

# Stevens is 1st inmate college graduate

By BOB ERICKSON

LIVONIA — Mark Peter Stevens of Livonia is an inmate of the State House of Correction and Branch Prison at Marquette. He has been there for the past three years.

This week, however, Stevens is due to be paroled just in time to receive his bachelor's degree from Northern Michigan University. He will be the first inmate, prison officials believe, ever to earn a four-year degree while in a Michigan prison.

Moreover, Stevens will be graduating with top honors. He holds a 4.0 grade average and last year took a law school entrance exam which placed him in the top two per cent of students taking the test across the nation.

Ironically, Stevens was sentenced to

prison, originally for 10-25 years, in connection with the bombing of a biology lab at Oakland Community College in the spring of 1971. Earlier, he had been expelled from Schoolcraft College in Livonia and arrested (but later released by the circuit court) for allegedly yelling obscenities during a meeting of the Schoolcraft College Board of Trustees when that board reprimanded several staff members whose names had appeared on an anti-war pamphlet.

Then 21, Stevens was sentenced, along with two other students for conspiracy to bomb and for placing a bomb with intent to destroy. The bombing resulted in "several thousand dollars' worth of damage to the Orchard Ridge Campus lab. Stevens was sentenced to the lengthy term by Oakland Judge Arthur Moore. That

sentence was later reduced to 4 1/2-8 1/2 years by an appeals court. With "good time" he is being released after serving just over three years.

Stevens hasn't much to say about the bombing except that "then we saw it as supportive" of the student strikes and campus riots that were taking place over the war issue and allegedly racist discriminatory hiring policies at the college.

Whether three years of prison regimen has changed Stevens' politically and socially radical views is impossible to judge until he is actually returned to society. His plans for the future and his conduct in prison, both inside the walls, and more recently on the prison farm where security is minimal, were apparently major factors in his early parole.

Stevens said that while he passed

the law school entrance exams with flying colors, he doesn't "think much of lawyers," and has no intention of going to law school.

However, after his graduation from Northern this week, he intends to enroll in graduate school and pursue both a master's degree in history and a pre-med curriculum simultaneously. His bachelor's degree work already includes majors in both history and social studies and a minor in English.

If Stevens is to pursue a medical career, however, he will be forced to petition the courts for a rehearing of his case. State laws would currently forbid him from the practice of medicine because of his felony conviction.

While incarcerated Stevens has apparently been a remarkable prisoner. Before being released to the prison farm—a minimal security area—he had been teaching inmates inside the walls, working in remedial reading and helping those without high school diplomas to prepare for their high school equivalency tests.

Most recently, he has been working outside the walls on the prison farm.

Mr. and Mrs. Peter Stevens, young Stevens' parents, are quite naturally excited about his upcoming release and his graduation which will take place coincidentally on his father's birthday.

Mrs. Stevens, who is a social worker, is, like any mother, proud of her son's recent accomplishments.



MARK STEVENS



FARMINGTON HILLS RESIDENT Frank J. Lohan keeps his eyes constantly open for pieces of hard wood like the one shown here, which he has turned into a fountain. Metal pieces fastened to the wood allows for a picturesque flow of water from top to bottom. (Staff photo by Bob Weerfing)

## Farmington Hills man drops tie to go into sculpting business

By SHERRY KAHAN

A few months ago a man from Plymouth and a man from Farmington Hills removed their ties and other corporate clothes, donned heavy working outfits and went into business for themselves.

Tetra Craft was the result. It is a business devoted to turning metals such as copper, brass, bronze and iron into art objects.

The word "tetra" is Greek and means "four." While the main participants in this lily corporation are John Hoffman of Plymouth and Frank Lohan of Farmington Hills, their wives are also very much a part of the fledgling firm.

Anne Hoffman is treasurer and Norma Lohan is secretary. Their place on the roster is due to the fact that they backed their husband's "150 per cent" as they followed what the Wall Street Journal has designated a trend, — corporate executives changing careers in middle age.

"OUR NEW BUSINESS is coming along slowly, but nonetheless faster than we thought it would," said Lohan, formerly general manager of Pentronix, a firm which designs and manufactures machinery for electronics and computer industries.

Hoffman, who was sales manager of the same company, is pleased not only with their progress but with other aspects of his new work.

"Some phases of it include a bit of drudgery," he admitted, "but in the main it is a great pleasure to be in this type of business."

Standing many hours over a hot oxyacetylene torch, cutting metals which he will turn into objects such as trees, fish, or windmills to be used in home and office decoration, Hoffman finds: "I love best to create."

"I create a metal scene by doing it rather than making a drawing first," he explained, "although I have a fair idea in my mind's eye of what I want to accomplish."

"WE ARE TRYING to stay away from what other people are doing and

maintain our individuality," said Hoffman, who studied welding at Schoolcraft College. "We already have 30 different types of items and probably five times that many we haven't had time to develop."

"We are just beginning to see our ideas copied by others," smiled Lohan, plainly feeling that imitation is a kind of flattery.

Their work is currently on display in a gallery at Heidi's Flowers in Plymouth and in the Plymouth Credit Union. Private homes are also beginning to display the abstract designs they create for wall hangings.

"One man who is the general manager of a washer-manufacturing company asked up for a five-foot high abstract design made of washers to place above his mantelpiece," recalled Lohan whose work sometimes reflects his interest in Chinese art and philosophy.

"We did it," he added. Another of their creations involves the use of horseshoe nails. By bending and placement, they manage to transform these pedestrian items into light and airy relatives of Jonathan Livingston Seagull.

"Every piece we make by hand," said Hoffman. "No stampings or castings are involved. We make everything from scratch."

"WE ARE TWO industrial drop-outs," explained Lohan. "We decided to leave the rat race because it is basically a rat race for someone else. We thought we would try to turn the hobby on which we had worked together into a business."

Hoffman added: "You might as well spend the time required to do a good job in industry doing something for yourself."

Both admitted, it required a degree of intestinal fortitude to turn their backs on the security provided by good jobs. "I had the feeling a lot of our fellow employees were envious of us when we left," said Lohan.

One thing neither of them will miss is commuting. Spending an hour and a half each day fighting traffic, they

each had ample time to do some computing.

"Our commuting time added up to eight 40-hour weeks per year spent just sitting in a car," claimed Lohan, who for his job also logged close to half a million air miles.

TRAVELING FOR BUSINESS is fun at first but after a while it becomes a drag," said Hoffman, who earned his half a million mile air travel plan for company trips to Japan and Europe.

The first thing Hoffman and Lohan did for their new business was to harness marketing skills they had

learned at their former trade.

In the fall of 1973 they used their vacation time to talk with owners and buyers in department stores and gift shops to ascertain the marketability of their sculptures. The response was encouraging enough to cause them to make their move.

Now when the rest of the world is one big traffic jam, these two industrial drop-outs might be found studying the shapes of trees or spending a warm summer week day along local rivers staking pieces of driftwood they use in making fountains.

## McCree speaks at O.U. commencement

ROCHESTER — Wade H. McCree Jr., United States Court of Appeals judge for the Sixth District, will deliver the commencement address at Oakland University's 12th graduation exercises June 2.

McCree will also receive an honorary degree at the ceremonies which will be held at the Baldwin Memorial Pavilion.

Honored with McCree will be Benjamin H. Anibal of Birmingham, pioneer automotive engineer, and retired vice-president of engineering of the Pontiac Division of

General Motors Corp. and Charles O. Hucker of Ann Arbor.

Hucker, the former chairman of O.U.'s history department is a professor at the University of Michigan. J. Edward Lundy of Dearborn will also receive an honorary degree. Lundy is the executive vice-president of the finance staff at Ford Motor Co.

The Matilda R. and Alfred G. Wilson awards winners will also be named at the ceremonies. Seven hundred thirty-nine students will receive degrees.

## READERS' FORUM

### Police draw praise

To the Editor: I am writing this letter to Ronald Holko, chief of the Farmington Hills Police Department.

Last night an 11 year old neighbor girl from our sub-division in Farmington Hills ran away from home and caused quite a stir. Everything worked out great in the end. Earlier, the father had asked for police assistance and it was prompt. Your department, the officers in the patrol that stopped at the home repeatedly and the detective in charge did a commendable job.

I am sorry that I didn't write down their names, so they could again be told "special thanks for a job extra well done."

I spoke freely at work today about what happened and how your personnel got involved and truly showed strong interest. Comments back said something like this — "They don't show that interest in our city or village."

Let me tell you gents. I am proud that you're in our city and helping us.

Keith Kestler  
Farmington  
May 21, 1974

## Shelves are bare in clothing depot

Two Farmington women who operate a clothing depot for inner-city families at Sacred Heart Seminary in Detroit are putting out a new appeal for donations.

"We're really out of good used clothing for babies and children," said Mrs. Donna Bachelor, who has been working with Mrs. Pat Schwartz for several years to staff the operation at Linwood and Chicago two days a week.

"We have to turn people away, and that's terrible with the economic situation as it is today."

Several inner-city parishes help staff the center on Tuesdays and Wednesdays, Mrs. Bachelor said, but most of the contributions have to come from the suburban areas.

"We need whatever we can get our hands on, as long as it's in good condition," she added. "We'll store what we can't distribute immediately."

Some things for adults are on hand, she said, but stock of clothing for babies, children and teens are badly depleted.

Contributions may be taken to the homes of either of the women. Mrs. Bachelor lives at 2414 Elizabeth Court, Farmington, and Mrs. Schwartz at 2305 Maple, Farmington.

| CITY OF FARMINGTON COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS   |             |
|--|-------------|
| A Special Meeting of the Council of the City of Farmington was held on Friday, May 17, 1974. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 P.M. by Mayor Yoder.  |             |
| ROLL CALL: Allen, Hartsock, Richardson, Tupper, Yoder.   |             |
| Absent: None   |             |
| CITY OFFICIALS PRESENT: City Manager Deadman, Clerk Viane  |             |
| Mayor Yoder explained this was a continuation of the adjourned meeting of May 16, 1974 at which a public hearing was held on the proposed 1974-75 budget.  |             |
| Motion by Richardson, supported by Tupper, to adopt the following resolution:  |             |
| BE IT RESOLVED:  |             |
| That the following sums be and they are hereby appropriated for operation of the City of Farmington, Michigan, for the fiscal year July 1, 1974 and ending June 30, 1975:  |             |
| GENERAL FUND   | \$422,225   |
| General Government   | 594,750     |
| Public Safety  | 344,130     |
| Public Works   | 6,273       |
| Social Services  | 78,400      |
| Library  | 181,673     |
| Miscellaneous  | 0           |
| Operating Balance June 30  | \$1,536,463 |
| TOTAL GENERAL FUND   |             |
| WATER & SEWER FUND   |             |
| Operating & Maintenance  | \$360,885   |
| Capital Improvement  | 38,100      |
| Debt Administration  | 56,000      |
| Operating Balance June 30  | \$1,021     |
| TOTAL WATER & SEWER FUND   | \$546,000   |
| GRAND TOTAL:   | \$2,082,491 |
| BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:  |             |
| That the City Treasurer be and is hereby authorized to pay all claims and accounts properly chargeable to the foregoing appropriations provided that the said claims and accounts have been lawfully incurred and approved by the council, Board, Commission, or other officer authorized to make such expenditures. |             |
| AYES: Hartsock, Richardson, Tupper, Yoder.   |             |
| NAYS: Allen  |             |
| RESOLUTION DECLARED ADOPTED MAY 17, 1974   |             |
| NEDRA VIANE, City Clerk  |             |
| RESOLUTION FIXING TAX RATE FISCAL YEAR 1974-75   |             |
| Motion by Richardson, supported by Tupper, to adopt the following resolution:  |             |
| BE IT RESOLVED:  |             |
| That the budget for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 1974 in the amount of \$2,082,491 as prepared by the City Manager be and the same is hereby approved and adopted.  |             |
| BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:  |             |
| That to meet a portion of the budget cost, the City Treasurer be and is hereby directed to spread taxes upon real and personal property in the amount of \$9.25 per thousand of State Equalized Assessed Valuation.  |             |
| ROLL CALL  |             |
| AYES: Hartsock, Richardson, Tupper, Yoder, Allen   |             |
| NAYS: None   |             |
| RESOLUTION DECLARED ADOPTED MAY 17, 1974   |             |
| NEDRA VIANE, City Clerk  |             |
| ADJOURNMENT  |             |
| Meeting was adjourned at 7:20 P.M.   |             |
| RALPH D. YODER, Mayor  |             |
| NEDRA VIANE, City Clerk  |             |

| CITY OF FARMINGTON COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS  |  |
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| A Special Meeting of the Council of the City of Farmington was held on Thursday, May 16, 1974. The meeting was called to order at 8:00 P.M. by Mayor Yoder.   |  |
| ROLL CALL: Allen, Richardson, Yoder present.  |  |
| Absent: Tupper, Hartsock  |  |
| CITY OFFICIALS PRESENT: City Manager Deadman, Clerk Viane   |  |
| PUBLIC HEARING ADOPTION OF BUDGET   |  |
| A. General Fund 1974-75 Revenues and Disbursements  |  |
| Mayor Yoder opened the public hearing asking for comments from interested persons.  |  |
| Comments were heard from Mrs. Anna Ogden, representing the Farmington Democratic Club. Mrs. Ogden questioned the funding for Recreation, particularly Youth Groups and Senior Citizen activities, as well as Revenue Sharing Funds and the use.   |  |
| Judge Michael J. Hand requested additional funds for his budget allowance to be used for increases in employee salaries. There was considerable discussion regarding this allowance.  |  |
| There was a motion by Councilman Allen to authorize an \$800.00 increase to the District Court budget for Full Time Salaries but the motion died for lack of a support.   |  |
| Mayor Yoder suggested inasmuch as there were only three Councilmen present, it would be advisable to adjourn tonight's meeting and meet again tomorrow (May 17, 1974) at which time possibly a full Council could be present to make a decision. It was agreeable with Council members to meet at 7:00 P.M. on Friday, May 17, 1974 and that the necessary notices should be sent to Council members regarding the meeting. |  |
| Motion by Richardson, supported by Allen, to close the public hearing on the General Fund. Motion carried, all ayes.  |  |
| B. Water & Sewer Fund 1974-75 Revenues and Disbursements  |  |
| Mayor Yoder opened the hearing and asked for comments from interested persons. There were no comments from the audience.  |  |
| Motion by Richardson, supported by Allen, to close the public hearing. Motion carried, all ayes.  |  |
| Motion by Richardson, supported by Allen, to adjourn until Friday, May 17, 1974 at 7:00 P.M. Motion carried, all ayes.  |  |
| Meeting was adjourned at 9:30 P.M.  |  |
| RALPH D. YODER, Mayor   |  |
| NEDRA VIANE, City Clerk   |  |

| SIDEWALK CONSTRUCTION BIDS CITY OF FARMINGTON   |  |
|---|--|
| BIDS FOR APPROXIMATELY 21,276 Sq. Ft. of Concrete Sidewalk including removal of existing sidewalk and tree root cutting; and approximately 4,276 Sq. Ft. of 6" Concrete Sidewalk, including removal of existing sidewalk and tree root cutting, to be installed on local streets within the City of Farmington. |  |
| SEALED PROPOSALS will be received by the CITY OF FARMINGTON, at the office of the City Clerk, 2360 Liberty Street, Farmington, Michigan until 10:00 A.M., Monday, June 3, 1974.   |  |
| PROPOSALS shall be in sealed envelopes marked "SIDEWALK PROJECT" and the Name of the Bidder, and shall be delivered to the office of the City Clerk on or before the time specified above.  |  |
| The City reserves the right to accept any bid or reject any or all bids; also, to waive formal defects in bids should it deem it for the best interest of the City to do so.  |  |
| NEDRA VIANE, City Clerk   |  |