

'Scared' Public Builds 'Shotgun Courage'

THE SANDS SHIFT AND CHANGE . . .

Cliche? Undoubtedly, but the words have a familiar ring.

One of the really unique things about society is the interplay among people. This interplay is seen every day.

It's seen in the family relationships, in the relation of the individual to society, among governmental units and nations and even in our own outlook on events.

For instance, three years ago the citizens of this land were too concerned about a small segment of Southeast Asia known as Vietnam. Nor were they very concerned about Detroit's 12th St. and its environs.

Today all that has changed.

Today many people are very concerned about that tiny portion of French Indo-China and even more are concerned about the res-

idents of the core or center city.

That's because they suddenly feel threatened.

MONDAY NIGHT more than 200 people showed up at a PTA meeting in Farmington Township.

Even the hot local political scene and the incorporation of a state quite couldn't draw the many residents out of their comfortable chairs to a meeting hall.

The speaker for Monday's session was not world famous or renowned. Originally the speaker was intended to be Township Police

ter which was the drawing card.

THE TOPIC under discussion was what plans the police have to combat next summer's riot.

(Isn't it interesting that people no longer talk about whether or not there will be a race riot this summer? The fact that there will be one is simply a foregone conclusion.)

The attendance figures at Monday night's PTA session, however, is not the only indication of concern.

People are just plain scared.

The Honorable Harvey Moelke, who is the mayor of that city to the south, has instituted a gun clinic. (Some people contend that this is because this is election year in Livonia. We won't hazard a guess.)

Fortunately Farmington hasn't retreated that far.

THE FACT IS, however, that people are arming themselves.

It's also a fact that a gun is a dangerous weapon — especially if you don't know how to use it.

It used to be a badge of courage for the

individual to conquer the wilderness with his shotgun in hand.

Then courage became many other things. Perhaps the mark of courage today is the refusal to grab a gun in the futile hopes that such action will solve a problem.

—Sue Shaughnessy

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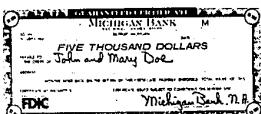
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editorial

Chief Irving Yakes. He was forced to send a substitute into the lions den in the person of Chief Detective Russ Conway.

Both Yakes and Conway are nice guys, but we can't feature them drawing crowds because of their oratorical abilities.

Thus it must have been the subject mat-

Briar Hill

NEWS

Fran Mann, 626-5946
I would like to introduce you to our new neighbors, Beverly and Charles Pritchett, recently of Berkley. Their daughter, Leesa, is four years old and she has two older brothers, Robert, 6, and David, 8. Biev and Tom are native 'Detroiters' - Tom works hard at his own electronics business - likes to fish

and both he and Bev are bowlers. Let's wish them much happiness in their new home for many years.

THE HAPPIEST FAMILY in Briar Hill has to be the Wachmanns on Northwick. Thursday morning, March 7, they received a call from son Ron in Seattle saying he would be land-

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ing at the Detroit airport at 11:30 that evening.

It had been a year since he was home and during that time Specialist 4/C Ron Wachmann, U.S. Army, has been serving in the Medical Corps, in Vietnam. He will be home for 45 days before going on to his next assignment. Ron's five year old sister is awed by the beautiful tie he has.

Another neighbor, Jim Puzas, of Banbury, will be home recuperating from a tonsillectomy. Helping his mother with the other children and the home will be Nancy's parents who came from Steubenville, O. to console and be of help. Jim's wife, Linda, is home.

He's Mad!

Farmington Township Supervisor Curtis H. Hall's feathers have been ruffled.

Referring to a March 6 story in the Farmington Enterprise & Observer which said township trustees had "demanded" their meeting with the city council to be on March 20 as "damned poor reporting," the supervisor castigated the paper's representative at Monday's meeting for the choice of words.

"I think it's just plain bad," he said. "I think we should have said requested, asked, or perhaps even 'humbly petitioned.'"

However, when Monday's reporter asked that the supervisor's remarks be included exactly as spoken in the official minutes of the trustees' meeting, the supervisor replied, "You write your stories, we'll write our minutes."

"Demand" it remains.

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