

Invite Incorporation Opposition

"There has been nothing in the Farmington Enterprise against incorporation of Farmington Township into a Home Rule City," said the Pre-Incorporation Study Committee Chairman at last week's public meeting.

The answer to that statement is quite simple: We have had no facts or opinions presented to us against incorporation.

We consider it an obligation on our part to present both sides of the question. However, we are at a loss for specific information. The only facts we have thus far are:

- The Pre-Incorporation Study Committee reports have all concluded that incorporation of Farmington Township into a Home Rule City would not adversely affect Township residents at the present time, would assure the future orderly development of the Township, and would provide against possible future problems of the Township;

- Four members of the Pre-Incorporation Study Committee, three of whom were citizen members, one, a Village President, stated publicly last week that when the study started they were undecided on the question, but are now in favor of incorporation;

- A committee has been organized to oppose incorporation, but so far has made only general statements regarding this opposition; and

- A disinterested U. of M. associate professor spoke here on "City Incorporations and Annexations" and presented no facts that we could construe as being against incorporation of Farmington Township.

The election, set for June 8, is almost ten weeks away and there will be nine issues of the Enterprise before that date.

We hereby invite all comments, opinions, suggestions, criticisms, and questions regarding the incorporation proposal.

Comments, opinions, suggestions and criticisms must be based on facts and should be presented in the form of Letters to the Editor, must be signed, and must include the address of the writer. (Names and addresses will be withheld upon request.) Also, brevity is requested and we reserve the right to "cut" letters that are too lengthy.

Questions should be specific and must be accompanied by the name and address of the sender. (Again, names and addresses will be withheld upon request.) We will do our utmost to obtain authoritative and factual answers to all questions submitted. Questions and answers will be published under the heading, "Citizens Write to Know About Incorporation."

All communications should be addressed to: The Farmington Enterprise, P.O. Box 435, Farmington, Michigan 48024.

We have thus far been extremely disappointed about the apparent lack of interest of the majority of Township residents regarding the most important decision they have ever been called upon to make.

We sincerely hope that there will be a large response to our invitation.

It's Three Wars Behind Times

We are pleased to see the interest being taken by the Farmington veterans' organizations in the old war memorial monument on the grounds of the Farmington Masonic Lodge.

The American Legion, Groves-Falkner Post 346, and Veterans of Foreign Wars, Post 4033, indicated their wishes to the City Council last week and apparently have gained support for a program to "update" and "improve" the monument and its pedestal.

There is no question about a need for updating the monument which was erected in 1924 in honor of the Farmington men who served in the Civil War, Spanish-American War and World War I. There are many veterans who served in World War II and Korea from Farmington. Also there are Farmington men serving in Viet Nam. That makes the old monument three wars behind times.

On the question of making improvements, we also have to agree they are needed. The shrubs around the monument's pedestal are looking rather ragged and probably haven't ever received the attention needed to keep them in good appearance. The location, which was almost 42 years ago, certainly can be improved today.

At the time the war monument was erected, the land was owned jointly by the Masonic Lodge, now sole owners of the old town hall. The monument should be on park property even though we are sure the Masons would never object to

its present location on the corner of their property.

A suitable location, suggested at last week's Council meeting, would be just to the west of the present site on the triangular-shaped piece of land immediately adjacent to the Masonic Lodge (old town hall). This is City-owned land and is maintained by the City as a public park. The monument and grounds around it could be maintained by the City at this location.

The costs of re-locating and improving the monument could prove to be considerable but we feel this is a venture that can be joined by both the City and the Township as well as the American Legion and VFW. The veterans have pledged their financial help and we feel the two local governing bodies cannot do otherwise.

There is considerable work involved in checking on those Farmington men who served with military forces in World War II and Korea. Hopefully the Viet Nam action will soon be over and a list of those servicemen made available. This work has fallen on the local veterans' organizations and much energy will be expended by them in seeing the project completed.

Probably won't be this Memorial Day Parade, May 30, that will see this needed change completed. But we hope certainly by 1967, Farmington will have the new monument and a long, long wait until any further changes are necessary.



Newsboy of Week

The Farmington Enterprise "Newsboy of the Week" is Jim Nietert, son of Mr. and Mrs. Richard L. Nietert of 3399 Moore Street in Farmington. Jim, who is a ninth grader at Farmington Junior High School, has 70 customers in the City of Farmington's Alta Loma Subdivision.

Favorite sports for the 14-year-old Enterprise news carrier include basketball, baseball, hockey, tennis and skiing. Winter sports is what Jim likes best in the sports department. JIM'S AMBITION is to some day be a veterinarian. His father is an engineer for the Cadillac Motor Car Division of General Motors Corporation.

The family, which includes two girls, Janie, 11, and Becky, 16, besides Jim and his parents, has made their home in Farmington for the past ten years.

Jim delivers the Enterprise to homes on Moore, Gill, Cass Court, Conroy Court, Fleming Court, Hamilton Court and James Court streets in Farmington.

Enterprise Circulation Manager Fred Wright says that Mr. and Mrs. Nietert believes that Jim's newspaper route helps teach him the value of money. They feel it's a good way for a youngster to learn money management and an early appreciation of the wisdom of saving part of your earnings.

Public Letterbox

Dear Editor:

I noticed an article in the Farmington Enterprise in regard to lost-cost housing for senior citizens. I used to live on the corner of Orchard Lake Rd. and 10 Mile Rd. I let my house go for a gas station as I had no other income.

I stay with my son in Redford but I would be interested in a small apartment, if it were within my means. I pay enormous taxes in Farmington Township and no other place.

I am not sure that such a project would be what I want but I am interested in such a plan and it might prove to be just what I want.

I am 62 years old and one cannot tell just what is best. Very truly yours, Ruth B. Ewring 2133 Karl Detroit, Mich.

Gentlemen:

The Republican Women's Organization of Farmington wishes to express its gratitude to you for the very fine coverage you have given our organization and especially our seventh annual membership tea with Mrs. George Romney as our honored guest.

The excellent photographs

Floral Park News

BY E. R. PHILLIPS GR. 4-6755

Mr. and Mrs. George McCarthy, of 2133 Lilac became grandparents on March 20 when Shawn Lee McCarthy was born to their son and his wife, Mrs. David McCarthy of Detroit. Their granddaughter weighed eight pounds and twelve ounces.

Mr. and Mrs. Dennis Hickman and their three children, Vicki, Denny and Shell, just returned from a two weeks' vacation trip to Winter Haven, Florida. They visited Mrs. Hickman's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Ira Chestnut, who make their home there. Mr. Hickman said the first week was cold, but they enjoyed the second week with nicer weather.

Miss Carol Dustin, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Derby Dustin of 2258 Lilac is enjoying a three weeks' vacation at home from her nursing position at In-Serious, Michigan. She will be home until Easter Sunday. Mrs. Ida Belle Berry, sister of Mr. Weber Levi, is visiting Mr. and Mrs. Levi, at their home at 2244 Violet. Mrs. Berry is from Anderson, Indiana, and formerly resided in California.

taken by Mrs. Frances Evert deserve special recognition. We have received many favorable comments about them which are well deserved by Mrs. Evert.

We have sent several copies of your papers to Mrs. George Romney, Mrs. Wendell Hobbs, president of the Michigan Federation of Republican Women's Clubs, and to Mrs. Paul Robertson, president of the Oakland County Council of Republican Women's Clubs, as well as to others.

Several copies of the March 9 issue were sent to Dr. William Gable, assistant director of the Institute of Public Administration, University of Michigan, who was our guest speaker on "City Incorporation and Annexation" on March 15; also copies were mailed to the University of Michigan Extension Service, as well as to other interested persons.

Many thanks for your cooperation. It is indeed appreciated.

Sincerely, (Mrs. Zar A.) Barbara J. Reader, Pres. Republican Women's Organization of Farmington

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Vagnozzi Raps Twp. Gov't Over Incorporation

The Farmington Democratic Club's monthly meeting last week took exception to the "double talk and contradictions" being used by Farmington Township officials in pushing for incorporation, according to Farmington Democratic Club Chairman Aldo Vagnozzi.

His report to the meeting Vagnozzi said that Township officials have made many statements at recent meetings which are direct contradictions to what they are saying now. SUBJECT in the recent past.

HE CITED AS an example Township Supervisor Curtis H. Hall's claim that he was unable under the present form of government to get the Oakland County Road Commission to do anything about fixing badly rutted roads. "This is a different story than the one Hall gave the voters when he was seeking re-election," Vagnozzi recalled.

"At that time Hall boasted that he had tremendous influence with the County and that townships were receiving proportionately more help from the County than were cities. Now he tells us all he can get from the County Road Commission is promises but no action on road repair."

"What happened to all that influence that our Supervisor claimed to have? What happened to his boast that Farmington Township was benefited from his position on the County Roads and Bridges Committee?"

"IS THIS THE beginning of a drive on the part of our officials to stampee support for city status by blaming all the shortcomings of the present administration on the form of government we now have?"

The Farmington Democratic Club decided to continue its own campaign for replacing the present unwieldy, unresponsive and unrepresentative County Board of Supervisors with one that is based on equal population.

Vagnozzi reported that a bill calling for a streamlined board of supervisors elected from districts of equal population has passed the House of Representatives in Lansing.

Vagnozzi said that to his knowledge the present Republican Township officials did not lift a finger in support of the bill and the area's Republican State Representative, Raymond Baker, voted against the bill.

'Response Ability' Is Scout Message

Girl Scout Sunday, March 6, was observed by Farmington neighborhood scouts, leaders, and parents. Two hundred braved the bad weather for the interdenominational service at the First Methodist Church.

Minist, and David River, with Reverend David Stone as the guest speaker.

The organ prelude was played by Miss Grace Diane Bach and the call to worship was led by Karen LeFever. Carol Sue Burton read the scripture and the promises were led by Vicki LePake.

THE MESSAGE by Reverend Stone was "Response Ability". The gist of his message was that while some people have more ability than others, each one can give some response with their abilities to the challenge of God and the challenge of girl scouting.

New at the Library

Each time a person comes to the library, they should take a few extra minutes to walk around and read the titles on the many shelves. A wealth of information and imagination is there for the taking. A few examples of varied but interesting books available are: The Tartans of the Clans and Families of Scotland by Innes of Learney, 1961. Questions Answered about Birds by Allen Cruickshank, New Auto Guide for Mechanics, Operators, Servicemen by Audels, Book of the High Mountains by Lowell Thomas, Poems of Prayer by Ralph Woods, Cabins, Cottages and Summer Homes by Bernard Mason, Chess with the Masters by Martin Beheim, How to Win

Prize Contests by Wm. Sunners, and Michigan Trees by Charles Otis. And from among the current bestsellers now ready for circulation are: The Embazler by Louis Auchincloss, The Lockwood Concern by John O'Hara, A Gift of Prophecy by Ruth Montgomery, World Affame by Billy Graham, and Sukarno by Cindy Adams.

Achieves Honors

Nancy Weller, 2854 Kirkside, Farmington, a sophomore student at Wheaton college has been awarded semester honors for scholastic achievement during the first semester of the 1963-64 academic year. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. P. A. Weller.

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Looking Back in the Files

5 Years Ago

MARCH 30, 1961

Council Candidates

Five men will vie April 3 for three available seats on the Farmington City Council. The candidates are incumbents Robert Lindbert and Sandy Robertson, and Virgil Cornwell, Henry Forrester and W. Allen Nelson. Councilman V. O. Bates is not seeking re-election.

1964 Underway

Construction work on the new 1896 Expressway is well under way in Farmington Township between 11 and 12 Mile Road. The new freeway will, when completed in 1962, link 194 with the Northwestern Highway. Ultimately the freeway will provide a new east-west artery for the north side of Detroit.

Scheriff Dies

Former City Manager Earl Scheriff died Wednesday morning in Veterans Hospital in Ann Arbor at the age of 39. He had been City Manager in Farmington from the spring of 1956 until illness ended his retirement late last summer.

10 Years Ago

MARCH 29, 1954

Cage Captain

Bud Jones has been elected captain of the Farmington High School basketball team for 1954-55. Jones scored 228 points for the Falcons this past season.

DSA for Two

The Farmington Jaycees presented their Distinguished Service Award (DSA) to Robert Clarke and Donald Hossler. Two awards were presented this year for the first time due to the closeness of the judging.

Campaign Head

Harley Walters has been named General Chairman of the Farmington Campaign of the American Cancer Society.

Approve Bond Issue

A two-million-dollar bond issue to provide new classrooms was approved by voters in the Farmington School District by a one-sided margin in the special election held Monday. The vote was 1,125 for the bond proposal and 477 against it.

15 Years Ago

MARCH 29, 1951

Name PARC Head

Byron Oliver, newly elected head of the Farmington Area Recreation Commission, conducted the first meeting of the year and discussed as the main item of business the 1951-52 proposed budget for the local recreation program.

Annual Meeting

The annual meeting of the Farmington Township Board will be held in Township offices April 2 at 1 p.m. Board members' salaries are fixed at the meeting as well as the appropriation of money.

New Charter

The voters in the City of Farmington will go to the polls April 2 and decide whether to approve a new charter for the City and for a city manager form of government.

It's a Boy

Mr. and Mrs. Russell Ellis are the proud parents of an 8 lb., 8 oz. baby boy, William Allen, born March 27.

The Farmington Enterprise

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