Woodridge First Party NEWS

INTEGRITY HONESTY PROGRESS

BOOK I VOLUME VIII APRIL 8, 1969

A VOTE FOR WOODRIDGE FIRST IS A VOTE TO HELP SCHOOLS

SCHOOL CRISIS !!

The Woodridge First Party has been advised that the first and second grades in the Village School System will be on half day sessions, starting with the Fall term of 1969!!

Two respected members of the School Board of District #68 appeared at a recent meeting of the Winston Hills Homeowners Corp., and announced also that a referendum would soon be brought before the residents to increase the taxation limits of the School Board to $1.47, a sum which would still leave the Board drastically short of funds.

Now we must reflect back to several meetings of the Village Board, Mayor Roberts, and the School Board, which were held in the late summer and fall of 1966 regarding some proposed annexations in the Forest Edge section of the Village.

During the course of one of those meetings, Mayor Roberts stated, before an almost packed house, that the School Board would have to "fight their own battles."

Do you and your rubber stamp Village Board recall that meeting, Mr. Roberts???
Only one Trustee had the courage to vote "Nay" on that infamous night.

The annexations were approved with a complete and utter disregard of the welfare of the residents of the Village.

We quote from the Downers Grove Graphic of 10/18/67 regarding the annexations and the school problems which would follow:

"(The President of the School Board -John Dahlberg)---fought virtually alone to decrease the density of the proposed parcels and to extract a legally binding commitment from the builder to contribute financially to the District (#68)".

"He petitioned the (Woodridge) Village Board to assist him in securing either or both of his proposals from the builders."

"The annexations became 'fait accompli' when Village Officials (Mayor Roberts and

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the Rubber Stamp Board of Trustees) told the School Board President that the School District would have to fight their own battles."

This statement, in spite of the fact that the School Board predicted double shifts, higher taxes, lack of space, and a resultant lowering in the quality of education, was made by the Mayor!!!

Is this the Mayor and the Board of Trustees you want to administer this Village for another four years?

Is this the attitude toward the school problem the residents of this Village want??

The Woodridge First Party submits that the Village of Woodridge cannot tolerate another term of the Unity Administration. Think of your children!!!

Vote Woodridge First Party---Honest Government By the People and For the People!

April 15, 1969

WHISPERERS

by Nick Haviland

Ever since the Woodridge First Party began an active campaign to oust the current ineffectual administration, and bring representative government to the Village, the residents have been subjected to drivel, vagueness, half truths, and insinuations being uttered by the Unity Party and its representatives.

The First Party has been told countless times by interested information-seeking residents, who have attended Unity coffees in the last few months, and who have left these coffees, stunned and disgusted by the vicious personal diatribes and invectives that the Unity representatives have hurled at the First Party, especially at our Mayoral candidate, Mr. Charles Martin, that the whole thrust of Unity campaign has degenerated to a true "mud-slinging" personal attack.

The First Party, in its Newsletters, and in personal statements and appearances has always tried to refrain from attacking the current administration on a personal basis, contrary to what some of the truly dedicated people, actively working for the good of the Village have been led to believe by a Mayor and a Board of Trustees desperately fighting for their political lives!

The only "whisperers" in this campaign all have red and white Unity signs in their windows.

Every statement made by the Woodridge First Party, at a coffee or cocktail party, or in print, has been carefully researched and documented.

These statements are not wild rantings, or ridiculous charges--the First Party deals in facts, and Unity's broken campaign promises, and if you residents have any questions, please feel free to phone any and all of our candidates and/or your editor.

Please, Unity, give the residents of the Village a little credit for their good sense. Evaluate your campaign, even slightly.

There is not much time left for you, Unity Party.

Vote Woodridge First Party on April 15, 1969 and bring a truly representative government, by and for the people, to our Village.

CLASSROOMS VS. COMPLEX

by Woodridge First Candidates

Let us examine, with logic and not emotion, the Village's need for a $500,000 Village Complex (at the expense of forgetting our Village's grave school problems.)

The Village of Woodridge is only 10 years old this year, with an estimated population of 10,500. The Village Government has been operating from a model home for these 10 years. The Village Hall is small and cramped for space. Anyone who has been

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in the Village Hall knows that we do need a larger Village Hall. Not many residents visit the Village Hall more than once or twice during the year, and this is to pick up vehicle or animal tags.

Winston Muss, some 5 years ago when he annexed Winston Hills to Woodridge, donated $25,000 to the Village and specified in the pre-annexation agreement that the money could only be used for a Village Hall or library. This money was placed in escrow and can only be used for the specified purpose. Due to interest accrued, the fund, according to the Mayor, is now around $30,000. This is part of the $60,000 cash balance that he claims is on hand.

In 1965, Unity won the election. A great measure of this victory was because their opposition was for building a $180,000 Village Hall.

Unity was not in office a year before they came up with the brilliant idea of building a $500,000 Village Complex! They have already spent $2,000 of our tax money on the preliminary drawings. They have not discussed this during their campaign because they know full well they would not be voted out of office but kicked out of office!! They remember what the voters did to their opposition in 1965 for wanting a $180,000 Village Hall.

When they were discussing this subject about 2 years ago, Mayor Roberts was for Trustee Hill's and Trustee Richardson's proposal of purchasing a Freemont Model (with the $30,000 in the bank) for a Village Hall. Mayor Roberts switched his vote on that night to the $500,000 Village Complex.

At the next meeting, Trustee Hill read the following statement to the Mayor, Board of Trustees, the public, and the press. The statement was signed by he and Trustee Richardson:

And we quote

"The undersigned regret that we cannot support the board's decision of last week to present to the voters of this village, a referendum for funds to build a $134,000 permanent structure village hall. Our decision is based upon the following reasons: 1) The board's decision is based upon the opinions of approximately 50 persons who attended the last village board meeting. For a village of 6,000 to 7,000 population, even conceeding 4,000 children, this represents only 21/2% of the population, assuming every resident in attendance was for the proposal, which they were not. In addition, although we admire the support and interest of the residents of Catalpa Drive in the proposal of their neighbor, Trustee Stewart, we also recognize the extreme bias this support created in the public discussions during the meeting. We also have reason to believe, based upon the informal comments of members of the 97.5% of the population who were not in attendance, that the majority of these people are not in favor of this proposal, and it is our duty to represent them in spite of their apathy. 2) We believe this referendum will impair the chances of the passage of School District 68's referendum on December 2, and contrary to Mr. Stewart, we believe that the duty of the parents of this village is to provide educational facilities before recreation facilities. Furthermore, since we have established a Youth Council, and since youth facilities are already under study by the special studies committee of this board, the recreational possibilities of this proposal are irrelevent. 3) Even though we were elected as candidates of the Unity Party, nothing in the party platform prevents us from thinking for ourselves and voting for issues as our conscience and integrity dictate in representing all the people of the village. We might also point out at this time that Mayor Roberts was the person who acquainted us with the Fairmount Proposition and procured the initial proposal from Winston-Muss Corp. Furthermore, it was at his request that Mr. Richardson presented the initial proposal. Although we still believe that the purchase of Fairmont to be used as a village hall is the best interest of the village, it is obvious that Mayor Roberts has changed his mind or does not have the strength of his convictions. Perhaps the fact that we do not have any further political aspirations per-

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mits us to act in good faith for all the people rather than the most vocal. 4) The true costs of the proposal are not known at this time; for example the architect's fees have not been considered at all, and in order to sell the bonds at the low 4 1/2% interest rate, extensive preparation of an official statement of a new issue of bond will be necessary. Therefore, it will probably cost the village in excess of $225,000 or close to a quarter of a million dollars to finance this proposal. The Unity Party of two years ago, which was made up of every board member voting in favor of the present proposal fought an $180,000 bond issue successfully with the following statement:"

"If we vote for a bond issue, let us give consideration to building facilities for our children and their children and not to a village monument, but to grade schools for the children." - Unity Party of Woodridge (Campaign Literature of 1965).

"We believe this statement is even more valid today than two years ago, since the prediction of school space problems made by the Unity Party of two years ago are indeed upon us. In summary, our consciences will not permit us to stand idly by while the rest of the board tries to saddle the village with a debt close to a quarter of a million dollar expenditure for a facility which may or may not be needed for another five years. Therefore, we will actively work to defeat the proposed village hall referendum."

End quote

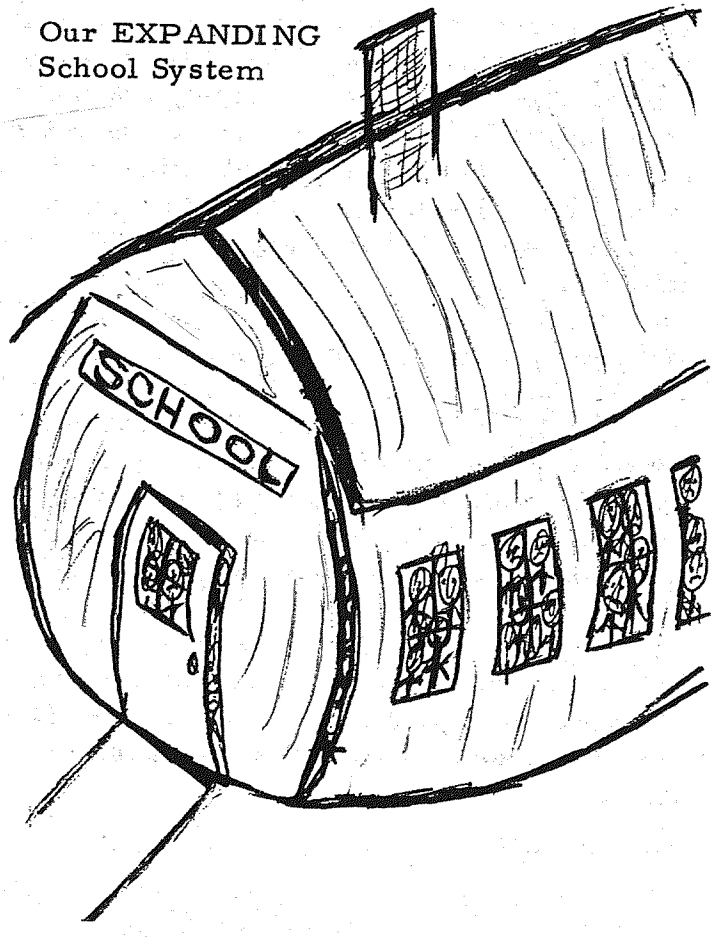
Woodridge First Party and the candidates believe and take the following stand:

1) The Village of Woodridge does need a larger Village Hall.
2) The Village should own the land and the building.
3) We do not believe that the Village needs a $500,000 Village Complex, now or in the near future.
4) We propose to build an expandable building that would cost between $45,000 to $55,000 that could be used by the Village for the next 10 years or more.
5) We believe that Unity will go "full steam ahead" on their $500,000 complex if elected. We put our trust in the common sense of the voters.
6) We believe that the Mayor and the Board of Trustees have been negotiating with developers and builders to build up the donations ($150,000 plus) for their $500,000 Village Complex, and in so doing, have sold us, our children, and the school district "down the river".
7) You can only come to these conclusions based upon their actions.

It is only logical that the voters should vote for Woodridge First Candidates on April 15, 1969. We will serve you, the residents, and not ourselves. We will wisely consider first things first--schools--our most desperate need to give our children the education that they need to make them the leaders of tomorrow.

We ask you, the voter, to PUT FIRST THINGS FIRST--- VOTE FOR WOODRIDGE FIRST CANDIDATES ON APRIL 15, 1969!!!

Our EXPANDING School System



. . . and Unity's $500,000 Village Complex???