worth doing by accident, nor did any of my inventions come by accident.
—Thomas A. Edison

Bill Conroy Does Too!
Phone GR. 4-3511

REYNOLDS QUALITY WATER SOFTENERS

REYNOLDS All Fibre-Glass Fully-Automatic Water Conditioners (Patented) with our LIFETIME GUARANTEE against Rust, Corrosion, and Leaks will soften more water and remove more iron, for less operating cost, than any other water softeners ever made.

Your present softener can probably be converted into a Reynolds Automatic.

Investigate—No obligation.

Factory sales, Installation, and service (We service all makes)

REYNOLDS Water Conditioning Company

Michigan's oldest and largest water conditioning company . . . since 1931

12100 Cloverdale, Detroit 4, Mich. WEbster 3-3800

Priced Right and Fully Guaranteed

YEAR-END SPECIAL

OFFER ENDS JANUARY 8th

Motor Tune-Up

V-8's ONLY $15.00 Parts Included

6 CYLINDER $11.00 Parts Included

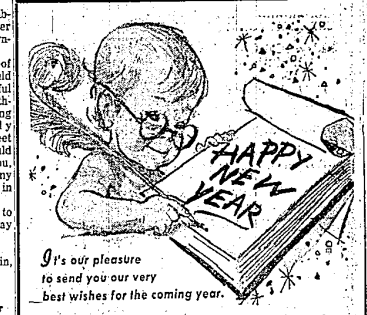
• WE USE ORIGINAL EQUIPMENT PARTS •

C. & G. AUTO ELECTRIC

28730 GRAND RIVER GR. 4-9292

Between Middlebelt and Eight Mile Roads

OPEN: Mon. - Fri. 8 to 7 • Sat. 8 to 2



It's our pleasure to send you our very best wishes for the coming year.

LAVERTY Insurance Agency

30760 Grand River GR. 4-6933

Happy New Year

1964

May your New Year glow with happiness and prosperity, and may each day be brighter than the one before. Our very best wishes for a joyous 1964.

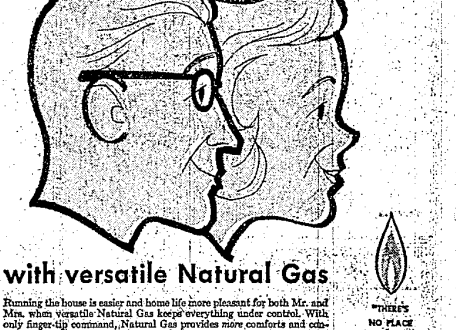
* * * * * *

Beginning our 44th year of service to residents of this area, we look forward to continuing to serve you through 1964 and hope that it will be a happy and prosperous year for you.

FARMINGTON DAIRY and Himmelspach DINING ROOM

33219 Grand River Farmington GR. 4-2161

Home means MORE to BOTH heads of the house...



with versatile Natural Gas

Running the house is easier and home life more pleasant for both Mr. and Mrs. when versatile Natural Gas keeps everything under control. With only finger-tip command, Natural Gas provides more comforts and conveniences, more free time, more space for living and more economy.

Natural Gas, teamed with attractive, modern Gas appliances, is an ideal fuel for the home. Silently and economically it fills the house with clean, even warmth all winter; does a fine, fast job of cooking, refrigerating food, drying clothes, consuming trash and garbage, heating water—all automatically. And the compact size of modern Gas units gives today's gas-equipped home more space for living.

Natural Gas provides carefree comfort, pushbutton convenience, and household economy . . . what else is there?

"THERE'S NO PLACE LIKE HOME" . . . THE HOME WHERE NATURE'S MAGIC BLUE FLAME DOES THE WORK!

CONSUMERS POWER COMPANY

LIVE MODERN FOR LESS WITH...NATURAL GAS