

Much Offered in the Way of Education

With the opening of the school doors in our community for the start of another regular school year it's a very good time for all of us to take a long, objective look at just what kind of an educational system we are developing locally.

A little more than ten years ago, Farmington was behind the eight ball with a shortage of school classrooms and nothing to look forward to but more and more classrooms being needed and more and more expenditures of money being necessary to keep improving school facilities and equipment.

School officials didn't throw up their hands and say we can't do it because an ever diminishing tax base due to the lack of a balance of industrial and commercial development with residential growth. They chose instead to put their shoulders to the wheel and plan for meeting the ever increasing need. Then they went out and told all of us as taxpayers in very realistic terms what these needs were and we responded with the tax dollars to meet them.

Now we have more than an average public school system. Our schools are no longer just being used the nine months of the regular school year.

Farmington has developed a good summer school program and the adult education program is continuing to be expanded. Through our school system, a co-op training program with local industry and commerce has been developed and special training programs are being offered for children who are slower than normal at various age group levels. The special education training program that has been developed in Farmington in cooperation with the county

board of education is one of the finest. Use of our school library facilities during the summer months seems to be catching on and hopefully more and more areas will get their libraries open during the summer months in the future.

Our parochial school system is being broadened also. Our Lady of Sorrows and St. Paul's Lutheran have been providing good educational programs for years. St. Fabian's Catholic Church will be opening school facilities soon and very likely St. Alexander's too, in the not too distant future.

Now the Farmington area is beginning to broaden out at the higher education level as well. Mercy College will soon be opening its doors at its modern new facilities off Middlebelt Road between 11 and 12 mile roads. Construction will also be started soon on building at the Orchard Ridge College site as a branch of the Oakland Community College District. Two years of regular college training as well as special technical and vocational training programs will be offered at this new local college campus.

Farmington citizens and taxpayers can and should be justly proud of the fine educational facilities and systems being developed in our community. It's costing us a fairly substantial sum of money each year, but we can't think of a much better way in which this money might be spent.

There are many reasons why Farmington is developing into a better and better community in which to live and ranking high among these reasons is the fine educational system being developed here.

Fencing Everything Isn't the Answer

There is a saying that goes: "Good fences make good neighbors!"

This may well be, sometimes; but in the case of the requirement currently under consideration by the City Planning Commission that would make it necessary to fence all substantial sized backyard outdoor swimming pools, we don't think it would.

Far too often, it seems, the cure-all way suggested to solve all neighborhood problems and alleged hazards has been to put a fence around them. Some hazards can be dealt with successfully in no other way and the permanent, large swimming pool below ground level and almost always filled with water is very likely to be one.

When it comes to asking a homeowner to fence in a three or four foot high portable swimming pool, however, with another four or more foot high fence, then the logic just doesn't seem to be there. Any kid with a little bit of ingenuity would likely find a way to get over the fence as easily as the edge of the portable swimming pool.

The manufacturers of large portable

pools have provided the essential physical requirements to safeguard against toddlers accidentally falling in.

A measure of responsibility still rests with the owner of such a portable pool to take the necessary precautions to make sure ladders are removed when the pool is not in use and put the cover over the pool when it is unattended even for short periods. During extended periods of absence he has an obligation to drain the water out of the pool.

A property owner must have concern for the safety of neighborhood children on his property equally as much as for his own children.

But, to ask him to fence an above-ground, portable pool, which already has a wall around it to hold in the water, seems unreasonable.

Even though the expense for the fencing might be relatively small, we are sure that a square fence around a pool tank with water wouldn't add aesthetically to one's yard.

This increased safety precaution, if any would be provided, doesn't really seem necessary to us.



REPORT from LANSING

State Representative

Raymond L. Baker

ELECTION LAWS AND POLITICAL ORGANIZATIONS

Among the unprecedented number of bills considered by the 1965 Michigan Legislature by date of introduction dealing with elections, political party organizations, and the right of civil service employees to engage in political activities.

Fortunately, a goodly number of Democrat proposals to inject partisan politics into the area of elections by wresting control from respected government officials and placing it in the hands of political parties, by a return to the "spoils" system for state employees, and by major changes in political party organizations — either failed to secure passage or were voted upon reaching the Governor's desk. On the other hand, there were many issues which received bipartisan support and which represent significant achievements in the area of elections. Among the laws which did pass were bills to:

ALLOW Michigan voters who move from the state and fail to qualify in time to vote in presidential elections in their new state, a vote by Michigan absentee ballot; also allow voters who move into Michigan just prior to a national election to cast their presidential ballot here.

PROVIDE standard petition form to clarify and simplify some of the petition requirements and to remove provision that petition circulators must have their signatures notarized.

PERMIT absentee voter ballots for persons over age 70 and allow emergency ballots to be issued to persons unable to get absentee voter ballots before deadline because of an emergency.

REQUIRE political candidates filing fees in lieu of non-instanting petitions to file at least 72 hours before the petition filing deadline.

AMEND the drain code to specify a four-year term for drain commissioners.

SET APRIL 10 of this year as the starting date for terms of township officers elected last November, except justices of the peace who take office July 4.

PROVIDE for printing names of candidates for township offices on the state election ballot.

PROVIDE that in all townships, candidates for township offices shall be nominated at primary elections rather than by caucus, as now is done in about half of the townships.

REQUIRE serial numbers of metal seals used in sealing voting machines, ballot boxes, and ballot bags to be recorded on the official certificates in all poll books.

EXEND terms of present third class school board members which expire in 1965, 1967 and 1969 until their successors are elected in 1968, 1968 and 1970 respectively.

AUTHORIZE use of new automatic voting devices by cities and townships in local elections, for experimental purposes, before the legislature prepares detailed legislation covering new-type voting machines.

PROVIDE election details and specify terms of office for Detroit common pleas court.

Judges wherein candidates shall now file with the city clerk rather than the secretary of state. If nominating petitions are used, signatures of not less than one-half of one percent nor more than 2 percent of the number of registered voters are required.

VALIDATE dual membership on intermediate and local boards of education. Measure covers those who continue to hold office either by election, re-election, or appointment — until such office becomes vacant under the law.

CORRECT confusion over lengths of current terms of county auditors. Terms are extended through December 31 of even years, with auditors then to be elected in the same manner as other partisan county officers.

SPEED UP vote tabulations on election day by providing for separate counting of absentee voter ballots — starting before the polls close.

REQUIRE paper ballots to be placed in sealed bags before storage in ballot boxes after counting.

REDUCE minimum number of signatures on nominating petitions for school board candidates in registration school districts from 50 to 20.

SPECIFY election dates for additional circuit judgeships approved this year.

OUTLINE election procedures for two or more adjoining school districts to form a community college district jointly.

PROVIDE that county drain commissioners shall be elected for 4-year terms, starting with the 1968 general election.

Bills vetoed by the Governor included a repeal of the two-year voter registration bill passed two years ago and replacing it with a four-year registration law; a measure requiring city and township clerks to appoint special registration assistants from lists provided by the political parties; a bill to permit Sunday and holiday voter registrations; and a bill requiring election inspectors to be appointed from lists provided by the political parties.

Among the strongly-supported Democrat proposals which were not passed were bills to permit civil service employees to engage in political activities, thus returning to the old "spoils" system in terms of appointments on the basis of political qualification only and the turnover of personnel with each administration; and a bill to place members of the legislature on state central committees of Michigan political parties, calling for 12 members to be chosen as members of committees — 8 from the House and 4 from the Senate.

Action Taken On

2 Magic Squares

The Farmington Board of Education, at a regular meeting on August 23, okayed the installation by the City of Farmington of a "magic square" recreational area at the Cloverdale School.

In separate action the board granted permission to the City to install up to three picnic tables, trash containers, and bar-b-q fixtures at the "magic square" on the Flinders School grounds. It was stipulated that the City be responsible for collection of trash at the site.

AAUW Book Sale To Be Held At Old NBD Building

Mrs. Robert Simanek, 3535 Edythe Drive, Farmington (Fellowships Chairman of the Farmington Branch of the American Association of University Women) has announced that the National Bank of Detroit has again this year offered its old bank building on the corner of Grand River and Farmington Road to the AAUW for its Used Book Sale to be held September 23, 24 and 25.

For the 12th year, the sale will offer "good hunting" for readers and collectors. Old editions with their characteristic bindings will be mingled with current fiction, paperbacks, technical books, texts, and tales for children. All will be priced to get them back in circulation.

A WHITE ELEPHANT Corner will be featured with dishes, phonograph records, craft items and other good used materials.

Proceeds from the book sale will again benefit the Farmington Library and the Educational Foundation of the American Association of University Women. This year fellowships

were awarded to 96 women scholars from the United States and 31 other countries. The awards, amounting to approximately \$300,000, will finance research and advanced study, both here and abroad, during 1965-66 in the humanities and in the natural and physical sciences, including medicine.

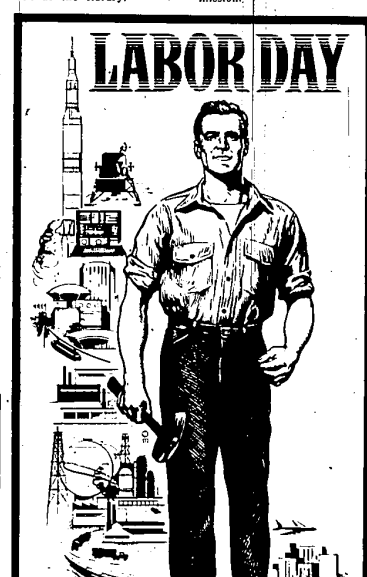
Collection of books for the sale is under way. Mrs. Simanek says that contributions may be made by calling her at 474-7532 for pickup, or books may be deposited in a box at the library.

Barkdull To Give Course

Farmington resident C. W. Barkdull, of 2607 Millbrook Rd., will present a seminar in Management and Operations Audit in the University of Detroit Center for Continuing Education program beginning September 10.

The Management Consultant with the Ernst and Ernst National C.P.A. firm, Mr. Barkdull plans to deal with all areas of management and methods of measuring and evaluating results of management techniques.

The course, to be held Friday evenings from 7 to 9, is open to all interested adults. No specific level of formal education is required for admission.



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Looking Back in the Files

5 YEARS AGO 10 YEARS AGO 15 YEARS AGO

SEPTEMBER 1, 1960 SEPTEMBER 1, 1955 AUGUST 31, 1950

Gridiron Drills

Farmington High School began its two-day workouts this week in preparation for the opening of the fall gridiron campaign under the lights at Bentley. Coach Ed Hayes says his squad is the "greenest" he's ever had with George Becker and Larry Hawkins the only returning lettermen tested in the back field.

Suit Started

A joint suit has now been started by Farmington and West Bloomfield townships to force Detroit to start accepting sewage from the Farmington Interceptor Sewer.

Enroll 13,000

The Farmington area's four school systems will have a total enrollment this fall of nearly 13,000 students.

Street Closing

The Farmington City Council approved the closing off of Salvador Street at the Farmington Township line to prevent through traffic in Farmington Meadows Subdivision.

New Gymnasium

Farmington High School will have a new gymnasium-auditorium ready for use soon after the opening of fall classes, it was announced this week by the Farmington Public Schools, O. E. Dunkel.

Schools to Open

A total of 4,236 students are expected to trek back to classes in the Farmington School District next week. A total of 350 youngsters have been registered in the elementary grades at Our Lady of Sorrows and 115 at St. Paul's Lutheran. A total of 2,000 students are expected to report in the Clarendonville School District.

Holiday Patrols

Farmington City and Township police departments prepared this week for a record flow of holiday traffic expected in the area over the long Labor Day weekend. City Police Chief Joseph G. DeFriedt and Township Chief Irving H. Yakes both plan to have extra officers on duty to handle the rush.

Residents signed by some 300

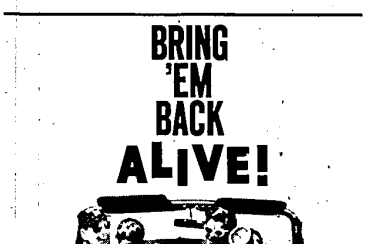
residents in the Nine Mile Road-Middlebelt Road area were turned over to the Oakland County Road Commission this week urging the county to erect a stop-light at the intersection of Nine Mile and Middlebelt.

Heads Exchange Club

The President of the Farmington Exchange Club, William Garhman, will officially take over his new duties on September 8 when the businessmen's group resumes its regular luncheon meetings following summer vacation recess. Garhman was elected last June. Sylvester Phenehy is the retiring President.

55 Grid Hopefuls

Farmington's 1950 edition of the Falcon eleven started drills this week with 55 candidates competing out to grid mentor Bill Nuse. A solid crop of returning veterans promises to give FIS a good football season.



Every mile you travel will be more pleasant if you follow these suggestions.

• Stop at least once every three hours for a rest.

• Take it easy on crowded or unfamiliar roads.

• Always stay alert to changing driving conditions.

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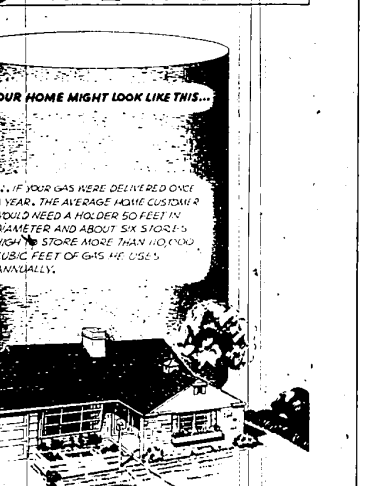
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