

today's hot line observerland

REDFORD — South Redford Schools cut the June 10 ballot proposition for operating millage increase from five to 3½ mills this week when it became known that the district's equalized valuation had jumped more than \$22 million to \$197 million-plus.

REDFORD — Ellis Ross is back in jail. After arraignment on a township charge of possessing a stolen auto, Justice John Dillon set bond at \$10,000 pending examination May 7. Ross, accused of shooting a policeman and robbing two banks, also had previously posted \$20,000 bond in federal and Dearborn Heights courts.

PLYMOUTH — After serving for little more than a year, Robert Corrington has resigned as chief of the City of Plymouth police department. He has accepted a new position at Swartz Creek. He cited personal reasons for the move.

PLYMOUTH — The City Commission will reveal the first \$2 million budget in the city's history at the public hearing Monday night at the regular meeting in City Hall.

LIVONIA — Mayor Harvey W. Moelke has appointed four new members to the city's traffic commission to fill vacancies that have occurred on the seven-member board this year. All who quit gave personal reasons, and city hall knew, however, that the mayor wanted closer cooperation by various departments, including police and planning, in solving the city's traffic problems and planning for the future.

LIVONIA — The Board of Education and a large group of employees — not including teachers and administrative — await a hearing by the State Labor Mediation Board, which impounded the ballots after an election to pick a bargaining agent. Officials said Teamsters Union Local 229, which urged the election, charged unfair practices by the school administration. The hearing will determine whether the charges are true. Local 118 and Metropolitan Council 23, AFSCME, AFL-CIO, have been acting for the custodians, maintenance personnel, and others.

What's Inside

An exhibit of swimming grace and skill is captured on film by our lensmen in Plymouth, Page 1 B.
A six-union construction strike has begun in Michigan, tying up a number of local school projects, just as the Michigan Bell strike appears to be near an end, Page 12 A.

A second Democratic candidate makes it official that he's in the 19th District race for Congress, Page 8 B.

The Council of Governments, previously the target of right-wingers, may face a "black power" attack, Page 5 B.

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up coming

In theory, most Republicans and Democrats, economists and politicians agree that the U.S. needs an income tax increase to correct its drastic balance of payments deficit. But the details and the political blame-are being debated in Washington, and area Congressmen are in the fight. See the Public Affairs page Wednesday.

TIME TO TRADE?

When the old buggy can't keep up on the freeways, and paying for repairs and replacements has you temporarily embarrassed, it's time to unload. Dial GA 2-0900 and advertise it on the automotive pages of the Observer. Classified Section. Shop there, too, when you look for your next car — new or used!



Schools To Warn Of Cuts In Sports, Arts, Transportation

By FRED DeLANO

The Board of Education plans to give Farmington the shock treatment Monday night.

In an 8 p.m. meeting in Farmington Junior High School, to which interested taxpayers are invited, board spokesmen will spell out in detail the bits and bites they will cut from the educational program if the proposal for four additional mills in taxation is defeated at the polls June 10.

To the property owner, each mill represents \$1 per \$1,000 in assessed valuation.

The four mills, if approved, would bring in \$811,000.

WITHOUT that \$811,000, it has been learned that the board plans these 1968-69 cutbacks:

The school system will operate with 44 fewer teachers and consultants than planned. All athletics except varsity football and varsity basketball will be dropped.

No students who live within a mile and one-half of their school, except those in special education classes, will be permitted bus transportation.

All field trips will be eliminated. Instrumental and vocal music instruction will be slashed drastically, possibly to the point

of eliminating high school bands and orchestras and unquestionably curtailing grade school instruction.

Driver training will be cut in half.

Purchase of added library books and instructional materials will be reduced.

Data processing will be eliminated, the maintenance budget will be trimmed severely, and capital outlay for new equipment will be reduced.

These are the main points of the board's "hard sell" program, and full amplifications of all phases will be disclosed in the meeting Monday night.

THE STAFF reduction, it has been learned, will include 18 consultants, four instrumental music teachers, three reading specialists, two librarians, six counselors, five special assignment teachers and six administrative interns.

Discontinuance or curtailment of extracurricular student activities would give the ax to all junior high school sports programs, high school sports programs, high school varsity golf, tennis, baseball, track, cross country, wrestling and gymnastics, plus reserve teams in high school football and basketball.

The Girls Athletic Association, cheerleaders, debating

teams, dramatics, forensics and school newspapers also may be victims of the austerity effort.

The board has identified the two basic positions it will take as being:

1. The educational program will be carried on within the revenue available. This is expected to be \$11,105,000 if the four-mill proposition passes and \$10,294,000 if it doesn't. The difference is \$811,000.

2. If added millage is defeated June 10, the board will accept the voters' verdict as a mandate to proceed on the austerity budget for 1968-69 without going back to the ballot box.

As word of the board's plans for specific cutbacks has leaked out, such questions as these already have arisen:

What if a coach volunteers to take charge of an athletic squad on his own time?

Will the Farmington Education Association, which negotiates the teacher salary scale, permit extra-time volunteer duty without remuneration?

What will happen to Farmington's rating with the North Central Association regarding collegiate accreditation if the cuts go through as outlined?

The answers to these and other pertinent questions will be forthcoming Monday.

Road Taxation Proposal Added To Aug. 6 Ballot

Although it was branded an "empty gesture" by one of their members, the Oakland County Board of Supervisors this week authorized an election on the question of raising taxes one mill for five years to gain added funds for road improvements.

The issue will be submitted to a county-wide vote Aug. 6 at the time of the general primary election.

On the basis of present equalized valuation figures, the levy would raise approximately \$3.4 million for use by the County Road Commission in 1969, and probably more than that in each of the succeeding four years.

Approval at the polls would mean an added tax of \$1 per \$1,000 assessed valuation for all property holders in the county from 1968 through 1972.

SUPERVISORS Delos Hamlin and Curtis Hall, representing the city and township of Farmington respectively, both supported the resolution authorizing the election.

However, Supervisor Philip O. Mastin Jr., of Hazel Park, took his colleagues to task when he declared:

"I think the people will regard this as an empty gesture. We have come into additional funds this year but have refused to consider appropriating any of it to help the road situation."

"If we truly meant what we say, we would provide some funds for the roads ourselves. Our action would have more

significance if we put our money where our mouth is."

SUPERVISOR Lee B. Valentine, of Oxford Township, who is chairman of the committee on roads, informed the board that it is the intent of the Road Commission to spend the money in proportion to the amount raised in each area.

The campaign to build support for the proposition will be waged by the Road Commission itself, with supervisors pledged to endorse it.

Teen Dope Traffic Soars In Suburbs

Marijuana and drug traffic among teen-agers and young adults in the northwest suburbs "is increasing alarmingly and you can get it anywhere if you're in the know."

That was the disclosure of Livonia police which showed the problem now also involves Plymouth, Farmington and northwest Detroit.

As this is written, a 16-year-old is in a hospital where he was committed a month and a half ago following "a bad trip" on a hallucinatory drug.

Since Jan. 1, the Livonia Police department's Intelligence Bureau, which handles narcotics investigations, has broken eight dangerous drug rings selling amphetamines, barbiturates and LSD.

Gang members in the eight cases, including both sellers and suppliers, ranged in age from 18 through 26. They came from Livonia, Plymouth, Farmington and Detroit.

The arrest of shoplifters in local stores turned up an increasing number of heroin and cocaine addicts, most from out of town, who steal to support their habit.

Livonia Police Sgt. Lee B. Grieve, head of the Intelligence Bureau, said the increase in traffic has himself and his staff working around the clock.

"Getting grass (marijuana) is easier for the teen-ager of today to get than beer was when we were kids," he said.

Marijuana, more easily obtained, makes up the bulk of the local illicit drug traffic.

Authorities can only guess at the number of local addicts but state that it compares with the 1 to 4 per cent national average among persons under 21.



WORK GOES ON — Installation of water lines in Farmington Township proceeded unabated this week. Unaffected by the strike in the construction industry. This view shows the heavy equipment in use near Middle Belt and 12 Mile roads, part of the Northeast Pressure District project.



DAUNTLESS DUO — Peter Sartin, (left), 33709 Oakland, and Doug Griffin, 24715 Glen Orchard, both of Farmington, took off Wednesday in the 1957 Chevy pictured, determined to make it to La Paz, Bolivia in six weeks. By the time they get there, the Chevy's 97,371 miles will be increased by another 10,000.

Shaky Chevy Takes Pair On 10,000 Mile Odyssey

By ELIZABETH WISSMAN

"Bolivia or Bust!" is the legend painted on the side of a 1957 Chevy two Farmington youths drove off in Wednesday headed in the general direction of South America.

Doug Griffin, 23, 24715 Glen Orchard, and Peter Sartin, 22, 33709 Oakland, hope to be in La Paz, Bolivia, by June 15. With Grimala, 24,025 Drake Rd., Farmington will be waiting to meet them in La Paz on that date.

MEETING GRIMALA is the whole purpose of the trip. He has been in the Peace Corps in South America since November, and hasn't seen his two closest buddies since that time.

The three went through Farmington schools together and were classmates at the University of Michigan, where they recently received degrees. At Farmington High, Grimala was a star basketball player, Griffin the president of his class and Sartin president of the Student Council.

Griffin says he and Grimala became the best of friends because their last names begin with "Gri" and they were always seated near each other in classes. "Either in front or back or beside each other," is the way Griffin puts it.

TO GET BACK to the travel plans—Griffin and Sartin plan to drive their beat-up jalopy along the Pan American Highway on the 10,000-mile trip. They took 1-94 out of here to Chicago, will go on to St. Louis, Dallas, Laredo, Mexico City and down through Central America to the Panama Canal. The re-built Chevy has 97,000 miles on it so the dauntless duo figure they're in for some car

trouble along the way. They haven't made any definite plans as to what they'll do in the event of a breakdown, but are trusting to luck.

They did leave equipped with pup tents and a camp stove in case of a breakdown out in the wilds some place along the way.

Griffin says, "We're shooting for a budget of \$3 a day and will come home when we're broke."

Bolivia is not Griffin and Sartin's final destination. After a confab with Grimala, the daring-doers plan to take in Argentina and Brazil and then go on to Africa.

If they get there, and it's a big IF, they will embark from Tangier, Africa, for home.

Depending on the Chevy, money and state of health after eating inexpensive foreign food, the travelers have to be back in the States by Sept. 9.

They have a date at the Marine Officers' Training School in Quantico, Va., at that time.

And you don't break a date with the Marines no matter how many miles you have to travel to keep it.

'68 School Census Begins In District

Now in progress is Farmington School District's annual census. Eleven local women, identified by plastic badges with their signatures affixed, began the canvass May 1.

Information will be obtained to verify the number of children living within Farmington school boundaries. Also, for the first time, a census will be tabulated on the number of adults over the age of 20.

Another federal census is not scheduled until 1970 and the count of adults will be useful to the state at this time.

The census-takers include: Mrs. Kathryn Bentley, 21755 Ruth; Mrs. Judith M. Bonem, 23424 N. Stockton; Mrs. Joan Culham, 37745 Carson Rd.; Mrs. Margaret Goyette, 7099 Springridge Rd.; Birmingham; Mrs. Helen M. Gibson, 33856 Glenview Dr.; Mrs. Stefanie Kuester, 32253 Baintree Rd.; Mrs. Patrick I. Lindenmuth, 34004 Kirby; Mrs. Dolores I. Rimer, 29741 Linden; Mrs. Donna Roberts, 21725 Ruth; Mrs. Dorothy Roberts, 21165 Ruth; and Mrs. Virginia Rylance, 33825 Glenview Dr.