

Helping the kids

You can help the Kiwanis help the kid's by purchasing a bag of peanuts this weekend. Aiding in the collection will be (from left) Roger Walker, CR Hoofnagle, Lloyd Smith, Keith Blakeney. Funds raised

will go to Children's Hospital in Ann Arbor, Mary Free Bed in Grand Rapids, Farmington Handicapped Training Center, Scholarships and Farmington representatives to Boys and Girl State.

Vandals' handiwork costs resident \$1,000 in repairs

Farmington Hills has its "fair share" of vandalism, according to police.

But Hills resident Shelby Brandt believes he has more than his fair share.

The latest in a rash of vandalism incidents in Churchill Commons subdivision resulted in a B-B gun hole in every window at the rear of Brandt's home at 25209 Arden Park. Vandals also turned on his gas charcoal burner and broke floodlights on his property, he says. Damages total more than \$1,000, he adds.

Other incidents in the subdivision have sparked talks of a vigilante group to patrol the area, he explains.

"I'm totally opposed to that," he counters; but he's convinced that Hills residents shouldn't feel alone if they're victims of vandals.

Two adolescents in the neighborhood are responsible for the attacks on the Brandt property, he believes. Trouble started because of a hill in his backyard that backs up to the commons area. With between 15-20 youngsters sledging a few feet from his bedroom last winter, he asked the youngsters to move to the commons area. Most of them complied, but two were antagonistic, he said.

Trouble started shortly thereafter. BRANDT WENT to the subdivision's homeowners group, many of whom expressed surprise about the vandalism. Residents believe they're individual victims and aren't aware of the overall problem, Brandt says. And he's worried that the vandalism outbreak may end in a tragedy.

"What if someone spots a suspicious person outside with a gun in hand?" he queries. In near darkness, a B-B gun is difficult to distinguish from a lethal weapon, he says.

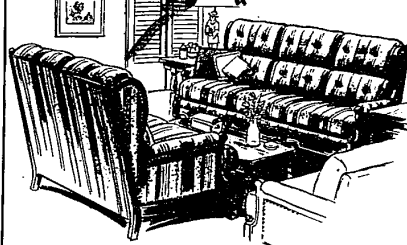
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Farmington Observer

Published every Monday and Thursday by the Observer & Eccles Printing Company 36251 Schoolcraft Rd. Livonia Michigan 48150 Second-class postage paid at Livonia Michigan 48150 address all mail subscriptions, change of address, from 3579 to P.O. Box 2428 Livonia Michigan 48151 Telephone 261-3890

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