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WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 1965

33425 Grand River, Farmington

Paul M. Chandler, Founder

This Week's Press Run

86,100



The six Observer Newspapers are the largest weekly newspaper group in the Detroit area. They cover the news of local interest in the Detroit area and the surrounding communities of Livonia, Farmington, Garden City, Canton, Plymouth, and Nankin.

Women Take Fight Against Apartments To State Attorney-General

Seven Farmington Township women, part of a group which has carried on a running battle with the Township administration over the administration's approval of the Independence Green Apartment Development, at Grand River at 10 Mile Road, and refused to permit the issue to go to the voters of the Township, have taken their case to Michigan Attorney General Frank J. Kelley.

In a letter dated Sept. 23, Mrs. Donald Lee, Mrs. Dennis Berger, Mrs. Bernard Roy, Mrs. R. M. Grininger, Mrs. Joseph Larson, Mrs. John Phene, and Mrs. Robert "Garden" have asked the Attorney General for an opinion, after applying him of the "facts" in the situation. These "facts" are presently the basis of a legal action which the Lees, Bergers, and Larsons have

taken in the Oakland County Circuit Court of Judge Frederick C. Ziem, seeking a court order that the development be placed before the voters of the community.

What inspired the latest action, was the fact that they have been proceeding on Independence Green while the case against it waits its turn on the docket. The signers realize that the developers, George and

Tom Duke, proceed at their own risk. But they believe the far more reluctant will be the voters of the community.

On Dec. 22 of last year, a number of signatures were presented to the Township demanding its referendum. The administration refused their request on the advice of its attorney Joseph T. Brennan, that the petitions were inadequate

in number and detail. The action in Circuit Court followed. The letter which the ladies sent to the Attorney General was an impassioned one. It described the Township's rejection of their petitions as "the most complicated conflict of interest imaginable." They followed this charge with a list of reasons why they think this is so:

"1. Mr. Tom Duke, a Town-

ship trustee, is the proponent in the rezoning of these 100 acres.

"2. Mr. Joseph T. Brennan, Township attorney, who legally represented Mr. Duke in the sale transactions of this 100 acres as recorded in Oakland County records, rejected this referendum. Who paid him the largest salary, Mr. Duke or the citizens of Farmington Township? Who did he

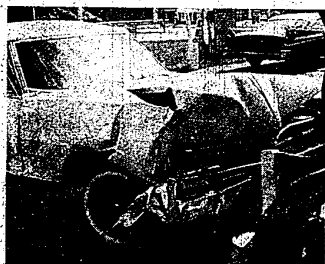
truly represent and isn't the public entitled to the same without intimidation, harassment, and threats of libel?"

"3. Mr. Curt Hall, Township supervisor, on the Board of Directors of Mr. Duke's bank, Metropolitan National Bank of Farmington, approved this rejection of this referendum.

"4. Mr. James Skillman, attorney, member of the Board of Review, now chairman of

the Zoning Commission, erstwhile member of the Zoning Board, voted for rezoning of this 100 acres. Shouldn't he have abstained since he legally represented Mr. Tom Duke, as recorded at Oakland County?"

"5. Mr. Floyd Cairns, Township clerk, over the years in Mr. Duke's Apartments in Farmington. Should he have voted against this Referendum?"



PORTAIT OF A 1965 Pontiac after a run-in with a 1964 Cadillac. The accident took place at the intersection of 13 Mile Road and Middlebelt, on Thursday morning, Sept. 23. The Cadillac did not escape injury. Worse, both drivers — Barbara Lee Reason, of Birmingham, the driver of the Pontiac, and Mrs. John Sabol of Farmington Township, behind the wheel of the Cadillac — had to be taken to the hospital. According to police reports, the Pontiac, heading east on 13 Mile, ran a stop sign and struck the Cadillac going north on Middlebelt. Mrs. Sabol's one-year-old daughter, Sharon, was not hurt.

About A Judge From One Who Knew Him Well

BY MICHAEL J. HAND

Mr. Hand, a Farmington attorney, practicing in Detroit, worked with the late Judge Sylvester J. Phene, as Associate Municipal Judge of Farmington.

To administer justice is the task of a judge; to temper it with mercy is the ornament of a humanitarian. The Honorable Sylvester J. Phene, Municipal Judge of the City of Farmington, who died Tuesday, Sept. 21, was both.

In these troubled times of questioned morals and the increase of juvenile crime, a Judge must ponder a choice between applying the severity of the law to punish or the mercy of the court to rehabilitate.

As the theologians teach, one should hate the sin but love the sinner. Judge Phene well understood this concept because he was a man of justice and compassion.

The very rapid expansion of the Farmington area in the past few years has brought a heavy burden of both criminal and civil problems to the courts.

Rites Held At Sorrows

Farmington's highly respected Judge Sylvester J. Phene was put to rest at the Holy Sepulchre Cemetery, in Southfield, on Friday, Sept. 24. Services for him had been held on the previous day, at Our Lady of Sorrows Church. Rosary was recited at Thayer's Funeral Home.

The 54-year-old jurist, who lived at 32264 Valleyview Circle, died on Sept. 21, after a long illness.

He is survived by his wife Ann L.; four sons, Dennis J., Michael S., Timothy J., and Richard J., all of Farmington; two brothers John M. of Farmington, and George M. of Dearborn; one sister, Mrs. Edward Kraft of Los Angeles; and two grand-children.

A practicing attorney in Farmington for the past 18 years, he was elected Municipal Judge in 1953, but did not take office until Jan. 1 of the following year.

He was a graduate of the University of Detroit, and a member of Our Lady of Sorrows Church.

Among the organizations to which he belonged were St. Francis Council K of C (fourth degree); Farmington Exchange Club (Past President); Delta Theta Phi Fraternity; and the Oakland County Municipal Judges Assoc.

Even though his health was hardly equal to the task, Judge Phene was a conscientious and hard-working jurist.

Both the court and those who came before it profited from his diligence, fairness and judgment. His devotion to his work in the face of increasing poor health and the demands of his family, his loving and dutiful husband and father, his community has lost a fine lawyer and a wise and compassionate judge.

Plainsmen Petition Against Apartments

Residents of the three streets involved in the proposed flood plain apartment development have come out solidly against the development.

Sixty-three of the 66 adult residents of Valleyview, Valleyview Court, and Lakeway have signed a petition stating that they are "strongly opposed to the construction of apartment buildings in the flood plain area."

The specific area under discussion is legally described as Outlot A and Outlot B of Brookdale Subdivision from C2 and R1 to R3.

They say this area has great future potential for the development of Farmington's natural assets.

Enlarging on this, a spokesman for the signers, Byron Runde, told The Observer: "At one time the City planned to extend the play area. The area we are concerned with is about the only one in the community



ART on a BUDGET

ONE OF THE many features at the Farmington Artists Club's Second Exhibit will be "Art on a Budget." At the special exhibit, patrons will be able to buy unframed oil and water color "very moderate" prices. Managing the table, from left to right: Gail Schmidt; Mrs. Irene Schmidt; Vice President of the Club; and Mrs. William Parker. In back of the table, Mrs. Mildred Peels. For further details, read "See You There!" on Page 4.

— though they will be elevated above the ground — will seriously increase the flooding problem in the area. "We've seen," said Runde, "the water within five feet of the back doors of the houses on Valleyview Circle, and the kids padlocked canoes in the backyard in the floodstage. One long-time resident of the neighborhood has seen the water five feet over his house."

"That's why we are upset when we hear they are planning to park 200 cars under the apartments. We are afraid this would prevent the water from running off during a flood."



REGISTERING FOR the Convention of the Michigan Federation of Republican Women, at the Jack Tur Hotel in Lansing last week, Mrs. Elkhoff (left) and Charlotte Bruce.

Concourse Permit Tabled Liquor Debate Enlivens Meeting

A request by the Country Club Board of Trustees to serve drinks on the concourse of their bowling alley, 3020 Nine Mile Road, for permission to serve drinks on the concourse of their bowling alley, was tabled by the Farmington Township Board of Trustees on Monday night, Sept. 27.

The establishment is slated to return on Thursday, Oct. 7, with added information on alterations and methods of operation which the Board indicated would be necessary before permission is granted. These alterations

and rules would be intended to keep the establishment confined to the billiard room during those hours in which liquor is being served on the concourse.

The Board displayed a variety of attitudes toward the question of liquor on the concourse, but all appeared to agree with Trustee Tom Duke's assessment of the Country Lanes as an exceptionally well run establishment.

It was announced at the meeting that the Chamberlain Realty Co. is taking legal action against the Township to overturn the Township's denial of the Company's request for rezoning of a parcel of land in the northeast corner 13 Mile Road and Northwestern Highway.

It was the opinion of the Planning Commission that an office on this parcel would negatively affect the abutting residential properties. Chamberlain wanted to come down and re-examine the point, but the administration decided that there was nothing new in his request that would warrant their hearing it again. This led to Chamberlain's legal action.

In the context of this discussion, Trustee Earl Oppenheimer also discussed a letter from the Planning Commission praising his fellow Commissioner for "the amount of homework they do."

"Almost to a man" he said "they go out and walk the property; they are to make a decision on."

The Township Board has decided to add two men to their Police Dept. Both are experienced. One officer, Ptl. Dennis Nash, resigned from the Dept. last week. He joined the Oakland County Sheriff's Dept.

In other Police news, the Board has decided to equip its officers with plastic helmets and night sticks. It has also decided to rent its own tape-type machine. It presently uses the City's machine.

Trustee Oppenheimer introduced a discussion of the traffic problem on Orchard Lake Road and I-96. To help relieve the congestion at peak hours on Orchard Lake Road, the Board agreed to have drafted a letter to the State Highway

Commission supporting the County Highway Commission's that an inner ramp be built in the northwest quadrant.

The Board accepted the petitions for sanitary sewers, from Woodbine Subdivision.

It was announced that all of the stock in Arnold Farmington Drug, Inc., has been transferred to Borman Food, Inc. The Board agreed to transfer the Arnold Liquor License to Borman.

Township Supervisor Curt Hall and Clerk Floyd Cairns were authorized by the Board to go ahead with consideration of the purchase of a tractor and the construction of a storage building.

The Board was split to varying degrees in its attitude toward bowling alley drinking. This came through in the general discussion on whether to grant the concourse drinking permit to Country Lanes.

The discussion began with a request by Lawrence J. Boecher, one of the establishment's Board of Directors. Earl Oppenheimer then expressed the opinion that any hours will be inappropriate for drinking on the concourse as long as there are any minors in the building. Curt Hall expressed the fear that "we may be getting into the liquor business rather than the bowling business."

These views ran mildly against the opinion of Tom Duke that as businessmen the owners of Country Lanes should have the right to risk their liquor license by asking a concourse permit.

All agreed that safeguards needed to be built in to their approval. This was followed by a move to temporarily table the matter. Mr. Floyd Cairns, another who takes a dim view of drinking in bowling alleys.

Larkshire to Open

Fluoride, 'Head Start' Programs Praised at School Board Meeting

By Joy Stinson

Project Head Start and the Fluoride Program were the topics of reports at the Farmington School Board meeting Monday night.

Project Head Start, a program held during the summer months for culturally deprived children who are about to enter kindergarten, was declared a success by Nick Abid, principal of William Grace School and coordinator of the program, and Mrs. Stephanie Rutter, teacher of the seven-week class.

Twenty-five children were screened from a total of 50 suggested names to enroll in the program. All except one of the 25 participated.

Two visiting teachers made home calls to describe the program to the parents while Mrs. Rutter and two aides carried out the classroom program. In-school work consisted of a pre-school-kindergarten type schedule with play periods, singing, speech work, conversation, field trips and other activities thought to be helpful to these children.

The participants came from seven elementary school districts. Project Head Start was partially sponsored by the federal government which provided a portion of the funds.

A letter was presented to the Board from the Fluoride Committee announcing the success of the 1964-65 program. At the same time the Board approved the committee's 1965-66 schedule.

Clifford Desarmieux, of 32318 Shawassee, Assistant Postmaster in Farmington, nearly 100 people turned out to do him honor. He was awarded the Certificate of Merit for Achievement for his work and then received a signal honor.

It is not customary for employees to give a personal gift to retiring officials but so well liked is Desarmieux that employees waived this rule and presented him with a gold watch. Mrs. Desarmieux received an orchid corsage.

Both are in excellent health. This was the reason for Clifford's retirement. "I wanted to be able to enjoy life while I

enrolled in these grades. The committee stated in its letter that the fee of \$3 per child will remain the same this school year. For the treatments which will begin Sept. 15 at Cloverdale elementary school.

In other action the Board learned that 12 rooms of the new Larkshire elementary school will be ready for occupancy next Monday. Parents of the children concerned with the move will be notified by the school principal.



Large Crowd Honors Retiring Postmaster

AT A DINNER in his honor at First Federal on Friday night, Sept. 24, Clifford Desarmieux, and her husband Clifford, Desarmieux on the right is Danny Dever, Superintendent of Mail in Farmington.

still had good health," he told the Observer. "I want to travel, rest, and do all the things I haven't had time to when I was so busy."

Desarmieux is returning after 12 years as Assistant Postmaster in Farmington. Nearly 100 people turned out to do him honor. He was awarded the Certificate of Merit for Achievement for his work and then received a signal honor.

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Civil Defense Class Begins

Civil defense classes are now underway in both the City and Township of Farmington.

In the City, the classes are being held on Tuesday nights, in the "multi-purpose room" at the Flanders School, Meadowlark and Flanders Streets.

The Township classes are being given on Wednesday nights at East Jr. High, Middlebelt just south of 11 Mile; in the Music Room, in the northwest corner of the building. In both the City and the Township, the classes start at 8 p.m., and last two hours.

The classes which are being conducted in conjunction with Oakland County are slated to last for 12 weeks. There is no charge, and it is not necessary that participants join Civil Defense.

The material to be covered includes artificial respiration, and the treatment of fire and burns. It is intended for everyday domestic uses as well as disasters.

Sex Sermon Sales Boom

Rev. Robert Eddy, of the Unitarian-Universalist Church of Farmington, who attracted the national spotlight to his "Three Sermons on Sex," after the writings, advocating a form of "trial marriage" for teenagers, created a storm in his home community and caused him to resign as Chairman of the Farmington Youth Guidance Committee. He has been enjoying a brisk sale of his controversial tract. Over 400 of them have now been sold through him personally, and they are now up for sale in the local Farmington bookstore.

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