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Twenty Five Cents

How federal delays would cut services

By STEVE BARNABY

Farmington City Manager Bob Deadman is one of those municipal officials wondering and waiting to see just what the federal government will do about federal revenue shared funds in the coming months.

At stake is \$40,000 a year which, for the last five years, the city has fit into its budget to provide what Deadman and local councilmen feel are essential services.

Presently, a congressional subcommittee isn't planning to act on revenue sharing until next spring. This presents a problem for local legislative bodies because the present funding programs expire in January.

"LOCAL COMMUNITIES have two ways of handling the situation," says Deadman. "They can either plan a budget including the funds and then scramble to cut out programs if the funds are cut, or they can plan without the excess funds."

Either way is dangerous, he says. If the funds are integrated into a budget and then aren't approved, projects would have to be shelved and layoffs implemented. If the money isn't budgeted in after certain approval then it may be spent unwisely in some communities, he surmised.

"We have been doing the same thing every year with our money," he says. "Believe me, we haven't been building any Taj Mahal either. If we have to cut it won't be frills that are going out the door."

The City of Farmington has been using its funds for such programs as public safety salaries, capital improvement and programs for senior citizens.

"It's very simple. If we lose the dollars, services will have to be cut back. The only way they could be saved was if the council considered raising taxes," says Deadman.

Oakland County Executive Daniel Murphy is presently coordinating an effort to get area officials to Washington, D.C. on Nov. 18 where they will lobby congressmen in attempts to keep the federal funds flowing to local governments.

"Some congressmen feel they should have more control over how the money is spent. They have the attitude that big daddy knows best."

— Bob Deadman

Deadman says it is important for those who benefit from the programs to put pressure on their congressmen.

"We've been trying to tell groups like senior citizens who directly benefit that federal revenue sharing is an important tool. They should let their congressmen know they want it continued," he says.

BUT DEADMAN is optimistic that funding will continue because of political pressure from throughout the nation.

"Just about every city in the nation will be hurt if the funds are cut or delayed. Too many programs have been established. They can't all be cut off," he says.

Although confident the funding will be continued, Deadman is apprehensive over the possibility that guidelines for using the money could be changed.

"Some congressmen feel they should have more control over how the money is spent. They want strict guidelines established. They have the attitude that big daddy knows best. But it is the local officials who know best the needs of their communities," he said.

The way the program is run now, local units of government are allowed to establish their own priorities. Deadman admits, though, that some communities have made it bad for others by using funds unwisely.

As far as the Farmington budgeting the funds, Deadman says he has until next February to put together a budget for council approval.

"I don't have to make a decision until February but you can bet I want to see the funding continued in January. But we'll just have to wait and see."

Leaves historical records

City loses dedicated resident

When Louis Gilson, 71, died last week, the Farmington community lost a man who had been involved in the life of the city for more than 45 years.

A retired teacher from the Farmington Schools, he was also a member of the Farmington Kiwanis Club, the Farmington Historical Society, and the Farmington First United Methodist Church. As a member of each he contributed more than his share of dedication and support.

Gilson, who was born in Detroit, was the father of two children and the husband of a native of Bloomfield Township, Blanche. He met his wife while working in Ann Arbor for the Michigan Bell Telephone Company.

"WE WERE BOTH transferred to the office in Ann Arbor the same week," Mrs. Gilson said, coming from different sides of the state.

She had worked in the company's Bedford station and he was being sent to Ann Arbor from Ham Creek. She described them as "two lost souls in a strange town."

During the depression they both lost their jobs at Michigan Bell because they had not acquired enough seniority. They subsequently lived in Benton Harbor and then Kalamazoo.

While in Kalamazoo, Gilson finished his bachelor's degree in history and social science at Western Michigan University. When he started teaching in Farmington in 1944, he was also

working on his master's degree in education at the University of Michigan.

He finished the requirements for a special education degree at Wayne State. While teaching, Gilson was assigned to the old Farmington Junior High, Farmington Senior High and before he retired, spent the last 11 years at North Farmington in special ed.

Throughout his life, he loved people and was very active," Mrs. Gilson said. "He was so interested in everything and he never wanted any pay."

One of Gilson's most active interests was in the Farmington Historical Society. While a member he became the researcher for its preservation program, compiling all the research for state and national authentication of Farmington's historic district.

He fought ardently, his wife said to save the Masonic Temple and the Nickel School. One of his last projects was to record interviews with approximately 30 senior citizens in Farmington, many of whom have since died.

HE WAS ABOUT to present these tapes to the Farmington Historical Society to give to the library when he died. Paul Schreiber, society chairman, said.

Schreiber described Gilson as a "very thorough researcher," one who interviewed people, consulted the documented authorities, consulted the



A winning team

This prize-winning team, Jill Decker of Farmington Hills and her Morgan mare, Donny, are among the top 10 performers in the

country in four categories. For story and more pictures, see page 4A (Staff photo by Harry Mauthe)



LOUIS GILSON

Civil War photos in library display

The Farmington Hills Branch Library, 3700 12 Mile, will display during November the collection of Civil War pictures owned by North Farmington High School teacher David Finney.

Finney has been collecting photographs and information about the Civil War for many years. He became interested in the subject at the age of

12 when he bought his first books on the war. He is a member of the Michigan Civil War Roundtable.

The display consists of carte de visites, the most popular of civil war prints, ambrotypes on glass, ferro-types or tints, and album prints or paper prints. There are more than 100 photos in the display.

Team schedules altered

Athletic directors from the Metro Suburban Association (MSA) and the Northwest Suburban League have agreed to help fill each others football and basketball schedules for the 1976-77 school year, following recent withdrawals from both leagues.

Utica Eisenhower will leave the Metro Suburban loop at the end of the present school year at take Rochester's place in the Oakland A League, and Oak Park dropped out of the Northwest group and joined the Metro West loop this fall. The agreement is only for one year since Troy Athens will enter the MSA from the Oakland A in 1977.

OAK PARK'S WITHDRAWAL

inside

A NEW IDEA

Harrison High School is experimenting with a new program that combines English and history. To see how it will work, turn to Page 3A.



Take a guess

Testing their guessing talents, children's librarians for the two Farmington libraries, Jill Locke, left, and Barbara Shumer, play the same game they hope the children will try. A contest for youngsters to guess the number of books in the children's room of either library closes Friday, Nov. 21. The winner will receive a book he chooses (\$10 limit). Children pre-school through sixth grade are eligible. (Staff photo by Harry Mauthe)

Elks conducting kids competition

The Farmington Elks chapter 1906 is conducting its annual "Hoop Shoot" and "Free Throw" contest on Nov. 18 and 21 for children between the ages of eight and 13 years old.

The Farmington YMCA, the Farmington Area Recreation Commission and the Farmington Jaycees are joining with the Elks in the activities to be conducted at various Farmington elementary and junior high schools.

ON TUESDAY, Nov. 18, a meet will be at Power Junior High School, at 7:30 p.m. Also that night a meet will be at Farmington Junior High School, at 8 p.m.

Book Fair this Tuesday

Clarenceville's Edgewood School, 21225 St. Francis, Farmington Hills, will be the scene of a Book Fair during school on Tuesday, Nov. 11.

Books will be on sale along with games, clay, paste, glue, puzzles, magazines and sewing kits.

Parents are invited to the fair on the evening of Nov. 12, from 6-8 p.m.

ALL BOYS AND GIRLS eight to 13 years old as of April 1, 1975 are eligible to participate in one of the three age brackets: 8-9-year-olds, 10-11-year-olds, and 12-13-year-olds. Boys compete against boys and girls against girls. Six winners will be chosen from each school.

The Farmington Jaycees have volunteered their services to aid in the registration and supervision of the participants at schools. Jaycees wishing to help out should contact Jim Clements