

# Farmington Observer

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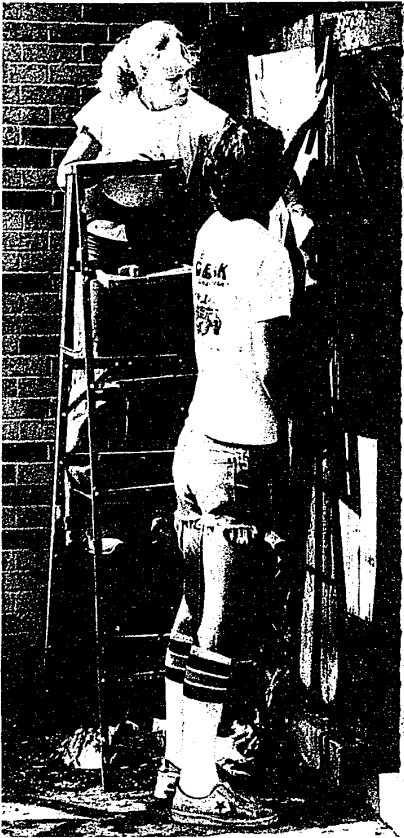
Farmington, Michigan

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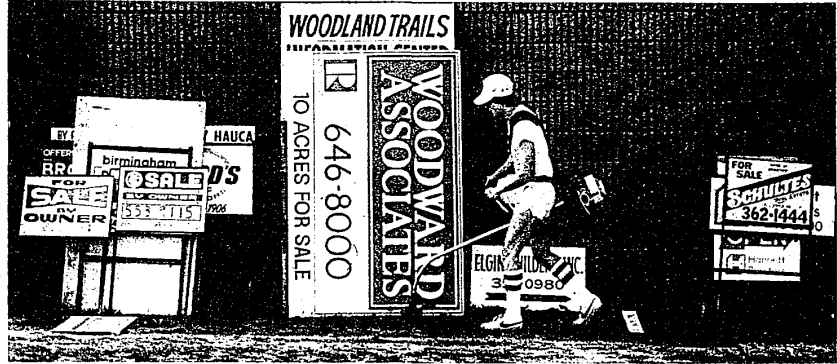
Twenty-Five Cents

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## Students to community: 'We're sorry'



Students worked on the door damaged by fire. These students are Sheree Doll and Bob Rennard. (Staff photo by Randy Borst)



Students worked on the door damaged by fire. These students are Sheree Doll and Bob Rennard. (Staff photo by Randy Borst)

By C.J. RISAK  
North Farmington High School's seniors have made restitution.

The restitution was a result of a teacher ultimatum to boycott all senior activities for the remainder of the year after North's seniors caroused over school grounds late Sunday night.

During the student rampage, property was stolen from nearby neighborhoods and a window was smashed and a door set on fire at North.

An estimated 200 persons took part in the "graduation celebration," mostly seniors. Seven were caught by Farmington Hills police, four charged with possession of stolen property.

The four charged — Lauri Hauswirth, 18, Michele Lavanway 18, Donna Dumps, 17, and Thomas Paddy, 19 — were issued misdemeanor tickets.

THE SENIOR CLASS did their part, showing up early Thursday morning to clean up the school and return the signs that had been taken. The senior class also paid for a tree that had been run over by a car. That cost \$135.

Approximately 200 of the 385 seniors expected to graduate took part in the restitution. Not all the work was finished Thursday during the four hours the students labored. The class planned to return Friday and finish up the project.

They hoped the restitution was enough and, further, that the seven apprehended would not be made "scapegoats" for the vandalism in which the majority of the class participated.

The faculty voted unanimously that restitution had been made and agreed to participate in senior activities. Disciplinary action against the seven students was up to the school administration, however.

Three of the seven apprehended by the police addressed the senior class Thursday.

North Principal Clayton Graham said he did not foresee any further action.

Sunday night was not the first time the school had been vandalized. Two weeks ago, students stole several real estate signs and planted them on school property.



Unloading a tree to replace one damaged during the vandalism incident are Jim Kopko, Jay Siegrist, Keith Nathanson and Chris Martinez. (Staff photo)

## Teachers' mandate compels graduates to clean up

By C.J. RISAK

The gamble paid off. Without much to bargain with, North Farmington's teachers managed to convince just about everybody that they had the power to stop all year-end senior activities.

Afterwards, most admitted that, in reality, they never really had that power.

It started late last Sunday night, when an estimated 200 North students, mostly seniors, caroused through neighborhoods near North and stole

garbage, real estate signs and just about anything that wasn't tied down and deposited it on school grounds.

A junked television was thrown through a window, and a fire was started outside a set of double doors at the school. All this was to celebrate graduation and the end of the school year.

It wasn't the first time this sort of vandalism happened at North, but it was the most costly — more than \$3,300 worth. That's when North's faculty rebelled.

NORTH'S ADMINISTRATION pro-

posed to school Superintendent Lew Schulman and Assistant Superintendent Lynn Nutter to cancel all senior activities for the remainder of the year. Schulman and Nutter vetoed that idea.

Next, the teachers tried to back up the North administration's move by saying they weren't going to participate in any of the senior activities. Schulman and Nutter convinced the faculty in a meeting Tuesday to reconsider — "Let's not punish the innocent with the guilty," was the school board's position.

Restitution was the answer. The

seniors had to ante up for their one-night fling or the teachers' boycott of year-end activities would go on as scheduled.

The boycott never threatened termination of the prom, honors assembly and commencement. They might have been more difficult to carry out. But Schulman and Nutter were determined those events would continue as scheduled.

The teachers knew it. But as one faculty member put it, "We are making our point by withholding our involvement, whether they go on or not."

THEY GOT their point across. The seniors believed their events would be cancelled if they didn't do something. But the students weren't the only ob-

ject of the faculty's wrath. Parents were. Because it was the parents who didn't know where their kids were at 3 a.m. with the family car, teachers said.

## Arsonists sought

The seven North Farmington High School students apprehended by Farmington Hills police will be allowed to participate in the senior class' year-end activities. But three who were issued misdemeanor tickets for possession of stolen goods still face civil charges.

The administration decided last week to allow the seven to participate in senior activities. No such deal will be made with those responsible for starting a fire outside a school door and throwing a junked television through a window.

Those two incidents cost the school \$2,850 in damages. North principal

Clayton Graham assured that, if caught, those responsible would be prosecuted.

"Anyone caught would have to be prosecuted," Graham said. "We are custodians of the taxpayers' money."

A list of another seven students has been turned over to Farmington Hills police for investigation in the fire. The name of another person who may be linked with the broken window also was given to police.

None of the seven students originally caught by the police are believed to be involved with either the fire or window breaking incidents.

## Deadline near for library programs

The Farmington Community Library sponsors a variety of summer programs for children and adults beginning with in-person registration June 12.

Two programs for preschoolers and kindergartners require registration. "The Eatgood Revival" is a cooking

program for children 4-5-years-old. There is a \$4 materials fee due at registration, June 12. The recipes are taken from children's stories for the four-week session which runs from 2-2:45 p.m., Tuesdays, July 1-22 at the Farmington Hills Library and from 10:30-11:15 a.m., Fridays, July 18 through

Aug. 8 at the Farmington branch. For children who are entering kindergarten in September, "Kinder-garten, Here We Come," will be presented from 2-2:45 p.m., Tuesdays, July 1-22 at the Farmington branch and from 10:30-11:15 a.m., Thursdays, July 17 through Aug. 7. The four-session program will emphasize many developmental activities designed to promote readiness of the child's entry into kindergarten. In-person registration will begin June 12.

Three "open" programs for preschoolers and kindergartners will be presented. These programs don't require registration. "My Treasure Box" features some surprises and treasures in the movies, "My Teddy Bear's Balloon Trip" and "Hans in Luck."

A GAME will be played after the movies at 10:30-11 a.m. July 11 at the Farmington branch or at 2-2:30 p.m., the same day at the Farmington Hills branch.

"A Natural Summer Event" offers nature songs and stories from 2-2:30 p.m., July 24 at the Farmington branch

and from 10:30-11 a.m. July 25 at the Farmington Hills branch.

A special play production, "Cinder-frog," will be presented for all preschool and early elementary school children by the junior high dramatic arts workshop under the direction of a college theater major, Gayle Fasko. Show times are 10:30-11 a.m., Aug. 5 at the Farmington Hills branch and from 10:30-11 a.m., Aug. 6 at the Farmington branch.

All children in grades one to six are invited to join this year's summer reading club, "Passport to Books." Club members choose books to read and give an oral report on when they visit the library during the summer. When six books are read, a reading certificate will be earned.

Readers will be honored at a special celebration in August. They receive an invitation to their own celebration. Those who read and earn a certificate will be entered in the prize drawing for MacDonald certificates. Summer readers are invited to attend various summer programs during a limited number

(Continued on Page 6A)

## School votes set today

Today is election day in Farmington and Farmington Hills.

In the Farmington School District, voters will have the choice between four candidates seeking two-four year terms on the board. Incumbents are James McElaney and Helen Prutow. Challengers are Roy Kotaters and Lynn Morgan.

Oakland Community College has three seats up for grabs with six-year terms. Ten candidates are vying. The college also has a tax shift proposal on the ballot. If passed, 0.2 mills would be shifted out of debt retirement and put into operations as bonds are retired.

The shift would add \$2 million to the present \$28-million operating budget, without raising the current tax rate.

Clarenceville voters will elect two unopposed candidates to their school board. They are Michael Manore and Richard Wood.

Clarenceville voters also will be asked to approve a one-year one-mill tax hike.

The Clarenceville Board decided to seek the increase in case state aid is reduced in July and the district's budget falls below the projected \$5.2 million.

But if the state funds do come through, the millage may not be used. Polls are open from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.

## what's inside

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LOOKING AT TELEVISION  
Reporter Louise Okrutsky found that one of the local television stations struggling in the ratings battle has hired a Farmington Hills man to fight the war. To see what this television executive has to say, turn to Page 2A.