footprints in history

Community contest spotlights local history

ry.

As any true history buff will attest, the history of Parmington Township — forerunner to today's elites of Farmington and Farmington Hilb — offeriots of capilvating characters and milestone events.

stone events.
It's within that backdrop the Farmington Observer, in cooperation with the Farmington Historical Society, kicks off the first Farmington Foot-

prints in History Contest.

The timing certainly seems appropriate. This year, Botsford Inn is celebrating its sesquicentennial. Next year, it's the state of Michigan's turn to be a

it's the state of Michigan's turn to be a century and a half old.

The Observer's new Footprints In History column, which runs monthly, has been very well received. And the 1986 version of the Farmington Foun-ders Festival isn't far off.

The rules to enter the Farmington Footprints in History Contest are sim-

ple; Anyone with an interest in Farming-

ton Township's early years can enter. School children and senior citizens are especially encouraged to participate. Members of the Farmington Historical Society and employees of the Farmington Observer are, of course, ineligible.

AFTER CLIPPING this page, answer the questions identified in each of the three sections.

Some questions you may be able to answer from memory. But this quiz want designed to be easy. We want you to do some digging. All of the answers, however, can be found in local

history books readily available in the Farmington Community Library.
Even though some questions we consider very difficult, it's possible a real bistory buff could answer them all correctly.

That's why we included a tiebreaker That's why we include a terocater - a subjective question about how you view the value of local history. The accent will be on content, but please, put care into your response. We'd frown upon stoppy spelling and wretched grammar.

The judging team will consist of representatives of the Farmington Histori-

ociety and the Farmington Ob-

cal Society and the Farmington Observer.
FHIST PRIZE will be hardbound
copies of two local history books:

• "A Farmington Childhood: The
Watercolors of Lillian Drake Avery."
by Jean M. Fox with John B. Cameron,
published by the Farmington Hills Historical Continission in 1985.

• "More Than A Tavern: 150 Years
of Bustsford Inn," by Jean M. Fox, published by Four Corners Press in 1986.
Second and third prize will each be a
softcover copy of "A Farmington
Childhood: The Watercolors of Lillian

Drake Avery."

Mail or drop off entries at the Farmington Observer's Downtown Farmington office, 32203 Grand River, Farmington 46024. We're in the rear of the Metro Bank Building. The deadline to enter is April 15.

Please consider entering, and if you do, good luck!

Besides whateve enjoyment the contest may provide, you might find yourself deepening your appreciation for the early years of Farmington Township's development.

— Bob Skiar

A. In this part, answer each question as fully and concisely as possible. List your response on the line beneath each question. If unsure, guess!

People

- She was a dark-haired beauty who adopted a baby boy. The baby grew up and became the only gover-nor of Michigan from Farmington in 1904. Who was he?
- 2. She grew up in Farmington, married her high school sweetheart and moved to Pontiac. There, she contributed a lot to Michigan history. She documented the Underground Railroad in Farmington in papers she prepared in the 1920s. Who was she?
- After a long trip to the Michigan frontier, she fell off a wagon and died of the injuries. She was the first ploneer woman to be buried in

1. What was Farmington's first main street, where local businesses, crafters and professionals were lo-cated in the 1830s

2. The Detroit United Railway

The Detroit United trainway route to Pontlac ran beside this road between 1900 and 1930. People tra-veled this road to spend time at a resort hotel on a lake by the same name. What is the name of the road?

3. Which road was named by a pi-neer family who were important in

Roads

Farmington. Who was she?

- 4. Who was the first pioneer woman to come to Farmington and was the mother of the first "white" baby born here?
- 5. Who started the Farmington Ladies Literary Society, which was the forerunner of the Farmington Women's Club? She married a Cana-dian doctor who was traveling through Farmington.
- 6. Who was Farmington's first librarian?
- 7. Which black woman escaped from slavery in Virginia, then came to Farmington? She lived to be more than 100 years old and was Farmington's first centenarian.

apple growing in Farmington Town-ship? The name was often misspelled with an extra "a."

- 4. Which road was the main street of North Farmington? There was a milk receiving station, two general stores, a school and a blacksmith shop along this road.
- 5. Planned in the 1920s, this road was part of a super highway system in the Detroit metropolitan area. What is the name of the road?
- 6. Sleepy Hollow was clustered

8. Who was Farmington school su-perintendent from 1939 to 1943 and 1946 to 1956? He had a school named after him.

9. He was a prosperous downtown businessman around the turn of the century. The 1915 building bearing his name still stands today on Grand River. Who was he?

- 10. Who was Palmer Sherman?
- 11. Who was Ezekiel Webb?
- 12. Who was Sergius P. Lyon?
- 14 Who was Leo Gildemeister?

around the first grist mill in Farm-ington Township on this road. The road was named for a pioneer fami-ly. What is the name of the road?

- 7. What is the name of the De-troit-Howell Plank Road?
- 8. What is the name of the area's first natural beauty road?
- What was the previous name of Farmington Road within the village of Farmington?.

Places

- Near what intersection was the first tree felled in Farmington on March 8, 1824?
- 2. In what cometery did the first burial in Farmington take place?
- 3. Near what modern intersection was the first tavern the Walker, later the Wixom located?
- 4. Where did Henry Ford court his future wife, Clara?
- 5. Where was the first post office located?
- 6. Where was Buckhorn Corners?
- 7. About 1860, Farmington had a race track. Where was it?
- 8. In the great fire of 1872, what area was burned out?
- 9. Where is the oldest house in the City of Farmington?
- 10. Where was a "centennial tree" planted in 1924?
- 11. Where did Farmington's War Memorial originally stand?
- 12. What was the original location of the Universalist Church, which is

now on Halsted Road?

- 13. In which cemetery is Gover-nor Warner buried?
- 14. What was the name of the historic hostel, widely known for high-quality entertainment, that, according to legend, served as a station on the Underground Railroad?
- 15. What was the later name of the old Farmington Dairy on Grand River?
- 16. What did the Potawatomic In-dians call the area now known as Clarenceville?

Schools

- 1. Who was Farmington's first schoolmaster?
- 2. Who was the first female school teacher?
- 3. On what street was the first school located?
- 4. In what year were small local school districts consolidated into Farmington Public Schools?
- 5. What school burned down on Christmas Eve about six years ago?
- 6. What former school was converted into an attractive office building?
- 7. What was another name for the Coleman School, leveled during the building of I-696?
- 8. Where was Thayer School
 - 9. What high school was named after a former school superintendent?

Supervisors for 16 years during the 1950s-1960s. Who was he?

6. In 1867, the speaker of the state House of Representatives was from Farmington. This man was also a delegate to the convention that re-wrote the state Constitution in 1867, which the voters rejected at the polls — overwhelmingly. Who was he?

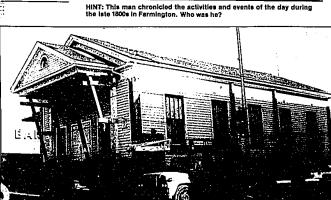
Politics

- When did Farmington's three-term governor Governor Warner
 serve in Lansing as chief executive?
- 2. To what political party did Governor Warner belong?
- 3. Farmington Township's last su-
- pervisor and Farmington Hills' first mayor were the same man. Who was he?
- 4. Who was Farmington's state representative before Sandy Brotherton?
- 5. A Farmington man was chair-man of the Oakland County Board of

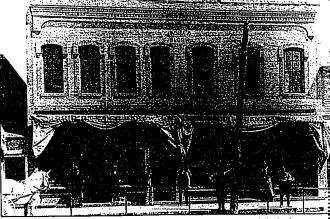
B. In this part, identify what is requested in the captions to each of these old photographs. Bonus: What year do you think each photo was taken? List your answer below each photo.

Photos courtesy Farmington Public Library, Farmington Historical Society





HINT: The cidest house of worship in Farmington this picture was taken in the summer of 1967, was moved from the city to a rural setting when What was the name of the church?



day. Name at least two of the businesses rently housed in this building. HINT: This turn-of-the-century photo shows a historic downtown building that's still in use to-

In this part, the spotlight is on the value of local history swer in 150 word less the follo question: What do you place on ha an understanding an appreciation o cal history? The tent of your an will count more its literary pro Use additional pap necessary.

-				
		_		
			· · · · · ·	
	- :			