

OCC Ballot Hinges On Hat-pin Aim

If ever there was a grab-bag election, it's the one which impends for Oakland County on Monday, June 10, when three of 13 candidates will be elected to six-year terms on the Board of Trustees of Oakland Community College.

All registered voters of the county are eligible to cast ballots, but even with accompanying tax millage elections in at least 11 of Oakland's 28 school districts coming on the same date (including Farmington), it is doubtful whether even 30 per cent of the electorate will voice an opinion.

The apathy is sickening.

Other than personal friends of the candidates, there isn't one man on the street in a dozen who can even name three candidates, let alone gauge the qualifications of all 13 and come up with his or her personal choice of the three best qualified.

It's an election which will be decided by the hat-pin system. It's a travesty, and yet it's the best the non-partisan system can produce.

Oakland Community College, which has one of its three campuses in gas-lighted Farmington Township, proposes an operating budget for 1968-69 of better than \$8 million. It's big business, and getting bigger.

In September, the total enrollment at the three sites will approach the level of 6,000 students, with about 2,200 expected to be attending classes here.

One might think there would be some interest in selecting the board to administer such a facility, but if there is it has yet to make itself known.

editorial

Starting with President John E. Tirrell, O.C.C. has lost its top officials to other lures so fast lately one would think last weekend's rain was in its 39th day. Yet not one candidate, so far as this journal knows, has stepped forward to pose a renunciation of whatever malady afflicts a highly paid O.C.C. berth.

It's confusing.

Of the present Board of Trustees, four carry over without having to bid for re-election this time around. One is a General Motors patent attorney, a second is a housewife and mother, a third springs from a laborer's background, and the fourth, Ralph Tyndall, has only recently retired from a long career as a professional educator. It's a good mixture.

But the thing is, these four are now to be given three new colleagues. Two incumbents, an electronic technician and an insurance motive corporate accountant, are among the 13 seeking the honor and the grief, which really are about the only awards. They certainly are not financial.

Five of the 12 reside in the Farmington community, either city or township, and a person so interested in education as many are claiming these days might just as well ask himself a simple quiz: Who are the five and what are their election qualifications?

Anyone who can answer that question wins a fur-lined voting booth, and it's safe to say only a handful will be given.

At the same time, if there's apathy on the part of the voters there's equal disinterest evidenced by the candidates. We openly plead with them to let the public in on their attributes, which must be many to cause them to seek such responsibility.

Though the personal rewards aren't high, the service to be rendered Oakland County, its youth, and, yes, even its taxpayers, is all-important. We suggest substituting information for the hat pin.

—Fred DeLano

Police Hustle Even When It's Calm

WHILE MICHIGAN MOTORISTS were going about their tribal rite of hatching obituary notices for 30 of the membership last weekend in the usual Friday through Sunday sport of highway bingo, Farmington city and township police departments experienced what must be classed a "typical" weekend.

In the land of babbling brooks and glassy glades, things were pretty calm. Nobody got himself killed. There were no major bank jobs. There wasn't even a marijuana arrest.

However, lest you have a mistaken impression of what some of your acquaintances and neighbors do to pass the time from 6 p.m. Friday until midnight Sunday (which is the period used in the state's weekly traffic fatality count), we will enlighten you.

They didn't all sit by the fireside watching the boob tube or counting raindrops. Some got out and larked it up a bit, as you soon will note.

The opportunity to editorialize on Farmington behavior as evidenced by the summary which follows is inviting. However, it may be better to let the citizenry draw its own conclusions. As stated, this was a "typical" weekend.

WE HAD THE AUDACITY to delve into the "logs" of both our police departments and it looks like there's still spirit of a sort in the old-timers and its environs yet. The following is a report of all the complaints investigated by the two constabularies during the 54 hours mentioned. The letter following each listing indicates whether it was city (C) or township (T). Traffic offenses are not included.

FRIDAY, MAY 24

6:17 p.m. - Reckless driving complaint (T).
6:46 p.m. - Family trouble (C).
7:10 p.m. - Property damage accident (T).
7:41 p.m. - Open alarm (C).
7:55 p.m. - Officer requested to assist a lady with her brace (C).

8:30 p.m. - Malicious destruction of property (T).
8:31 p.m. - Assault and battery complaint (T).
8:49 p.m. - Minor property damage accident (T).
9:10 p.m. - Dog bite (T).
9:40 p.m. - Drunk and disorderly teenager (C).
10:09 p.m. - Malicious destruction of property (C).
10:16 p.m. - Suspicious persons reported (T).
10:38 p.m. - Malicious destruction of property (T).

SATURDAY, MAY 25

12:05 a.m. - Stolen car reported; unfounded (T).
12:35 a.m. - Property damage accident (T).
4:05 a.m. - Family fight (C).
8:55 a.m. - Stolen car (T).
7:56 a.m. - Larceny from auto (T).
8:35 a.m. - Stolen auto (C).
9:15 a.m. - Larceny from auto (C).

FARMINGTON

THRU ... BIFOCALS

By FRED DELANO

9:16 a.m. - Larceny from auto (T).
9:41 a.m. - Property damage accident (T).
9:47 a.m. - Larceny from auto (T).
10:04 a.m. - Stolen car (T).
10:43 a.m. - Store reports trouble with a customer (C).
11:20 a.m. - Stolen bicycle (C).
11:24 a.m. - Malicious destruction of property (T).
11:45 a.m. - Property damage accident (C).
1:45 p.m. - Investigate suspicious car (T).
1:30 p.m. - Stolen bicycle (T).
2:16 p.m. - Motor bikes reported as nuisance (C).
2:25 p.m. - Malicious destruction of property (T).
2:45 p.m. - Drunk and disorderly complaint (C).
3:45 p.m. - Property damage accident (C).

5:54 p.m. - Neighbor trouble (T).
6:00 p.m. - Larceny report (T).
6:30 p.m. - Dog bite (T).
7:08 p.m. - Malicious destruction of property (T).
7:20 p.m. - Hot rodders creating nuisance (T).
8:47 p.m. - Dog bite (T).
9:07 p.m. - Open windows found at Farmington Junior High (C).
9:30 p.m. - Missing person (T).
10:15 p.m. - Family trouble (T).
10:29 p.m. - Kids using fire crackers (T).
10:30 p.m. - Malicious destruction of property (C).
10:33 p.m. - Investigate suspicious car (T).
11:07 p.m. - Reported breaking and entering (T).

SUNDAY, MAY 26

12:47 a.m. - Malicious destruction of property (C).
1:27 a.m. - Drunk driving arrest (C).
1:33 a.m. - Open alarm (T).
2:00 a.m. - Liquor law violation (C).
3:10 a.m. - Family fight (T).
7:04 a.m. - Open alarm (T).
8:23 a.m. - Rescue run (C).
10:08 a.m. - Property damage accident (T).
10:10 a.m. - Larceny from building (T).
12:08 p.m. - Property damage accident (T).
1:05 p.m. - Missing person (T).
1:38 p.m. - Attempted breaking and entering (T).
2:07 p.m. - Hot rodders creating nuisance (T).
2:16 p.m. - Miscellaneous juvenile disturbance (T).
4:40 p.m. - Personal injury accident (T).
4:48 p.m. - Attempted breaking and entering (T).
5:04 p.m. - Property damage accident (T).
6:00 p.m. - Miscellaneous juvenile disturbance (C).
6:05 p.m. - Assault and battery complaint (T).
8:15 p.m. - Family trouble (T).
8:49 p.m. - Family disturbance (T).
10:30 p.m. - Water reported in residence basement (C).

And with that the rowdies knocked it off for the week.

Street Maze Baffles Homing Pigeons

BY ELIZABETH WISSMAN

WHAT A CRAZY mixed up place this is! No offense intended, but to live in Farmington, city or township, you need the instincts of a homing pigeon.

How many other towns have main streets that bend beyond the boundary line?

If you drive Grand River in blissful ignorance that it branches off going downtown to Detroit, you end up at a barricade and street-end sign.

Then there's Nine Mile Rd.

On one side of Grand River it is Nine Mile. On the other side it is Orchard Lake Rd. Just a bit away at Eight Mile, Orchard Lake becomes Merriman.

Nine Mile, meanwhile, turns into a little dirt road further down Grand River. After jumping the expressway it wanders off in the direction of Drake Rd. some miles away.

The street drives delivery men mad.

SUBDIVISION STREETS, of course, are notorious for waylaying the innocent.

You can get lost in the hinterlands of Kendallwood of Canterbury Commons and not be heard from for days.

It's got something to do with planning and

traffic control.

The powers-that-be figure nobody can drive over 10 miles an hour on a street laid out like a jigsaw puzzle.

People new in a subdivision spend days trying to get the kids to school by car — a school they can see from their front door.

Township parents with children in Flanders School drive a mile out of their way because township streets leading to the school are closed at the city line. You can wait it, but you can't drive it.

And while we're on the subject of confusion worse compounded, how about the way area streets are named?

KENDALLWOOD SUBDIVISION takes its street names to the "woods" — over there they have Spacewood, Kendallwood, Nestlewood, Nottingham, Tulipwood, ad infinitum.

These "woods" are not to be confused with Rhonswood, Edenwood, Ridgewood, Ramblewood or Longwood. They're in another part of town.

Also there are the "castles" — Castleleigh, Glencastle, Lyncastle and Greencastle, all in one sub.

Postmen delivering mail to these subdivisions certainly need 20-20 vision.

Besides the "woods" streets, other Kendallwood streets smack of the English. They were named after those in the British hometown of the wife of a lawyer for the developers of the subdivision and they are pretty — Thornybrae, Quail Hollow, Greenwillow, Peppermint, etc.

A Scottish influence can be found in Kimberley, where streets are named Dundalk, Greythorne, Kiltartan and Fiddler's Green.

A little ways away is a sub with a Robin Hood image with street names like Nottingham, Shrewsbury and Queensberry.

THE OLDER PART of the township was more factual in naming its streets.

The early American influence of Jefferson, Hancock, Hamilton, Liberty and Independence can be found in the sector of Middle Belt and Grand River.

The city's Floral Park boasts street names of Violet and Lilac in keeping with the sub's moniker.

Best of all we like a street name in Briar Hills — Shadylane. Somehow it calls up restful, serene mental pictures, but we doubt if there's a tree on the entire street.

Need Higher Interest For School Bond Sale

By EMORY DANIELS

Farmington School District administrators are anxiously awaiting action on a bill which would raise the interest rate on bonds sold by the Michigan Legislature which would raise the legal interest limit on the school bond sales from five to six per cent.

The district must sell \$8 million in bonds to complete its construction program and feel the five per cent rate will not be adequate enough to entice investors to buy.

School Superintendent Dr. Roderick Smith reports that quoting on bonds during the past 10 weeks indicate it will be a problem to sell bonds with an interest rate less than five per cent.

The Board of Education has

authorized the administration to make application to the Municipal Finance Commission for sale of \$8 million in bonds at an interest rate not to exceed five and one-half per cent. But unless the Legislature raises the interest ceiling, the district can expect a tough time ahead selling the issue.

Dr. Smith is consulting with the district's bond attorney and fiscal consultants and expects to send the application to the Municipal Finance Commission in two weeks. Approval of applications usually takes 30 days.

THE \$8 MILLION bond issue will be used to finance construction of Harrison High School, a junior high and elementary school, complete work on Powers Junior High, and cover the expense of additions to Farmington and North Farmington High schools.

This will be the first bond sale since 1955 when a \$6.1 million issue was sold to finance the Powers, Forest and Fairview construction projects, plus pay for additions to the two high schools.

In 1966 the district "borrowed" \$2 million from its 1965 issue for three swimming pools and three auditoriums, for both high schools and the proposed Harrison High.

In 1966 voters approved a \$3 million bond issue which has remained unused. Last November, voters approved another bond issue totaling \$9 million.

The \$8 million package the district wishes to call in a combination of the 1966 \$3 million issue and the 1967 \$9 million leaving a balance of \$4 million yet to be sold.

The \$3 million will be used to "top back" the most deteriorated from the 1965 issue for the pools and auditoriums. The remainder will be used for the projects listed above.

The \$9 million approved by voters in November 1967 was designated for a five-year construction program carrying through 1972, Dr. Smith explains. Thus, the \$4 million balance is slated for construction of another new junior high and elementary school sometime before 1972.

Sale of the \$8 million issue, once completed, will bring the previous construction programs up-to-date and allow the district to begin its new construction program.

THE PROPOSED bond sale does not in any way affect the request for an additional four mills on the June 10 ballot.

FAHC To Meet June 3

The Farmington Association for Handicapped Children, Inc., will meet at 8 p.m., June 3 in East Junior High School, 25000 Middle Belt Rd., Farmington. The board will meet prior to the general meeting. Election and installation of officers for 1968-69 will be held and final plans for the FAHC Ranch Day will be discussed.

Ranch Day for all special education students and their families will be held from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., June 8 at Crystal Valley Horse Farm, 25420 Halstead Rd., Farmington. Special events will be a day ride, pony rides and a barbecue. Funds for this event come from the recent FAHC Fun Fair.

To arrange for transportation or for additional information, call Mrs. Holland, 474-3615, or Mrs. Tobin, 626-5280.

artist and forester; John Finelli, athlete and forester; Robert Kelly, scholar, athlete, artist and naturalist; Kevin Visiardi, sportsman, athlete, artist and engineer; Gary Watson, sportsman, athlete and artist; Herb Smith, sportsman and athlete.

Additional awards were James Hester, wolf badge; Ralph Dingle, bear badge; Bob Finelli, gold arrow.

Ralph Dingle and John Finelli were honored as denners and Robert Dmytro and Robert Kelly as assistant denners. Attendance awards were won by Den 10 and Webelos Den 2.

Ralph Dingle secretary of Pack 45, presented a U.S. flag to Cubmaster John Finelli. The flag had flown over the White House and was obtained for the pack by Congressman Jack McDonald.

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