In Our Opinion . . .

Tribute To A Gallant Lady

Last week's Enterprise was the last one to carry the name of Winona Woods on its masthead.

For six and a half years, our newspaper has felt her deft touch somewhere in its production. Prior to her present position as general manager, she served as business manager and office manager having come to work originally for Mike Kiley as a bookkeeper.

During all of this time, she has upheld the high standards of the Enterprise, set for itself from the earliest days of publication. It is, and always has been a uniquely Farmington journal, for and about Farmington people with their concerns uppermost.

Winona is, and has been all through her 13 years of living here, a uniquely Farmington gal. When a family deliberately seeks out and selects an area for permanent residence, like religious converts, they often develop loyalties as strong or stronger than those of the earliest settlers.

She has worked diligently with the service groups assisting them wherever possible with their worthy community projects. For the officials of Township, City and school board, she has been a fair and reliable reporter.

She is a past president of the Soroptimist Club and won the 1964 award as Woman of the Year from the Business and Professional Women's Association.

To her staff at the Enterprise, she has been a rare and special combination of conscientious taskmaster and delightful, good - humored companion. Many a frantic deadline has been met with greater ease because she realized the value of taking time out for a salutary laugh. She viewed with a contagious relish the really zany and ridiculous things that transpire in the realm of "the fourth estate."

Now, she laughingly remarks that resigning is the only way she knows to take a vacation, and indeed the relentless weekly deadlines have kept her at her desk for all but two or three days of the past five years. Her artist's smock has been hanging limp and forlorn for more than two years, and she's anxious to put it on once more.

We sincerely hope that she has helped to build such a sound tradition that it will be continued in spite of her departure from the scene. She certainly leaves a very large "vacancy" sign over all of our hearts, but we wish her Godspeed in whatever future endeavors her clever and capable hands may undertake.

* * *

Meeting the Motorcycle Menace

So much has been written about the upsurge in motorcycle usage that almost anything one adds is merely redundant. We have, however, been mulling over one suggestion which could possibly have some pertinent value to the Farmington area.

It was not long ago printed in the Enterprise that Michigan registrations for cycles jumped 66 per cent between 1964 and 1965, and at the same time accidents increased by 93 per cent. In one month, 16 cyclists were killed in the state, comparing with a death toll of 46 for the entire previous year. In July, we had two motorcycle deaths within our own borders.

Police chiefs of both City and Township have declared all-out war on the invaders. Township Chief Irving Yakes announced just last week that his men would be placed on an overtime schedule due to the increase in volume of complaints.

City Chief Robert Deadman impounded 31 vehicles for violations during July alone.

In New York City, where the safety and security problems are admittedly vastly different, a scooter brigade has been formed, and what impressed us immediately was the extra-ordinary mobility it has. If necessary, the scooter mountie can chase a miscreant even up a flight of stairs.

Gramercy Park which had developed into one of the worst areas of after-dark thuggery, thanks to the new brigade is almost completely free of any kind of violence. It was found that the psychological impact of the boys in blue unsurrounded by a layer of glass and steel seemed to give them an added aura of almost reverential awe.

Ergo, we wonder if a brace of motorcycle mounties in each of our communities would be a significant deterrent to these renegade cyclists who now flaunt their defiance in the face of authorities. They could no longer take off to inaccessible places, and the odds of the chase would suddenly be evened.

Looking Back in the Files

5 Years Ago

SEPTEMBER 28, 1961

Store Openings

Plans are now being made for opening of the new Scott Variety Store and Fred Sanders store in the Farmington Center development in downtown Farmington the early part of November, it was indicated to the Enterprise this week.

Speed Study

A study of traffic conditions on 13 Mile Rd. between Orchard Lake and Drake Roads is now being conducted by the State Police Dept. to determine if speed controls should be established.

Shelter Program

A 15-point program calling for the township to move ahead in its area-wide fallout shelter plan was introduced to the Township Board Tuesday evening in the form of a motion and carried unanimously.

Lancers Win

The Lancers of Our Lady of Sorrows on a rainsoaked home gridiron combined a stubborn defensive game with the offensive threats of Jeff Barth and company to defeat St. Francis Xavier of Ecorse 12 to 0 last Sunday.

10 Years Ago

SEPTEMBER 27, 1956

Copies of the proposed Commercial Land Use Study as proposed by the Township Planning Committee and Planning Consultants was formally presented to the Township Board at its regular meeting Tuesday evening.

Drain Delays

City officials were sharply criticized Monday night for reported delays on the installation of an underground drain in the easement between the Bel-Aire Subdivision and the property facing on the north side of Shiawassee.

Off-Street Parking

The City Manager was authorized by the Council Monday evening to proceed with the development of off-street parking facilities on the city owned property south of Grand River and east of the Precise Tool Company.

Hospital Funds

Members of the Clarenceville Seventh-day Adventist Church will contribute funds to help provide a new hospital in Port-of-Spain, Trinidad.

15 Years Ago

SEPTEMBER 27, 1951

Centennial Farm

An attractive white sign has been fastened to a giant tree in the front yard of a comfortable looking stone farm house at 35810 Eleven Mile Rd. The sign is the proud possession of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Steele and it designates one of the few farms in Oakland County that has been owned by the same family for over one hundred years.

Light Study

The city has requested that the Detroit Edison Company make a survey of the lighting situation at the new public parking lot on South Farmington Road, Mayor Kenn Loomis announced this week.

The Little Foxes

Township Clerks have been relieved of the responsibility of processing fox bounty certificates, Harry McCracken, Township Clerk, announced this week.

Materials Granted

Immediate approval has been granted to the Farmington Township School District by the U.S. Department of Education for the allocation of scarce materials for the new 10 Mile Elementary School, O. E. Dunckel, superintendent, announced Tuesday.

The Farmington Enterprise

"A Continuing Journal Of Progress" Established 1888

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PHILIP H. POWER, PUBLISHER — SHIRLEY BERGER, NEWS EDITOR

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NAN CUMMINGS (left) and Sue Polgar look at the tombstone of Arthur Power, founder of Farmington.

Scouts Find History Lives In Farmington's Old Streets

Step back into Farmington's history a hundred years or more.

Try to picture the first residents arriving in covered wagons and the homes and stores they built.

Imagine the tiny town in the pre-Civil War days, and the role it is said to have played in the Underground Railroad.

And then you'll have a glimpse of the experience about 50 Cadette and Senior Girl Scouts had last Saturday on their Heritage Hike around the old part of town.

They were led—both along Farmington's present day sidewalks and along the old-time trails in memory — by Mrs. Blaine Ford, Ileelane, Scout leader and long an avid student of Farmington history.

With several other leaders and two brave gentlemen who also like to look back into local history, the girls made a day of walking familiar streets with new eyes.

Starting at the City Park they headed west of Shiawassee — that old Indian trail. Mrs. Ford showed them how to recognize a "really" old house—by its stone foundation, its decorative touch over the doorway, its two-story plus long wing design.

There was a stop at the Baptist Church, which, the Farmington Historical Society has reason to believe, may have been a link in the slaves' railway to freedom.

"There's no proof of that," pointed out Charles Rousseaux, caretaker since 1928. "But you can look at one of the basement rooms, and see what you think."

The Girl Scouts examined the stone walls of one of the low room now housing the church's furnace, and agreed it would be easy to imagine runaway slaves hiding there on their way to freedom.

The girls also stopped on McGee Hill overlooking the stream and the site of a sawmill—first industry in town.

They visited the oldest house in Farmington, built in 1924, located at 33400 Shiawassee, and owned for the last 40 years by Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Carpenter.

Going through the cozy old home, the Scouts fingered the fringe trimmed chandelier, touched the black walnut staircase. "The wood is so hard the treads are hardly worn at all," Mrs. Carpenter told them.

In the low-ceilinged kitchen they noted the heating stove that stands where the original cookstove was placed, and sniffed apple pie aroma from a Mrs. Carpenter modern oven.

Outside again, Mrs. Ford pointed out the nearby locations of the first store in Farmington, the post office, a blacksmith and florist shop and a "public house."

"A public house was really a tavern, but meetings were held there too," explained one of the leaders.

"And no women allowed," added one of the gentleman hiker.

The hike led on across Grand River to the Gill Road Cemetery. This area ajoins the first Quaker meeting house. There the Scouts found the graves of Quaker Arthur Power—in truth the "Father of Farmington"—and several of his 13 sons and daughters.

Several workers were busy in the cemetery, and Mrs. Ford explained that they had been employed by the Historical Society to repair gravestones ravaged by time and vandals.

Back to Grand River, the group stopped at the imposing white - pillared Governor's Mansion. Mrs. Ford told them about P. Dean Warner, the second white child born in Farmington, and his adopted son Fred M. Warner, who grew up to be governor of Michigan in 1906.

Fred Warner built the mansion, now occupied by his daughter, Mrs. W. Slocum.

The girls wandered a bit about the building's grounds, and particularly noted the cupola on top, where the family once watched for stagecoaches and Indians.

On along tiny Grace Street to the Shiawassee street home of Max Hulett. The girls crowded 50-strong into his study, and learned how the Hulett family restored the old house that had become badly run down. They were fascinated by the beautiful old furniture.

"But I'm the real antique here," beamed the retired attorney.

Modern hunger pangs were kicking up a bit, and the girls headed back to the park for lunch. Later there was one more stop — a drive to the Charles Lorion home on Twelve Mile Road.

There the Scouts admired the beautiful stone home, built in 1861, and the priceless antiques that furnish it. It was a fitting end for a day of history.

"I learned a lot," said one girl, "and I liked learning it."

"We'll do this again soon," added Mrs. Ford.

Public Letter Box

To the Editor:

We write in behalf of a group of women called "The Farmington Ladies," who have faithfully and lovingly served a floor of patients at Northville State Hospital for the past fifteen years.

Once each month this group, usually numbering eight to fourteen, have gone to the hospital with home baked cookies, coffee, birthday cards and small gifts. We also take along games, usually bingo, or perhaps we have an old fashioned song fest in the way of entertainment.

The people on this floor await our visitation as children wait for Christmas.

However, it is with deep regret and sorrow that we can no longer carry on this activity. This is due to the fact that the majority of our women have reached the ages of sixty-five through seventy-five years.

We are looking for a group of women who would be interested in carrying on this much needed and appreciated work.

The equipment we have we are willing to loan to anyone interested. This consists of coffee urns, cups, silver, games etc. Also several of our ladies will continue to go along and help a new group become acquainted with these people and the monthly routine.

If you are a group of women looking for something to fill your hearts with joy and soul filling satisfaction, the happiness you will render to these expectant people will more than be your answer.

For further information on this worthy and humane cause, please call 474-5066 or 474-7628.

In warm sincerity,

The Farmington Ladies

The Farmington Enterprise
Farmington, Michigan

Gentlemen:

The members of Barracks No. 1152, Veterans of World War I wish to express their thanks for the publicity your paper gave us on our Apple Blossom project.

Our sale was a success and we know that this publicity was instrumental in helping the sale of these flowers. Many of the people that bought the flower mentioned the fact that they had seen the article in the Enterprise.

Again expressing our heartfelt appreciation, we are,

Sincerely yours,
Andrew Fletcher
Publicity Chairman

Local News Items

MARIE LONG
GR. 4-3114

Miss May Fluhmann of Ottawa, Ont., returned home Thursday, Sept. 22, after visiting her cousins, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Fluhmann, of Eleven Mile Road.

Mrs. Iva Morissette of Scottsdale, Ariz., will fly home by jet Thursday after spending a week with her brother and sister-in-law, Bert and Marie Long, of Grand River Ave. Mrs. Morissette, the former Mrs. Charles Bridger, is past president of the Gold Star Mothers of Michigan.

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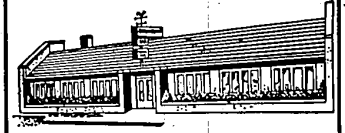

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