

# Forbes bill would curb conflicts

By JACKIE KLEIN

A state legislator is taking another stab at clamping down on conflicts of interest among public officials and political candidates.

House majority floor leader Joseph Forbes (D-Oak Park), whose district includes Southfield, last week introduced, for the second time in two years, legislation defining and attempting to prevent conflicts of interest.

The bill prohibits public officials and employees and candidates for state and local offices from using their positions for financial gain. Forbes said, "This includes members of their immediate families and businesses with which they're associated."

"The bill also creates a state ethics commission to administer and enforce the law. This legislation is intended to assure that public officials perform their duties in the best interest of the people and not in the narrow pursuit of personal advancement."

Forbes in 1975 introduced House Bill 5250, the political reform act which was signed into law the same year. The act established a state ethics commission and defined and regulated conflicts of interest to curb political abuses.

THE STATE Supreme Court in 1976 issued two separate rulings on the political reform act. The court declared the law unconstitutional because it tried to regulate too many abuses in one piece of legislation.

Forbes maintains his new bill addresses itself to the court ruling by dealing solely with conflicts of interest and not with other areas of political abuse.

In another 176 ruling, the court

determined some of the provisions designed to regulate conflicts of interest were unconstitutional because they state and local officials together, disregarding their function or jurisdiction.

Forbes says his conflicts of interest bill responds to the court order by establishing different filing procedures for state and local officials.

"State officials and candidates for statewide office, under the bill, would be required to file annual statements of their sources of income, business associations, property holdings and business transactions regarding these holdings," Forbes said.

"Statements would also include names and addresses of each creditor to whom the official owes at least \$1,000 in personal loans. Officials would be required to also file the name and address of any person or business that gave them a gift valued at \$100 or more."

STATE OFFICIALS, Forbes said, would have to report any business associations, property holdings and real estate transactions anywhere in Michigan. Some officials would be required to file statements any income earned in addition to their salaries.

Local officials and candidates would also file annual statements of their sources of income, but not the dollar amounts they earn, Forbes said. They would only report associations with business and property holdings and real estate transactions in their political or school district.

The new bill would exclude local officials and candidates from filing statements in cities where these conditions exist:

• Cities which don't hire a full-time employee compensated by other than federal funds.

• Cities which don't employ more than five full-time Comprehensive Employment Training Act (CETA) employees.

• Cities which don't maintain an office open to the public for at least 20 hours a week in addition to hours required by law.

Under the bill, local and intermediate school boards, governing boards of junior or community colleges and governing bodies of political subdivisions would submit a list of local officials required to file financial disclosure statements with the state ethics commission.

"IN THIS WAY, Forbes said, "local public officials will be able to tell the commission who really performs these sensitive functions in their own community instead of having the legislature come up with language applying to the whole state."

This provision of the new bill, Forbes noted, wasn't in House Bill 5250 and is an important difference between the two measures.



## 'Stravinsky Violin Concerto

Kay Mazza and Peter Martins perform George Balanchine's "Stravinsky Violin Concerto," a dance which resulted from the close relationship between the choreographer and Stravinsky. "Choreography by Balanchine, Part 2" with members of the New York City Ballet will air on "Great Performances" at 9 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 21, on Channel 56.

## Sophomore wins grant

A Southfield student at Western Michigan University is one of 42 scholarship winners who are enrolled in the college's food distribution curriculum.

Gerald Burke, son of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Burke of Southfield, and a sophomore at WMU, will receive from \$400 to \$550 for the current academic year, according to William O. Haynes, WMU associate professor of distributive education.

The awards are presented on the basis of academic excellence and financial need. Food manufacturers, trade associations and foundations contributed the money for the scholarships, along with a food industry committee, headed by L.V. Eberhard, chairman of Eberhard Foods, Inc., in Grand Rapids.

Applications for the 1978-79 awards are now available. The awards are administered by the 1978-79 awards committee, headed by L.V. Eberhard, chairman of Eberhard Foods, Inc., in Grand Rapids.

# Michigan State lists local fall graduates

Nineteen Southfield-area students were among degree candidates who recently graduated during commencement exercises at Michigan State University in East Lansing.

Graduates and their degrees are: Jeffrey L. Young, 18221 Meadowood, Lathrup Village, an MBA in finance; Blake D. Angove, 29269 Franklin Road, a BS in psychology; Kenneth A. Barron, 27333 Arborway, a BA in hotel and restaurant management; Jay A. Batchelor, 19750 Hickory Leaf, a BS in packaging; and Lori Bl. Belin, 25782 Concourse, a BA in special education.

Other graduates are: Leonard A. Berger, 29228 Franklin Hills Road, a BA in accounting; Paul M. Bodner, 22669 Chatsford, a BA in financial administration; Walter C. Drummond, 17129 W. Thirteen Mile, an MBA in finance; Lori E. Kahn, 28550 Tavistock, a BA in psychology and speech sciences; Laurie H. Katz, 26680 Summerdale, a BA in psychology and speech sciences.

Additional graduates are: Terri L. Korthals, 18216 New Jersey, a BS in animal husbandry; Andrea B. Laker, 32310 Laurel Valley, a BFA in studio art; Evelyn M. Law, 30540 Longcrest, a BS in medical technology; Debbie B. Moscow, 1843, Onyx, a BA in elementary education; and Stuart M. Sprague, 27710 Arlington, a BS in zoology.

Other graduates are: Debra S. Stoy, 18451 George Washington, a BS in human environment and design; Tim H. Sullivan, 29286 Somerset, a BS in civil engineering; Ned M. Timmons, 21846 Fairway, an MA in continuing education; and Mark I. Warren, 25140 Parsons, a BS in psychology.

# Obituaries

## MARGARET SHARPE

Margaret Kathryn Sharpe, 86, died Dec. 4, at St. Anne's Mead in Southfield.

Mrs. Sharpe was born Jan. 4, 1891 in Evansville, Ind., and moved to the Detroit area in 1917. In early years, she studied painting at the Chicago Art Institute and was an accomplished pianist, organist and artist. She was an active member, teacher and worker at the Cathedral Church of St. Paul in Detroit for more than 50 years.

She was a member of the Women's City Club of Detroit, the Madrigal Club, the P.E.O. Sisterhood and the Order of St. Luke the Physician.

She is survived by daughter Mrs. Richard W. (Janet) Cavell of Birmingham, son C. Granville Sharpe of Birmingham, six grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were at the Cathedral Church of St. Paul. The family has requested that remembrances in her name be sent to the Cathedral for use in the ministry of healing.

## IBRAHIM YALDOO

Ibrahim Yaldoo, 77, of Southfield, died Dec. 4, at Henry Ford Hospital

following a short illness.

He was born April 21, 1900, in Iraq and moved to this area 15 years ago. He was a self-employed grocer.

Mr. Yaldoo was a deacon at Mother of God Church in Southfield and was active on the parish council. He was past president of the Chaldean Mercy Society and one of the founders of St. Joseph Church in Iraq.

He is survived by his wife Rajio; children: Rex, George, Jerry, Mrs. Gerorgette Anton, Mrs. Anahid Jabro, Mrs. Theresa George, Mrs. Mary Shamon and Mrs. Bernadette George and 36 grandchildren.

Funeral services were Dec. 7 at the Mother of God Church in Southfield. Burial was at Holy Sepulchre Cemetery.

VRGIL WOODFEND

Funeral services for Virgil Woodfend of Southfield were Tuesday Dec. 6, Mr. Woodfend, 87, died Dec. 4, in Botsford General Hospital. Born in Canada, he was a resident of the community for 35 years.

He was formerly employed by the Tin Smith-Roofing Co.

Mr. Woodfend is survived by his son Oliver.

He was buried in Evergreen Cemetery.



JOSEPH FORBES

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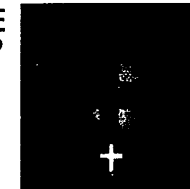
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