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today's
hot line

State

E. Robert Turner, 41, former Burbank, Calif. city manager, has been named executive director of the fledgling Southeastern Michigan Council of Governments (COG). He starts work April 1 as chief hired man for the cooperative agency that covers six metropolitan counties. Turner has been city manager of Brookfield, Mo.; Springfield, Ore., and Boulder, Colo.

International

The Communists stepped up their Vietnam offensive with a division ready to attack American positions at Da Nang.

observerland

PLYMOUTH—City Clerk Eugene Slider has certified 610 signatures on the open housing referendum petitions that were filed a week ago. He will so notify the City Commission at its next regular meeting on Monday, Feb. 19. If the Commission acts on the petition, it must call a special election not less than 40 days nor more than 90 days from the 19th.

PLYMOUTH—Owners of agricultural land in Plymouth are making a last ditch stand against a proposed zoning ordinance that would re-zone all property for one acre home sites.

REDFORD—Employee's Civil Service Commission Chairman William Shaw acknowledged that many "gray" areas of the commission's duties need clarifying. Entering its second year of activity, the commission is operating under a new state law. Compounding problems is the township's requirement to bargain with Teamsters union representatives, who were chosen by the employees about the same time civil service began.

REDFORD—Senior citizens tax exemption applications have been submitted thus far by 633 persons in the nearly 80,000 person township.

LIVONIA—The city isn't suggesting that anyone get a gun, but for those who have them legally, instruction schools will be set up by the police on orders of the mayor. While a lot of people got them for "self protection" at home, the clinics will be used to teach "self safety" in handling, using and storing the weapons.

LIVONIA—Trying to catch up with District growth, and to anticipate the future, Livonia's school board is preparing to build three more elementary schools, a 10th junior high school, expand two other junior highs, is building a fourth senior high and considering a vocational or technical school, all at a cost of millions. With 34,500 pupils now, the district expects eventually to have 50,000.

What's Inside

Cold as winter mornings are, trainers are working out harness race horses, many of them colts, on the Northville Downs track. Picture story on Page 1B.

George Wallace will run for President; national news roundup on Page 2B.

European sentiment swings behind the U.S. stand in Vietnam; world news roundup on Page 1B.

Engagements and weddings 9A
Area obituaries 11A
Farmington Community Calendar 2A
Editorial 4A
Sex Education—where it's going 10B

THIS IS A...

MINI-AD

CRIB, car-bed, jumper-seat, girls' dresses, 6-12, 2-4, 4-6, 6-8, 8-10, 10-12, and film case. CASH!

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Joint City, Township Parleys Loom



BUILDING PROJECT STARTED—Supervisor Curtis H. Hall is shown as he dug the first shovel of dirt Thursday in ground breaking ceremonies for the \$379,000 addition to Farmington Township's administration building.

The project will be completed in the fall. With Hall, from left to right, are Township Trustee James Skillman, Acting Clerk Gladys Thomas, Trustee Peter Klipp and Township Attorney Joseph Brennan.

Council Gives OK, Trustees To Act Monday

By FRED DELANO

A proposal to hold joint meetings of the Farmington City Council and Township Board of Trustees four times a year to discuss problems common to both governments moved rapidly toward mutual adoption this week.

The plan originated with Councilman John Allen who said it would be "a step forward in improving communication, planning and public relations for the better welfare of the community."

A resolution inviting township trustees to participate in this communication break-through was adopted by unanimous vote of the council, and the invitation itself will be included on the township board's agenda Monday night.

SUPERVISOR CURTIS H. HALL, chairman of the township board, called it "an excellent idea" and said he could see no barrier to acceptance on the part of his colleagues.

The city's suggestion would have Hall and City Manager John Dinan prepare the agenda of topics to be discussed at each joint meeting. Whether the sessions would be open to the public or conducted as administrative workshops, has not been discussed.

In presenting his proposal, Allen declared: "In view of common problems affecting citizens of the city and township and suggestions for a closer working relationship, I propose that quarterly meetings be established between the city and township and that positive dates and times be fixed."

"To accomplish this I propose that City Manager Dinan and Supervisor Hall be asked to arrange such meetings at suitable times and that they prepare an agenda of topics to be discussed which will be given to the respective members in advance so that sufficient preparation can be made."

"Among the topics which might be explored are zoning, recreation, public safety, education, Oakland County capital improvement proposals, area studies, traffic and road development."

THE LACK OF COMMUNICATION between city and township was frequently mentioned critically during recent discussions pertaining to sponsorship of an area study of future governmental alternatives, and several officials expressed the hope that something could be done to improve relationships.

The Allen resolution was the first positive step taken in that direction.

Dinan said that if the township acts favorably to the invitation he will confer with Hall "as soon as possible" to set the wheels in motion leading to the first meeting.

To Pinpoint Needy

Farmington residents 55 years and older will be questioned by volunteer workers on Feb. 13 for information for an OEO program called Project FIND (friendless, isolated, needy, disabled).

Purpose of the survey is to obtain facts on income and living habits of senior citizens for the National Council on Aging. Information obtained in the 50-50 question survey will be forwarded to that office.

If individual senior citizens are found to be in need, the Project FIND office in Pontiac will make referrals of the case to the counselors and department of the Oakland County Social Services Bureau.

Early Found Guilty

An Oakland County Circuit Court jury returned a verdict Thursday finding 26-year-old John Early of Farmington Township guilty of intent to do great bodily harm less than murder in the shooting of his divorced wife Aug. 1, 1967.

Early was accused of shooting his ex-mate, Shirley, 30, in the right arm at the left her job at 29420 Grand River, and then fleeing on foot to avoid capture. His defense in this week's court trial was based upon a plea of temporary insanity.

Circuit Judge Robert L. Temple, in his charge to the jury at the end of the four-day trial, listed seven possible verdicts which could be reached, including acquittal.

The verdict which the jury returned was the second most severe of the seven. It carries a possible maximum penalty of 10 years in prison. Meanwhile, Judge Temple continued bond at \$25,000, which was unfulfilled, and set March 8 for sentencing.

Principal witnesses against Early included his former wife and Diane Scott, who was to have driven Mrs. Early home after work the night of the shooting and from whose car police say she was pulled by the husband at the time of the shooting.

Pending sentence, Early remains a prisoner in the Oakland County Jail.

Valuation Figures Available

City property owners in Farmington may obtain information on the amount of 1968 assessments from Feb. 12 through 16 at City Hall.

The period has been designated as "Assessor's Review Week" as a new instrument of communication with the public.

Every parcel of land within the city has been assessed at a higher valuation this year, according to City Manager John D. Dinan, and the municipality is taking this means to notify property owners of the new figures. However, the initiative rests with the individual who must make his own inquiry.

As usual, those who object strenuously to the 1968 assessments may present their complaints to the Board of Review which will be in session March 5, 11, 12 and 13.

Is Certified

Roxana Collier, 28119 Grand Duke Dr., Farmington, was certified as a practical nurse at commencement exercises Jan. 25 at the Ann Arbor Practical Nurse Education Center.

3M Co. Eyes Township As Possible Plant Site

By SUE SHAUGHNESSY

Negotiations are currently under way for the possible sale of a plant site in Farmington Township to one of the world's largest industrial firms—Minnesota Mining & Manufacturing Co. (3M Co.) is reportedly aiming for a 65,000 square foot plant in the Farmington Township Industrial Park.

No sales agreement had been signed, however, as of late last week. The Farmington Enterprise & Observer has learned that the new facility would cost an estimated \$1.5 million to construct.

WILLIAM W. BOWMAN, chairman of the Township's Industrial Development Commission, declined to verify the report.

A spokesman for the 3M Co. in St. Paul said that the company is always looking for land and that "no major plant was planned for the Detroit area."

Such a plant would be a "minor expansion" for the world-wide firm, he asserted. The spokesman, William Jensen, manager of institutional publicity, emphasized that nothing had been signed, and no final decision had been made.

Jensen added that the firm has a number of divisions, but that the plant search is coordinated by the company's engineering staff.

According to the reports, a member of the engineering staff, James Stoker, has been negotiating with Thompson Brown Co. for a parcel in its industrial development.

Bowman, in addition to being chairman of the township's development commission, is the executive vice president of Thompson Brown.

A reliable source reported that 3M had been negotiating with Plymouth Township over a site in its industrial park, but that Farmington would be the company away with its "better" facilities.

THE 3M CO. is known in business circles as a "conglomerate," because it is involved in eight different industries around the world. Products range from its popularly known "Scotch tape" to bowling equipment and automotive products.

It has some plants in the Detroit area serving the automotive industry.

The 3M Co. ranks 60th on Fortune Magazine's 1967 list of the 500 largest industrial firms, based on its net sales of \$1.15 billion.

It also ranks as one of the nation's most profitable firms. With net income of \$138 million—or 20 per cent of invested capital—equal to \$2.59 a common share, the 3M Co. has shown an annual growth rate since 1961 of between 12 and 13 per cent per year. In net income, it ranks 27th in the nation.

Tree Planting Program Receives City Backing

Beautification of Farmington through a deliberately planned tree planting program which would make trees available to residents at cost was encouraged by the City Council this week.

The matter was brought to the council's attention by M.H. Sitts, of 22490 Floral, who complained that many of the city's trees are deteriorating and may have to be removed within the next few years.

Declaring that Farmington's many trees "have more to do with the charm of our city than any other factor," Sitts suggested consideration of positive steps to retain this beauty. City Manager John D. Dinan backed him up by asking referral to the Beautification Committee, and in this he gained approval.

Dinan said the city is losing approximately 300 trees each year, mostly as victims of the Dutch elm disease, and offered as a possible answer

a plan in which the city would buy trees in large quantities and then resell them to individual homeowners without seeking any profit.

The Beautification Committee, in its study, will be asked to discuss the advisability of contacting each individual subdivision, determining whether members would agree to select a particular tree type for development in their given area.

Turning the attention to garbage and rubbish collection problems, the council agreed it would be "financially advantageous" to amend the city's contract with McCready Trucking Co. and create a plan to provide three McCready trucks with gasoline which the city purchases at a bulk rate.

Until now, the contractor has been buying gasoline at retail rates, with the city paying \$2,800 per month for collection and disposal of rubbish. Under the new agreement,

Constable Hicks Dies Suddenly

Billy Hicks, 28760 Bartlett, Farmington Township, a constable since 1958, died suddenly in Pontiac General Hospital Wednesday evening. He was 48 years old.

Hicks had lived in Farmington Township for 20 years. Born Oct. 20, 1920 in St. Joseph, Mo. he was a commissioned deputy with the Oakland County Sheriff's Department, past exalted ruler of Lodge 1986, BPOE, and a member of the Novi Lodge L.O.O.P.

Survivors include his wife, Mary; two daughters, Karen and Sheila, both of Farmington; two sons, Bruce and Gary, both of Livonia; four sisters, Mrs. Velma Stevenson, of Detroit, Mrs. Ethel Rogers, of Chicago, Mrs. Elsie Drage, of Farmington, and Mrs. Alta Morrison, of Livonia; two brothers, Vernon and Harold, of Farmington; three step-children, one grandchild; and six step-grandchildren.



BILLY HICKS