

# Farmington Enterprise & Observer

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## North Grad In Cuba

# Shorr Accused Of Skyjacking



HENRY SHORR

Henry Shorr, 17, a North Farmington High graduate, has been accused of hijacking a jet airplane and ordering the pilot to fly to Cuba.

Shorr is the son of Mickey Shorr of 2220 First Circle in Farmington Township. The elder Shorr is a former Detroit radio disc jockey.

"THE YOUTH reportedly remained in Havana after diverting the Miami-bound jet from its scheduled route. The Pan American World Airways plane completed its flight to Miami after the stop in Cuba. The jet left Mexico City Tues-

day morning with nine crew members and 28 passengers. The pilot said Shorr threatened a stewardess with a pistol as the airplane neared an intermediate stop at Merida, Mexico.

Passengers on the jet included a Florida state senator and his fiancée who talked with the youth during the flight. State Sen. Tom Slade of Jacksonville, Fla., said his fiancée Cortis Mullins and Shorr discussed politics. Slade, the Republican whip of the Florida senate, said Shorr was going to the Cuban capital to join the revolution.

"He was really nothing but a terribly mixed up kid," Slade is quoted as saying.

SHORR is reported to have left Farmington about six weeks ago for Mexico City. From there, he hoped to find a way to Cuba.

The U.S. attorney's office in Detroit said conviction on charges stemming from hijacking range from 20 years in prison to death.

Hijacking is covered under several laws, the source said, including kidnapping. The death penalty affects cases where

someone aboard an airplane is killed or injured.

Sources said a 17-year-old person should be tried either as an adult or a minor under federal law. In federal court, a person is considered an adult unless the prosecutor requests that a defendant be treated as a minor. The defendant must also agree to be tried as a minor, the source said.

SHORR'S PARENTS, who live in Franklin Knoll, were unavailable for comment. The telephone has been disconnected.

according to Michigan Bell, and no one answers their door. Questions remain unanswered about where the youth got money for his trip to Mexico and what he did during his six weeks' stay in the country.

Last year, apparently as a joke, some North Farmington High students were reported to be collecting money to send Shorr to Cuba.

No apparent connections have been discovered between Shorr and any group which could have supported his journey.



YOUTH WITH THE SIGN -- Henry Shorr, a North Farmington High graduate accused of hijacking an airplane, participated in demonstrations last spring which led to the suspension of almost 200 North Farmington students. Shorr is holding aloft the sign in this group of demonstrators. (Evert photo)

## today's hot line

### what's inside

#### Villagers' Choice

The Nov. 4 election is just days away. An endorsement editorial in today's Enterprise & Observer tells villagers why a "yes" vote is the best choice.

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#### Referendum Fails

A group of homeowners in Farmington Township attempted a referendum drive on the PRD ordinance but failed. Now they claim the ordinance is not legal because it did not have a proper public hearing.

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#### Local Best Seller

Quotes from President Johnson and Mayor Daley made national best sellers. Locally, quotes from Councilman Allen make interesting reading in today's Daniels Den.

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#### New Art Trends

Confused by the new look and sound in the arts? There's help on the way in a four-part series opening this week in the Farmington Community Center. For information about the programs, which are co-sponsored by Oakland Community College and the Farmington Community Arts Council, see the Amusements page.

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#### Ladies Take Over

The ladies are taking over in one area after another, and now they've done it in Observerland's favorite sport -- bowling. Roving Editor W.W. Edgar tells the charming story, its history and its local color, on today's Sunday Feature Page.

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#### It Worked!

When the Livonia-Redford Theatre Guild opened its season, its cabaret setting was frankly labeled an experiment. Guild members conducted the experiment a success, and Staff Writer Sue Shaughnessy tells why.

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#### It's Cider Time

When the leaves turn, the apples ripen. That's the signal for the apple presses to start operation. The result is that autumn beverage, cider. A roundup on the nearby cider mills and their hours appears on the Amusements page.

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### HE'S IN BUSINESS ON YOUR STREET

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# Before The Trip: A Portrait Of 'Extremism'

By WYLIE GERDES

Acquaintances of a Farmington youth accused of hijacking an airliner to Cuba remember him as being single-minded in preaching his extremely unpopular political beliefs -- and isolated sects of them.

Henry Shorr, 17, a June graduate of North Farmington High School, stirred resentment among students and teachers because of "his own brand of socialism."

SHORR GRADUATED from North Farmington after attending 11th and 12th grades there. His family moved from Chicago to Farmington.

The youth seems to have earned a few acquaintances rather than friends among his peers.

Clayton Graham, North Farmington principal, says he couldn't name one friend of Shorr's.

"If people ask me to give them the name of someone's friend, usually I can remember him walking down the hall with someone. Shorr just didn't have one friend," Graham says. Jack Mingo, editor of the North Farmington student newspaper, and one of the leaders of the school's "radicals," agrees. He says Shorr was "somewhat of a loner," and he did not date.

Graham says Shorr's mother, upon enrolling her son in North, remarked the youth didn't have many friends in Chicago.

News reports of interviews with students and talks with acquaintances all point to one reason for Shorr's isolation--

his politics. "I think that was the big deal with him," Graham notes. Shorr's brand of politics was "wing, either right or left," the principal says.

MINGO TERMED Shorr "the most radical in school. He was a loner because a vast majority disagreed with his views."

Both students and teachers found Shorr's politics objectionable, Graham notes. In class, he says, Shorr was "rather loud" in supporting his beliefs. Mingo adds Shorr "just talked on politics."

Shorr's beliefs got him into one fight at North Farmington, Graham said. Shorr "occasionally tagged along" with the group of students responsible for publishing the Constitution Observer, an underground newspaper at North Farmington.

It was Shorr's attempts to pass the underground paper to a youth which led to the fight, Graham recalls. "Henry repeatedly tried to pass some of his written beliefs to this boy," Graham says. The boy, the principal adds, "felt as strongly about waving the American flag as Henry felt about waving the Cuban flag."

Graham says the boy struck Shorr in the ear, causing some bleeding. He adds the boy was suspended for one day following "normal procedure" for fights. The North Farmington principal says Shorr's parents pressed charges concerning the fight and a preliminary hearing was held. The boy paid Shorr's medical expenses from the in-

cident. Graham says the prosecutor in the matter told Shorr he "certainly encouraged" the fight by his actions.

Teachers also commented on the extremeness of the youth's politics, Graham says.

SHORR WAS involved in the March walkout at North Farmington and was one of 138 students suspended for five days. Shorr was not one of the leaders of the walkout, Mingo says, but some signs used in the demonstration were printed in Shorr's home.

"He didn't get really involved in school issues," the student editor comments. Both he and Graham reported Shorr attended demonstrations and political rallies in other parts of the metropolitan area, however.

The North Farmington principal says Shorr usually received "C" grades. However, he notes Shorr was an "above average youngster" who might be called an "underachiever."

Shorr wasn't suspended for dress or length of hair policy violations while at North Farmington, Graham says. He described Shorr's hair as dark black and thick. Shorr had stumpy manners, but was not necessarily sloppily dressed, he adds.

Graham termed Shorr a "Jekyll and Hyde" case because he was quiet until politics was discussed. Mingo says Shorr was quiet and polite to adults.

REV. CARL KALTREIDER, pastor of Antioch Lutheran

Church, says Shorr was "rather quiet" in the groups of students who met with him after the school unrest.

Shorr was one of those with "rebellious kinds of attitudes," Rev. Kaltreider says.

"It was simple anti-establishment and anti-police, nothing specifically anti-patriotic," the minister says.

"He wasn't a way out kind of a kid," Rev. Kaltreider says. News reports of Shorr's discussion with a Florida state senator surprised Rev. Kaltreider.

"It was wilder and further out than anything I had heard him say," Rev. Kaltreider comments.

Mingo appears to give a true picture of Shorr when he says it was his views rather than how he expressed them which angered others.

Shorr's views, Mingo says, weren't accepted by either the leaders of the walkout or students on the staff of the underground newspaper.

SOME STUDENTS made fun of Shorr, Mingo comments, and several fondly offered to collect money to send Shorr to Cuba. Shorr also joked about leaving for Cuba, Mingo says, but Cuba instead of another socialist country?

"He felt Russia and China were too oppressive," Mingo says.

The student journalist says Shorr seemed to have been affected by the ridicule.

"I felt sorry for him," Mingo says, "he was trying too hard."

## Single City Means

# Common Gain

(On Nov. 4, Farmington area residents will be asked to choose whether a nine-month charter commission shall write a charter to combine the four governmental units into a single, new city. A reason why a charter commission should be given the chance to explore the benefits of consolidation is given below in another in a series of articles on what a single city means.)

A single city will eliminate needless competition between residents of the city, township and both villages. Community residents should not be put in a competitive position, but in the Farmington area they are because of artificial government boundaries.

Presently, the four governments compete for industrial, commercial and residential development in order to improve their individual tax bases. By competing, the governments cannot put up a good front against Southfield, Novi or Livonia for developers. It's a double loss.

The goal is to bring in more business to better serve residents of a single community. Present small-scale and divisive competitiveness frustrates that goal.

A single government for our single community would eliminate that competition. An industrial coordinator, working for all, could give an industrial prospect a single set of facts about Farmington. At present, industrial salesmanship is done by private developers, who are out to make money for their companies first, whether the holdings are in Farmington or elsewhere. An industrial coordinator hired by the new city would think of the community first.

By eliminating needless competition, a single city would result in greater development, more benefits to residents, and a more balanced tax base -- thereby fulfilling the goal of governments. A common gain -- that's what consolidation means. Farmington Enterprise & Observer

## Grant Is Elected

# GOP Club President

Barry M. Grant, Southfield attorney and former assistant prosecutor of Oakland County has been elected president of the Oakland County Lincoln Republican Club.

Grant previously served as a commissioner on the Governor's Traffic Safety Commission, Probate Court referee and clerk, Oakland County Board of Education designate, treasurer and trustee Southfield Board of Education, Parent-Youth Guild

ance Commission of Southfield and a director of the Oakland County Mental Health Society.

He has been active in Republican politics as a member of the Oakland County Republican Committee, 67th Legislative District director, a member of the National Republican Congressional Advisory Committee, and was a delegate to the 1964, 1966 and 1968 Republican State Conventions.

# Moulders Of Yesterday Supporting Consolidation

By WYLIE GERDES

Support for consolidation came this week from three long-time City of Farmington residents who played an important role in moulding the present city government.

Urging a "yes" vote Nov. 4 are Delos Hamlin, Ken Loomis and Tracy Conroy.

Hamlin, Farmington's representative on the Oakland County Board of Supervisors, has played an important role in the city's history. "The first Hamlin who years ago, as Farmington mayor, urged that the city adopt a city-manager type of government. Farmington was among the first in the state to adopt a city-manager charter.

In a JOINT statement, Hamlin, Loomis and Conroy said: "Farmington voters on Nov. 4 will have an opportunity to take the first step toward bringing the community under a single municipal government.

"As a big step, one that has rarely been accomplished in Michigan, and yet it is a step that should be taken. We urge a 'yes' vote on consolidation and the election of qualified forward-looking charter commissioners. "In urging this unprecedented

step, we speak not as radical thinkers who would casually undo nearly a century and a half of government work, but as men with strong historic ties to the City of Farmington.

"The three of us have a combined total of over 30 years in city government as former mayors and councilmen. We have deep roots here. We have had homes here for many decades. We have businesses here. We have a strong interest in preserving the city we have served so long and that has been so good to us.

"As curious as it may seem, in order to preserve the Farmington we love, we think it necessary to change its form of government. That is, we must take a long step into consolidation simply to keep what we have."

THE THREE men then gave their feelings why a "yes" vote should be cast Nov. 4.

"The Farmington Area is a single community right now. It has a single name, a single history, a single YMCA, a single Community Center, a single Detroit Library, a single Elks Lodge -- the people have taken a single community attitude toward nearly everything.

"It is now time for the municipal governments to catch up to the leadership of the people. As we have united unselfishly to build other institutions for the common good, it is now time to unite our municipal governmental efforts for the work ahead.

"FARMINGTON IS on the frontier of the metropolitan area and, though rich in history, is still only partly developed. There is much planning for the future to be done.

"That kind of planning cannot be done if we go our separate ways as a city, a township and two villages -- or even as two separate cities. Planning decisions, we know from experience, are too important, too critical, to be made on a piecemeal basis. We should plan together -- as a single city.

"This sort of community-minded planning we owe to our children and grandchildren and to the fine new people who will be making the Farmington community come as we grow. And we also owe this kind of total community planning to those who want to preserve the Farmington they have built up over the years.

"From our experience in city government, we further recommend that the charter of a uni-

ted city be written to protect the interests of the people in the present, separated governments. This is entirely feasible.

"Many citizens have paid for a high level of facilities and services. As the future level of services and facilities is expanded, we are concerned that those who have already been assessed not be penalized. The charter will have to be carefully drafted in this respect but we are confident that it can be done.

"With those interests protected in the new charter, then we expect to be able to give it our warm endorsement when it comes before the people for a vote in step two of the new-city process.

"WHILE THE PAST and the present have been good to all of us, the unvarnished truth is that we cannot preserve the status quo by maintaining our city boundary the way it is. A community that continues to be divided in its government can neither do what has been patiently built in the past nor prepare for the future.

"Divided, we will decay. United, we can preserve and build. We, therefore, urge a 'Yes' vote on consolidation on Nov. 4.