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today's hot line

BULLETIN

Oakland Circuit Court Judge Robert L. Templin issued an injunction Friday morning prohibiting the State Election Board from using the incumbent designation for current municipal judges entered in the district court race.

Ed Oppert, Farmington Township trustee and judge candidate, sought the injunction.

Municipal judges in Northville, Plymouth, Redford, and Farmington will lose their designation on the ballot as incumbents under the injunction.

observerland

LIVONIA—Supporters of a petition drive to bring open housing in this city to a direct vote of the people failed this week to secure the necessary number of voters' signatures. Led by Neal C. Hall and John Skymelski, the petitioners needed a minimum of 5,454 signatures of registered voters to make open housing an issue in November elections. The number of signatures tallied was only 3,694, according to City Clerk Addison Bacon.

LIVONIA—Construction at Livonia's new \$1,200,000 Family Y resumed this week after settlement of the building trade strike. Bill Cameron, Y director, said the strike altered the target date for completion from mid-November of this year to January, 1969.

REDFORD—Over \$10,000 was refunded to 670 summer school applicants by South Redford Schools this past week, due to program cancellation after teachers withheld their services in a negotiations dispute.

REDFORD—Voter registrations reached a pre-primary election record of 91,945 as of the July 5 cutoff date in this township of an estimated 80,000 persons. Registrations at general election time are expected to exceed the 88,000 counted in November, 1966.

PLYMOUTH—Lack of work force and acute housing shortage have industrial expansion stymied, according to officials of the manufacturing plants in the area.

PLYMOUTH—Long awaited Unification Study Report regarding the City of Plymouth and Plymouth Township will be made public on September 1, but will contain no recommendations.

PLYMOUTH—Dale Schultz, boy-friend of murder victim Joan Schell, who has been AWOL since June passed a lie detector test during the week and was turned over to the military officials as a deserter.

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IF YOU'VE LOOKED AND LOOKED

and just can't locate that fine old tuba to add the "oom-pa-pa's" to your musical group...don't give up! Try an Observer "Wanted to Buy" ad (classification 5-12.) Just dial GA 2-0900 or 453-5500. Watch for Tuba in classification 5-9 (musical instruments) too.



County Promises Ballots On Time

Oakland County Clerk John D. Murphy cut through a swath of election red tape this week and by giving his own interpretation to a Wednesday ruling of the Michigan Supreme Court assured availability of absentee ballots for the Aug. 6 primary by July 17 as the law demands. "It's better to have ballots out with than none at all," commented Murphy.

Referencing his decision to print Oakland County's several thousand absentee ballots with candidates for each office listed strictly in alphabetical order.

EARLIER, the Supreme Court had ruled that ballots should be prepared with the order of candidates rotating from precinct to precinct so that each one would get the top rung approximately as often as his rivals.

Reference was made to a letter from Murphy that his experience as chairman of the Oakland County Election Commission shows that absentee ballots will account for about five per cent of the total vote cast. Most requests for such ballots come from men in service, persons who are ill or elderly, and those who expect to be out of the area on election day.

Rotation of candidate names on absentee ballots couldn't be accomplished even if printers worked around the clock," said the county clerk.

THE LATTER not only must be mailed to all who request them but must be returned in time to be counted along with regularly cast votes Aug. 6, with American servicemen spread around the globe, Murphy said that unless absentee ballots can be mailed during the coming week there is a danger of ballots being returned too late to be counted.

He conceded that his interpretation of the Supreme Court ruling may be subject to further legal challenge in a year which has been fraught with election law suits, but said he saw no other way of meeting the absentee deadline.

The actual decision of the Supreme Court Wednesday negated a recently enacted legis-

History Center In City?

Establishment of a permanent City Historical Museum was proposed this week in a report concerning "the historical preservation of Farmington" prepared by a sub-committee of the City Planning Commission.

It was suggested that such a museum would display artifacts, antiques, photos, clothing, maps and "perhaps a three-dimensional scale model of the old Central City."



BUSINESS SKILL—Donna Bush uses a record dictator, one of the newest type of business machines being used in an intensified office procedure program currently in progress at North Farmington High School.

THE ENTIRE report is under study by the commission as a whole, and it was submitted after several months preparation by sub-committee members Russell Milligan and Charlotte Bruce.

They expressed the view that there are many aspects of historical Farmington which still exist today and which should be preserved.

It was suggested that the first actual move toward such accomplishment be the creation of a permanent committee including representatives of the Farmington Historical Society, civic and business leaders, city council and planning commission.

Among other suggestions for direct action were proposals to erect early-American signs at all major entrances to the city, identify and mark all significant historical buildings and sites as well as the three old Indian trails in the area, and to develop additional educational emphasis for continuity of the project.

Among the aspects explored by the sub-committee was the question of what sites or buildings it believes should be preserved for the future.

THE REPORT stated: "As one might expect, a project of this type involves a great deal of conjecture as to what is worthy of conservation and what is not.

"Since there must be a beginning, this was held open to all who have been inclusive in recording suggested subjects for preservation.

The sub-committee listed the Orchard Lake, Grand River and Shawassee Indian trails, 23 houses, and 16 sites as being the primary "raw material" of historical significance.

Police Repeat Mini-Bike Rules

Youngsters owning and driving motorized mini-bikes were warned by Farmington Township police this week that they are subject to the same discipline as motorcyclists.

Reacting to a steadily mounting number of protests from residents of township subdivisions where mini-bikes have strong popularity, Police Chief Irving Yakes emphasized it is unlawful to ride one without first obtaining a license.

"Mini-bikes are supposed to carry properly issued license plates, and the rider must have an operator's license," Yakes declared. "Many parents don't realize this.

"Mini-bikes are subject to the same provisions of the motor vehicle code as motorcycles, and when a rider is guilty of a traffic offense his driving record is assessed the same number of violation points as would be given an adult violator.

"If the rider is a juvenile, this type of violation can endanger his being granted an automobile driver's license for the following two years."

Cpl. Norman Stainbrook, township juvenile officer, said the advent of summer has resulted in greater use of the mini-bikes, with resultant increase in complaints of reckless driving and unnecessary noise.

Yakes and Stainbrook both called upon parents to exercise voluntary control over youngsters who have possession of the motorized bikes.

Burke Named To Post

William L. Burke, vice-chairman of the City Planning Commission for the last four years, was elevated to the chairmanship this week to succeed Frederick M. Seibert, who recently was appointed to the City Council.

Russell D. Milligan was elected by his colleagues on the board as the new vice-chairman, while Charlotte Bruce was re-elected secretary.

Burke and his wife and four children reside at 2716 Floral Ave. He is a graduate of the University of Detroit and has been a Farmington resident since 1950.

Besides election of officers, major topic under discussion at this week's session of the commission was a proposal for the stipulations to be included in a new ordinance regulating coin-operated car wash facilities.

The city has one such facility at the present time, while a second is under construction.

99-Year Old Returns To Farmington 'Village'

BY ELIZABETH WISSMAN

To Mrs. Metta Ambler, of this Farmington village, is still the "Strath Village."

In calling the city a "village," Mrs. Ambler is going back to what the community was on her birthdate 99 years ago next Sept. 19.

But don't let Mrs. Ambler's ripe old age mislead you—this is a lady who does not live in the past.

IN TOWN for a visit with Mr. and Mrs. Marvin Strath, 34780 12 Mile Rd., Farmington, Mrs. Ambler noted the Strath home was still the same as her father's home on Paul Butten's Centennial Farm.

She then decided she would like to go over to the farm and pick cherries, just as she did when she was a girl on her father's farm at 10 Mile and Orchard Lake Rd.

That isn't the whole story of the cherry-picking trip—because, as she said to the Straths, "I've taken in everything but an ocean liner or a Jeep, I want to ride over in your Jeep." And she did.

MRS. AMBLER recalls with fondness the days when she rode bareback on her father's horses all over the Farmington countryside.

Her father, George Conroy, was a veterinarian and Mrs. Ambler trained his horses for him.

George was the son of the Dennis Conroys, who owned a square mile of land near what is now Orchard Lake and 10 Mile Rds., and were the rich family in Oakland County at that time.

WHEN METTA AMBLER was born, Lincoln was still president. She lived on the farm until she was 16, attending Novak District School on what was Novak Rd., now Telegraph Rd. She also attended old Farmington High School.

After her marriage to Mark Ambler, a lumberman, Mrs. Ambler lived in Northville for 80 years. She had two children, both of whom are dead, and has 10 living great-grandchildren and three great-great-grandchildren.

She thinks progress like expressways is wonderful, but has a few doubts about people today.

"Years ago," she says, "people used to be congenial and friendly. Nowadays it's just the opposite.

"Yes, I know that they are busy," she continues, "but we were busy too, and we didn't have all of today's machinery to help us with our chores."

NOW that she is back in town for a while, Mrs. Ambler has been able to visit her only living close relative, Mrs. Pearl Sprague, of Drake Rd.

Mrs. Sprague is 91.

Conversation between two ladies of 90 years would be interesting to overhear.



HAVING FUN—Despite her 99 years, Mrs. Metta Ambler picked cherries at Butten's Orchard in Farmington the other day with all the grace of a young girl.

Festival To Be 3 Days Of Fun

The jam-packed schedule for the 1968 Founders Festival July 25, 26 and 27 results like a program guide for television shows—events are planned practically on the hour, every hour of the three days.

The Army will have a missile display all week in Danbury's Shopping Center, 12 Mile and Farmington Rds.

Preliminary judging of contestants in the Miss Founders Festival Pageant will be held at the Orchard Ridge Campus of Oakland Community College, 12 Mile and Orchard Lake Rds., on Tuesday, July 23.

THE GOODIES PART of the festival gets underway at 12 noon July 25 with the opening of the Eiks Ox Roast in Downtown Farmington Center. In another corner of the center, the Jaycees will begin serving their chicken box lunches at 4 p.m. the same day. These events are continuous throughout the festival.

Also getting underway on July 25 at 3 p.m. will be the helicopter rides taking off from the O.E. Dunlop Junior High athletic field on 18 Mile Rd.

THE FULL SCHEDULE for Thursday, July 25, offers:

- 5 p.m.—Miss Founders Festival final judging at the Orchard Ridge Campus.
- 5:30-8:30 p.m.—White Shrine 44 dinner in Masonic Temple, Grand River at Farmington Rd.
- 6-8 p.m.—Burst of hot-air balloons by Balloon Platoon in front of Showboat in downtown shopping center.

- 7 p.m.—Motorcade of finalists in Miss Founders Festival Pageant from west of Farmington along Grand River to downtown center. Crowning of Miss Founders Festival will follow at the Showboat in downtown center.
- 7:30 p.m.—Franklin Village Band concert directed by Bill Ellison at the Showboat.
- 9 p.m. to midnight—F.A.T.A.C. dance in East Junior High featuring "The Unrelated Segments" and "The Nickel Plate Express."

EVENTS on Friday, July 26, will be:

- 2 p.m.—Children's pet show in Plaza Shopping Center. Deadline for entry is noon July 25. Applications available at plaza merchants.
- 5 p.m. to 8 p.m.—Country style threshers dinner in the Masonic Lodge, sponsored by Farmington Chapter 239 Order of Eastern Star.
- 6:15 p.m.—First annual festival Six-Pitch Tournament. Eight teams from the City League, Jaycees and the Knights of Columbus will participate. Three concurrent games will be played on the Knights of Columbus diamond in City Park.
- 7:30-8:30 p.m.—Farmington Civic Band concert, directed by Paul Barber, at the Showboat in downtown center.

FUN GETS GOING at 10 a.m. on Saturday, July 27, with the big festival parade. Formation will be at the Grand River Drive-In Theatre with the route going west on Grand River to Farmington Rd. At the end of the parade, there will be a Candidates Corner at the Showboat, with political contenders taking part.

ALL day July 25 the Farmington Artists Club will hold an exhibit on the grounds of Farmington Junior High School and beginning at 9 p.m. the Masonic Temple-sponsored horse show will be held at 12 Mile and Farmington Rd.

ALSO ON SATURDAY will be 10 a.m.—elimination games of six-pitch tournament, City Park, 1 p.m.—Farmington Garden Club flower show, Farmington Junior High, 3 p.m.—Minor Little League All Star game, City Park, 7 p.m.—Major Little League All Star game, City Park, 7 p.m.—Championship game of six-pitch winners, City Park, 8:30 p.m.—Girls soft ball game, City Park.

All the gale winds up in a rousing square dance at 9 p.m., Saturday night sponsored by the city in downtown center.

And you aren't tired by that time, start thinking about next year's fun—it will have to go some to beat this year's.