

# The Farmington Enterprise

"A Continuing Journal Of Progress" Established 1888

P.O. Box 435 23623 Farmington Road, Farmington GR. 4-6233

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## In Our Opinion

### Some Scenic Community Interruptions Needed

The appearance of Farmington is constantly changing.

It is something that we don't have to tell you, though, whether you've lived in the Farmington community only one or two years or for several years. Like most other residents or business people in a community, you probably made it a point to drive around the area before deciding to hang your hat here, and have done so since from time to time.

Many of those areas which were quiet wooded areas or just fields when you first moved around here are now more and more being going and the first half building report figures for the city and township that we published last week bring this fact clearly home.

A rather sad thought that has before and again passed our mind now is whether or not we are going to have rather close mass of buildings and houses with very few beauty spots and public activity areas left to be enjoyed by the general citizenry when totally developed or whether something can be done to prevent this from happening. Nearly all who have lived here for years and moved here only recently did so to get away from a totally stifled way of living.

We have never been in favor of standing in the way of progress but we do feel that some steps should be taken right now to keep a few nature and beauty spots in our community to break up the monotony of total development. Small park areas set aside by develop-

### An Old Story Keeps Repeating Itself

To us the greatest mystery of our time is how so many people can complain about taxes while so few people show any interest in the manner in which their tax money is spent.

The poor turnout of citizens at the public hearing on the Farmington Public School District's operating budget for the 1964-1965 school year leaves us only two conclusions: Either everyone is completely satisfied with the way the school board plans to spend \$5,474,052; or everyone is completely disinterested and/or pre-occupied. We sadly fear that the latter conclusion is more nearly correct.

In our opinion, there are only a handful of citizens—those present at the hearing—who have any right to complain about school operations for the coming year; yet, if past experience is any indicator, there will be many more citizens who will voice complaints in the future. We feel that no one has the right to criticize results if he has shown no interest in methods or planning.

Editorials similar to this one have been written so often that we could almost "hold the type" and re-run a stock "disappointed in the turnout" kind of editorial following every important public hearing held in the community.

Our duty, as we see it, is to inform, report, and comment—which we have done to the best of our ability in the past and will continue to do in the future. In addition, we are going to try one more way of bringing important governmental meetings and hearings to the attention of the public.

For some time now we have been publishing a community calendar which is compiled for us by members of the Jaycee auxiliary. Beginning soon, we are going to include regularly the meeting dates of the various governing bodies of the community.

This addition to the calendar will cost us something in time, effort, and space, but we will consider it all well-spent if we can create even a slightly greater amount of interest among the citizenry in attending these important governmental meetings and hearings.

## Looking Back in the Files

5 Years Ago JULY 15, 1959	10 Years Ago JULY 15, 1954	15 Years Ago JULY 14, 1949
<b>Sprinkling Hours</b> The city's water problems are still serious and new lawn sprinkling hours were ordered at a special meeting of the city council Tuesday night. The council tented to keep the tank from running dry so often.	<b>Parking Control</b> An ordinance establishing a parking control zone on U. S. 18 in the vicinity of the Ten Mile Road intersection was adopted by the Township Board at its regular meeting Tuesday night.	<b>School Board</b> D. Gerald Domes was elected president of the School Board of the Farmington Township School District at the Board's organizational meeting Monday night.
<b>Delivery Men</b> Officers from the Public Safety Department were dispatched around the city this week to deliver water can notices door-to-door for residents.	<b>To Read District</b> Charlie Larson, Past Commander of Groves-Walker Post 348 of Farmington, was named as the 25th American Legion District at the annual election convention.	<b>Big Events</b> Big events in the past week at the playground recreation program attracted a large crowd of youngsters. At the special holidays in the Farmington Area Recreation Commission summer program was a field trip to the Detroit Zoo on Friday and a horse show tournament on Thursday.
<b>The Three P's</b> The Farmington Township Board passed ordinances this week controlling pumps, gills and pools (sumpless pumps, gravel pits and swimming pools).	<b>School Building</b> Progress on the construction of three new elementary school buildings and a new gymnasium were the topics of conversation at the Board's meeting Monday night.	<b>Highway Fatalities</b> Two persons were killed this past weekend in Farmington in automobile accidents. The fatalities occurred in a head-on crash of two cars on Grand River Avenue near Brookdale Avenue on Saturday.
<b>New Principal</b> Lawrence Gagnon, a teacher in the Grose Pointe school system, has been named as a principal-teacher position at the Longacre Elementary School in Farmington.	<b>Back to Normal</b> In contrast to the busy Fourth of July holiday week in Farmington, the city police department enjoyed a well-deserved relief from the traffic jams and returned to routine duties around the community this past week.	<b>Softball League</b> The Junior High Softball League of the Farmington Township was held from Monday through Friday. The team leading the circuit.
<b>Complie History</b> The Farmington Public Library is currently collecting information pertinent to the history of Farmington.	<b>Hottest Day Yet</b> The mercury in the thermometer soared to the mid 80s on Monday to set a new temperature reading yet recorded in 1954.	<b>Traffic Light</b> According to the State Highway Department, it will be at least another two or three weeks before a regulation traffic light is installed at the Grand River Cut-Off and Farmington Road.

## PUBLIC LETTER BOX

Letters submitted to the Editor for publication must be signed. Names will be held open for 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.

### Kendallwood Subdivision Celebrates Fourth of July with Colorful Parade

Saturday, July 4, 1964 was the 18th anniversary of the adoption of the Declaration of Independence, and in Kendallwood a Fourth of July Parade which generated so much enthusiasm that we can do almost nothing else but defer to that same Saturday, July 4, 1964, as the "First Annual" Kendallwood 14th of July Parade.

TWO HUNDRED paraders, or thereabouts, turned out to celebrate the anniversary. And because of the enthusiasm this year we expect about twice that number next year. For the parade, the stirring march of John Phillips Sousa blared away. And when did you ever see so much red, white and blue? We had Paul Revere on his trusty steed, Betsy Ross making our first flag with the thirteen stars in a circle (who ever said thirteen Liberty Bells, two versions of the Declaration of Independence, the Spirit of Liberty and many, many others. We had a ball, from age 2 to 82.

SIXTY-ONE PRIZES were awarded for decorations and costumes. We had eight cases of pop on hand and about 300 hundred balloons were passed out. Pat Beutler also provided string for them, but our string for hot air balloons, ever, we are pretty sure of being able to get helium next year and then the youngsters can get hot air balloons. The strings attached or send them on high.

The floats, costumes and decorations were terrific. Down at the assembly area for the parade, just before it was over, the crack of ten, a great many of us were just about floored at the artistry, imagination and spirit of the parade. The parade was a great success. The number of paraders was also overwhelming, about thirty to one hundred percent more than we expected, and this would also make it very difficult for the judges. We didn't get the judges we expected. I remember we didn't expect, I remember philosophizing somewhat in the vein of "Oh, well, nothing tried, nothing gained."

Experience, the great teacher, was to turn out giving more than the usual quota of lessons that day, but the often high tuition cost wasn't so bad, for we had ourselves a day to remember.

WE HAD PRIZES ranging from bobcat sets, surfboard, volleyball set, Monopoly games, diving outfit, and bird mist nets, down to jump ropes and finger paints, but in view of the terrific decorations, and unexpectedly high number of paraders, we decided to be a miracle if every parader received appropriate recognition by way of a prize. The judges, however, decided on suggestions which will greatly improve the accuracy, speed and orderliness of next year's judging.

After almost all of the prizes were awarded Saturday at the end of the parade, a tiny youngster came up to the flagpole. Crying, the kid hadn't won a prize. One of the judges, a quizzical, selected something from the dwindled pool and put a prize in those tiny hands. Indeed, it was Judge New Year, contributions promising there will be consolation prizes for all.

CONTRIBUTORS to the festive occasion were many. The paraders, and those parents and others who assisted them, made truly marvelous contributions to the proper celebration of the Fourth of July in the old spirit. In that old spirit? You could say that it was better than the old way. Not just because it was a safe and sane Fourth without fireworks, but because we had far more audience participation than existed in the parades and displays of yesteryear.

That audience participation factor is important, for it not only creates more fun but it is also a more effective way to pass on from one generation to the next the ideals of freedom and democracy set forth in the Declaration of Independence.

Parents helping their youngsters with costumes, thinking up patriotic themes and otherwise helping on festive decorations for our country's birthday were helping not just their own children, but all children in Kendallwood 1, to achieve a well-rounded appreciation, both intellectual and emotional, of

## Scouts Undergo Extensive Pre-Jamboree Training

(Editor's note: This is the second in a series of articles on the National Boy Scout Jamboree, serving as the counterpart for the Farmington Enterprise are Kim and Norm DeCourcy, Brian Pollins and Randy Strick.)

In our second article about our trip to the Boy Scout National Jamboree at Valley Forge, Pa., we your correspondents, would like to tell of our Pre-Jamboree Training.

About a year ago to this day, the news of the Jamboree was brought to our attention: those who were interested registered. As the months went by, the three Jamboree Troops were formed, the leaders selected and training courses were set up. We met with the other Scouts of the Clinton Valley Council who were to be members of our contingent.

(Correspondent's note: We regret the omission of two Farmington Scouts from the Jamboree area, Eric Johnson and Terrence Tala, who had been, will also be members of Jamboree Troop 51.)

The weekend of June 27 was

## To Run for St. Representative From 64th Dist.

John L. Bain, a resident of Farmington Township, has announced his candidacy for State Representative on the Democratic ticket in the 64th district — cities of Farmington, Lathrup Village, Keego Harbor and part of Southfield and Grosse Pointe Woods of Farmington and West Bloomfield.

Bain, a seven-year resident of Farmington, lives at 2200 Springfield with his wife, Barbara, and two children, John and Jeffrey. Bain, 33 years old, was born in Detroit, Michigan, he graduated from Cooley High School in 1949.

HE EARNED 20 university degrees — in business administration and law by attending night school for nine years in addition to holding down a full-time job with Sun Oil Co. The degrees came from Wayne State University in 1951 and the Detroit College of Law in 1954. He recently passed his bar exam and was admitted to the practice of law.

Bain served two years in the U.S. Army and was stationed in Berlin, Germany, behind the Iron Curtain.

He is active in the Farmington Democratic Club where he serves as membership committee chairman. Bain is a past member of the Young Democrats and has been a delegate to state Democratic conventions. He is a member of Delta Theta Phi, legal fraternity.

## Specialist D. Held, Helicopter Repairman

Specialist Four Donald J. Held, 21, son of Mr. and Mrs. Ralph A. Held, 33308 Alta Loma Dr., Farmington, completed a seven-week multi-engine helicopter repair course at the Army Transportation School, Fort Belvoir, Va., July 8.

He entered the Army in September 1962 and completed basic training at Fort Knox, Ky.

The school graduate attended Ferris State College in Big Rapids, Minn., where he was a member of the ROTC.

stop signs and traffic lights, and get them installed when FIRST needed. Let's not wait until somebody "gets killed" at "that corner." And one very small job, please, Mr. Road Commissioner: Send out a man to change the timer on these KILLER LIGHTS in Farmington Township from part-time to full-time operation and end this deadly confusion. It'll only take a minute.

The Observer

Editor's Note: We wonder if the Road Commission in its "care quest" gives any consideration to the large number of motorists who would ordinarily be counted, but drive out of their way intentionally to avoid these dangerous intersections?

## More Sacrifices

To the Editor:

Three more sacrifices on the altar at 12 Mile and Middlebell for the flasher light. Are these lives really sacrificed for traffic safety? Did it really have to be so? Could it have been prevented?

Let's see. Why are these flashers at 12 Mile and Orchard Lake and 12 Mile and Middlebell only part-time flashers and part-time green-red? A call to the Road Commission in Pontiac reveals that they have a "policy." Gals have to make cars, so long and other things. And we just don't have them. Can you satisfactorily explain to the little child who asks when Daddy is coming home?

The same policy applies to most traffic signs according to the road commission in Pontiac. This may seem small if we have to wait until "somebody gets killed" before we get a better light sign put in place. I say let's look ahead. Protect the need for speed limits,

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