

Damage Is Extensive:

Fire, Fire Everywhere in Farmington Area

A rash of fires plagued the Farmington area in the past seven days. Damage was extensive, but there were no serious injuries.

The two hardest hit sites were in Farmington City, at 33413 Oakland, and at 29051 Robinwood. There was also an annoying conflagration at the Farmington Township Dump, on

Halstead Road between 10 and 11 Mile Roads; and a brush fire threatened two Township homes.

Both of the Farmington house fires took twelve men and two engines to extinguish.

Far greater property damage and possible severe personal injury in the Oakland

fire were prevented by the quick action of the firefighters, and the calmness and discipline of the occupants.

The fire broke out at 1:30 a.m., Thursday morning. Roger Lemieux, the home-owner, was

sitting downstairs. His wife Virginia, and their four children—Scott, seven and a half; Janice, six and a half; Suzanne, four and a half; and Carol, two

and a half—were upstairs sleeping.

The fire started in the couch, which was in the southeast corner of the front room. It burned fast, and there was a lot of smoke. It burned through the wall, and started to burn through the upstairs wall.

Virginia was awakened by the smell of smoke. She

grabbed the baby, and, speaking in a soft voice, told the other children to go down the stairs ahead of her. They matter-of-factly obeyed, and marched safely out of the house.

Her husband, in the meantime, was trying to call the fire department. In the attempt, he

received burns on the right lower part of his back. The first fire-fighter to reach the blaze was Pm. Carl Varner, in a car. Next came Acting Sgt. Richard Miller, in a Mack Fire Engine.

Varner and Miller went to work using water from a booster line. The fire was already in

flames. They called for more help. They have since been commended by Chief Maurice Foltz, for their quick and effective action. Foltz was the next to arrive. Nine more officers were soon there. They were Detectives William Garden and Donald Youles; Lt. Al Van Dell; Sergeant Jay Harrison and Robert Deadman; and Patrolmen Glenn Harding, Dan Byrnes, and Ronald and Alan Watson.

They went at the blaze with a two-and-a-half inch line attached to a hydrant. So successful were they that the fire was confined to the living and dining rooms.

The damage to the interior, however, was very great. The Lemieuxs are staying at the home of Mrs. Lemieux's parents. (Continued on Page 16B)

Walter Proves a 'Maverick'

In voting against final approval of Franklin Ravine Subdivision, Trustee Byron Walter interrupted the pattern of unanimity with which the Farmington Township Board of Trustees generally approaches issues.

Walter's dissent came at the Board meeting on Monday, April 26. The subdivision in question is situated on the east side of Middlebelt, north of Ten Mile Road. The developers are D. E. Munro, and Jack and Sheldon Rose.

Walter argued that in the Township's planned-unit-development lots were reduced, but residents were compensated by having recreation areas set aside within the subdivision. In the case of Franklin Ravine, he said, the subdivision was set aside for recreation was a deep ravine—not suitable for recreation. This argument (Continued on Page 16B)



ARBOR DAY, was celebrated in Farmington, on Thursday, April 22. It occasioned a tree planting ceremony on the lawn of the City Hall. In the center Mrs. W. M. Caldwell, representing the

Farmington Garden Club. Doing the honors with her are (from left to right) City Manager John Dinan, Mayor Wilbur Brotherton, Councilman John Allen, and Mayor Pro Tem Howard Thayer.

Farmington Township Resident Killed In Flint Auto Crash

Max Beck, 29, of 22016 Treadwell, Farmington Township, an engineer with the Chevrolet Division of the General Motors Corp., was killed in a car accident in Flint, Wednesday night, April 21. He is survived by his wife, Jean, and their three children, Michael, five; Nicholas, three-and-a-half; and Lisa, two-and-a-half.

A graduate of the General Motors Institute in Flint, Beck was a specialist in material handling. As such, he had been called to Flint from an assignment in Tarrytown, New York.

On the evening of the accident, Beck participated in a dinner-meeting with a group of people, including Clyde Perkins, president of a company with whom Chevrolet was dealing. After dinner the group drove to the Flint Airport. After dinner, Beck and Perkins went for

a ride, while one of the people in the group was driven to the Flint Airport.

Enroute to the Airport, the

driver of the Thunderbird in which they were driving attempted to pass a truck in a no-passing zone. She drove head-on into the path of another car.

Perkins as well as Beck was killed. The driver is in the hospital.

Tom Nolan, chairman of the Republican Party in Farmington Township, was in Flint on business. After the fatality, he drove Beck's car back to Michigan.

Beck was active in the Forest Park Home Owners Association and the Farmington Area Jaycees.

Each year, the Farmington Jaycees have a scholarship program, whereby each year they give \$300 to \$350 to the area teenager who shows the greatest musical talent. The money goes toward sending the youngster to either Michigan State University or Interlochen. Beck was in charge of the (Continued on Page 16B)

Luxury Subdiv. Just Too Dense For Zoning Bd.

The Farmington Township Zoning Board meeting on Wednesday, April 22, could not see itself clear to rezone the area of Rockdale and Orchard Lake Road, in order to allow the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 4033 to enlarge its building. To do so it decided would cause the entire area to go commercial. The Board is seeking a different way to permit the enlargement.

This decision was followed by a public hearing on Hunter Ridge, 75 and 25 acre parcels on 14 Mile Road and Orchard Lake Road. This aroused considerable controversy.

It began with an impressive and highly detailed presentation by developer Reston—one that represented two years work on the part of the developer. Hunter Ridge, he said, will be a very high level subdivision. It will include an inn, a club which will be open 24 hours a day, and tennis courts.

But Rosenhaus ran afoul of the density requirement. The maximum, according to the current Township code is 14. The request therefore has been tabled for reworking April 29.

The request of the Shell Oil Co. for permission to construct a gas station on Orchard Lake Road and 14 Mile Road was rejected. The Board did not deem the site appropriate for such an establishment.

The request of the Children's Hospital of Michigan for rezoning that would permit it to expand its Grosse Pointe Nursing Home passed without controversy.

Touchtone Dialing Arrives

Touch-Tone service, which permits callers to tap out phone numbers on buttons instead of twisting traditional dials, will be introduced in Farmington today, Wednesday, April 28, by the Michigan Bell Telephone Company.

The monthly charge for Touch-Tone service is \$1.50 a year for residential customers and \$2 a line for business customers. A one-time \$5 installation charge is made for both types of service.

"The principal advantage of the new service is speed," Brown said. "With the new pushbutton phone callers can tap out a phone number in two to five seconds, compared with the normal dialing time of eight to 14 seconds."

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"The need for the gradual introduction is because major equipment modifications—and in most cases additional installation—must be made in central offices before the new service can be offered," Brown said.

"The modifications and installations enable central office switching equipment to handle both the traditional dial signals and the

musical tones of Touch-Tone."

Pushbutton telephones, available only in color, come in a variety of models for both business and residential customers. There is no color charge for

the Touch-Tone instruments. Also offered is a new compact wall phone, designed especially for Touch-Tone service.

Brown said a new dial tone was placed in operation on Jan. 23 to prepare for the

Touch-Tone service. The new tone, somewhat lower in pitch than the present signal, was adopted to provide a uniform signal that is compatible with both pushbutton and dial telephones.

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More Angry Parents Decry Student Busing

By JOY STINSON
Last Monday evening, for the second time in two weeks, the Farmington Board of Education was confronted with a group of parents angered by transferring their children to a different elementary school next September.

Representatives of the Greenacres Forestbrook Hills and Brookhills Subdivisions read a formal protest regarding a recent decision to transfer approximately 85 elementary children from their area from the Highmesadown school which they now attend to Middlebelt school next September. The Board decided to maintain its position.

The parents charged that this will be the fourth more their children have made in five years. Some said they have attended five schools in six years and still others four schools in four years.

The parents argued that they were being discriminated against because they were a

small area and that the school system has failed to take their children into consideration when setting boundaries.

Approximately 30 signatures of residents in the areas accompanied the formal protest which stated that "at no time did Superintendent Gerald V. Harrison state an adequate reason for moving the same children this many times."

The protest further read: "After viewing the charts set up, it becomes apparent that we (the three subdivisions) are always going to be shifted around. Mr. Harrison implied that it was likely that

we would be moved again." The Board blamed a growing community and a rash of subdivisions sprouting up all over the area as their reasons for the frequent moves and "to keep the children on full day sessions."

The parents were assured by their Board that the children would be left at Middlebelt school as long as possible but refused to change their newly set up boundaries.

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School Administrators Get Two Year Pay Rate

At the regular Farmington Board of Education meeting Monday evening, a new salary schedule was adopted for the administrative staff.

For the first time, a two-year schedule was proposed and accepted.

Superintendent Gerald V. Harrison will receive \$20,000 for the 1965-66 school year with a \$1,000 increase the following year.

Both assistant superintendents, M. Van Ameyde, and Read, will receive \$15,250 for 1965-66 and \$16,100 for 1966-67. Salaries for Byron Oliver, administrative assistant, and Minnie Zielke, director of elementary education, have been set at \$13,950. All five of these people's salaries are arrived at by bargaining rather than following a set schedule as with other personnel.

The administrative salary schedule which affects all other administrators, has been set up with a direct relationship to the teacher's salary schedule. A beginning administrator's salary will start at the third step in

the teacher's salary schedule. This is multiplied by a weighted factor which recognizes the administrative staff.

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16 Year Old Beats Knife

Romano's Pizzeria, 23333 W. Nine Mile Road in Farmington, has a 16 year old employee who is hard to bluff.

At 2 a.m. Sunday morning, April 26, two Farmington Township youths came into the Restaurant for pizza. They were too late.

One of the youths—18 years old—was not only hungry but under the influence of alcohol. He was also carrying a switchblade. He threatened to use it.

The 16 year old employee was not impressed. He spotted the 18 year old two years and a knife. And he threw him out.

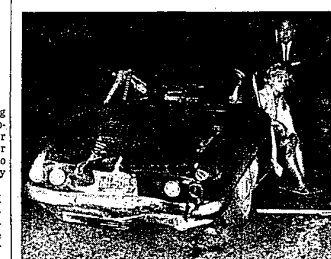
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MAKING JOINT PLANS for the Memorial Day Parade which will be held in Farmington on Monday, May 31, are these officers of the area's VFW and American Legion Posts. Seated from left to right: Chuck Currie, Senior Vice Commander of Groves Walker American Legion Post #346; the Post's Commander, George Griffin; Jim Kouse, Com-

mander of VFW Post #4033; and Joe Gibbons, Chairman of the joint VFW-American Legion Parade Committee. Standing from left to right: Frank Barber, Assistant Chairman and American Legion Coordinator; and Major Robert Smith, Assistant Chairman and retired Adjutant General of Michigan's 6th Army Corps.



BRUCE DUKE, of Farmington Township, is seen here giving aid to Lucille Kern, also of Farmington Township, while waiting for an ambulance to take them to William Beaumont Hospital, after a three car accident, on Orchard Lake Road and Fifteen Mile Road, Thursday evening, April 22. Duke and his wife Peggy were also injured.

Car Accident Injures Four

Four Farmington area residents were injured in a three car collision, on Orchard Lake Road, at 15 Mile Road, at 10 p.m., Thursday, April 22.

A car driven by Russell Vopni, of Birmingham, struck the rear of a car driven by Walter DeMatia, 32555 Grand River, Farmington. His car was forced into the rear of the car of Bruce Duke, 2714 Forestbrook Drive.

DeMatia, Mrs. Lucille Kern, of 28129 Grand Duke Drive, in Farmington, and Mr. and Mrs. Duke were all taken to William Beaumont Hospital for treatment of injuries. DeMatia was treated for contusions and facial lacerations; Mrs. Kern for lacerations of the hand, and arm, a torn muscle, and a head wound; Mrs. Duke for muscular strain.

They were returning from an organizational meeting of 19th District Republicans.



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