



Edward Hopkins of Farmington Hills (right) listens with his attorney Tom McGinnis as Judge Fred Harris of the 47th District Court binds him over for trial in Oakland County Circuit Court. He is charged with shooting to death two Detroit men.

Hills man faces trial on murder charges

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— apparently as he approached Mikel who was getting money off the television set — he tried to shoot Preston as he ran out of the house. Preston was found by police across Eight Mile behind a Perry drug store in Livonia.

"Instead of letting Richard Preston go, defendant Edward P. Hopkins chased him," Mazur said.

McGINNIS, HOWEVER, said that Hopkins never sought out Carter and Preston. The two arrived at the Farmington Hills house and went into the house uninvited. Mazur diagnosed and quoted Mikel Hopkins' testimony that he told them he had their money and to come in. "It is the contention of the defend-

ant they (Carter and Preston) were not invited to the home," McGinnis said. Carter and Preston went to the house, McGinnis continued, to either rob or assault Hopkins.

Hopkins acted in fear of his life and his actions were "predicated on the actions of the defendants one week before," McGinnis added. "There is no showing of premeditation, no showing of laying in wait, no showing of pursuing the victims."

Mazur argued that Edward Hopkins was not the one who was threatened when Carter and Preston came to the Farmington Hills house apparently looking for their money. "If he (Mikel) was so frightened by them, why did he invite them in? At no time, Mazur added, were Carter and Preston asked to leave the house. She also referred to Hopkins' bor-

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— Tom McGinnis defense attorney

rowing of a shotgun when he arrived home from the hospital as an indication of what he planned to do to Carter and Preston came to his house.

"A shotgun is not made to grow flowers. . . . A shotgun is made and used for one reason only and that is to shoot and kill," Mazur said.

Couple remembers life during World War II

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thing that we had to do. Everybody was quarantined. Nobody could leave."

Although half a century has passed, the anniversary of the attack on Pearl Harbor still moves him.

Yackley, who now serves as post commander of Groves-Walker American Legion Post 341 in Farmington, still recalls the day he was inducted into the service — Nov. 21, 1941.

"Four years, one month and eight days," Yackley counts out when talking up his length of service in an Army anti-aircraft unit.

YACKLEY AND his wife, Betty, were married in the rectory of Our Lady of Sorrows Church in Farmington just three days before he went into the service. They had dated since the previous February.

He was Betty's brother's friend. Now, while they've pushed Pearl Harbor into the shadows of their memories, the couple continues to observe a more personal day — their wedding anniversary.

They just celebrated their Golden with friends and their son Paul and daughter Kathy Popa at a local restaurant.

During the war, Betty followed Bob to his different stations in the United States, traveling to Virginia,

Texas and Maryland to meet him. Then he was shipped overseas to New Guinea and the Philippines.

"We cried and cried and cried," Betty said. "We cried when we said hello and cried when we parted."

Then, letters became the lifeblood of their relationship.

Betty still has "all kinds of letters" that Bob writes.

BETTY'S MOTHER went one step further with letters Bob sent to her and made a scrapbook for Betty.

"She published got sick of reading them," Betty said with a laugh. "They were all the same — how much he missed me and how he couldn't get through this if it wasn't for me."



Farmington's Bob Yackley looks through his war memorabilia, as his wife of 50 years, Betty, discusses the World War II.

Farmington Observer

(USPS 187-840)
Published every Monday and Thursday by Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 805 E. Maple, Birmingham, MI 48009-0910. Second-class postage paid at Birmingham, MI 48009-0910. Postmaster: Send address changes to Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 805 E. Maple, Birmingham MI 48009-0910, Telephone 644-1100.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES
(in Oakland County) \$38.40
(Elsewhere in Michigan) \$55.00
(Elsewhere in U.S.A.) \$80.00

One year \$38.40
Six months \$22.80
Three months \$13.20
One year \$55.00
Six months \$33.00
Three months \$16.50
One year \$80.00
Six months \$48.00
Three months \$24.00

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