

Farmington Observer

Volume 91 Number 16

Monday, December 10, 1979

Farmington, Michigan

46 Pages

Twenty-five cents

Lutherans eye Hills site for high school

By MARY GNIEWEK

The first Farmington public school to close because of declining enrollment six years ago may reopen as a parochial high school next September.

Farmington School Superintendent Lewis Schulman said the Lutheran High School Association of Greater Detroit has expressed a serious interest in the purchase of Bond Elementary School.

Schulman said a group from the association has toured the school building,

which the district closed in June 1973. The building is at 13 Mile and Orchard Lake roads.

"The Board (of Education) will consider all offers. We've had other inquiries," Schulman said.

"No price has been established yet." The superintendent said he has mixed feelings about the prospect of another high school moving into the district.

"We're never excited about competition, even though they have their own clientele," he said.

"But it's not an intolerable idea. School use would meet community expectations."

Lutheran High Northwest was established last year at Prince of Peace Lutheran Church in Farmington Hills to meet the needs of area families who wished their children to continue with religious education through high school.

THE SCHOOL draws students from St. Paul's, Farmington, Prince of Peace in Farmington Hills, St. Paul's,

Northville, and Christ our Saviour in Livonia.

"The students in the feeder schools had no place to go to high school," said Ann Youngquist, a secretary at the school.

"We don't pick up many students out of public schools."

Enrollment grew from 65 students to 104 ninth-through 12th-graders in September, which necessitated a move to a larger facility. Our Redeemer Lutheran Church in Birmingham.

That, too, is a temporary location.

Herbert Moldenhauer, superintendent of the Lutheran High School Association of Greater Detroit, said he would like to find a permanent location for Lutheran High Northwest by next September.

"We expect 150 students next year and we'd like to find a permanent home," Moldenhauer said.

A four-member site committee has also toured one school building in Bloomfield Hills.

"We don't want to fan any flames," the superintendent cautioned.

"We are merely looking at this point and will make a decision in the weeks and months to come."

The association is also looking at vacant public schools in Birmingham and Southfield.

One source said the decision will probably make its decision no later than February.

Lutheran High Northwest joins Lutheran High West in Detroit, Lutheran High East in Harper Woods, and Lutheran High North in Mount Clemens. All are members of the Missouri Synod of Lutherans.

After school learning draws Jewish youngsters

By LOUISE OKRUTSKY

Several times a week, they gather after school to learn more about themselves, their religion and their heritage.

Attending classes after a day of school isn't so inviting to nine-year-olds, but in the United Hebrew Schools of Metropolitan Detroit's classes, the youngsters manage to work up enough energy to send the sound of their laughter and voices echoing down the hallways.

The classes are held at Adat Shalom synagogue in Farmington Hills.

Children from the Farmington area, Troy, Birmingham, Southfield and West Bloomfield attend classes in the synagogue's lower level classrooms.

History, language and synagogue skills are taught to the students. They begin school there when they are 8 years old.

After the children reach age 13, they have acquired enough knowledge so the boys can undergo bar mitzvah and the girls, bat mitzvah.

Enrollment declines after the students complete that segment of their

education, said Bea Kriechman, director of the school.

About 200 of the students continue and enter high school level instruction.

ELEMENTARY-AGED students learn to conduct themselves properly in synagogue. They study the prayers they will need to know at home and in synagogue. Youngsters become familiar with Bible stories.

On a typical evening last week, in the large room used for the classes, children were divided into three groups, each studying a different subject.

In one corner a group of students were demanding of teacher Jordana Golan, "How do you say that in Hebrew?" Flashcards were passed out and each youngster studied them intently, seemingly oblivious to the two other classes being conducted nearby.

"Families which send their children to this school are Jewish families committed to Judaism but who aren't interested in parochial school. But they are interested in a good Hebrew education for their children," said Mrs. Kriechman.

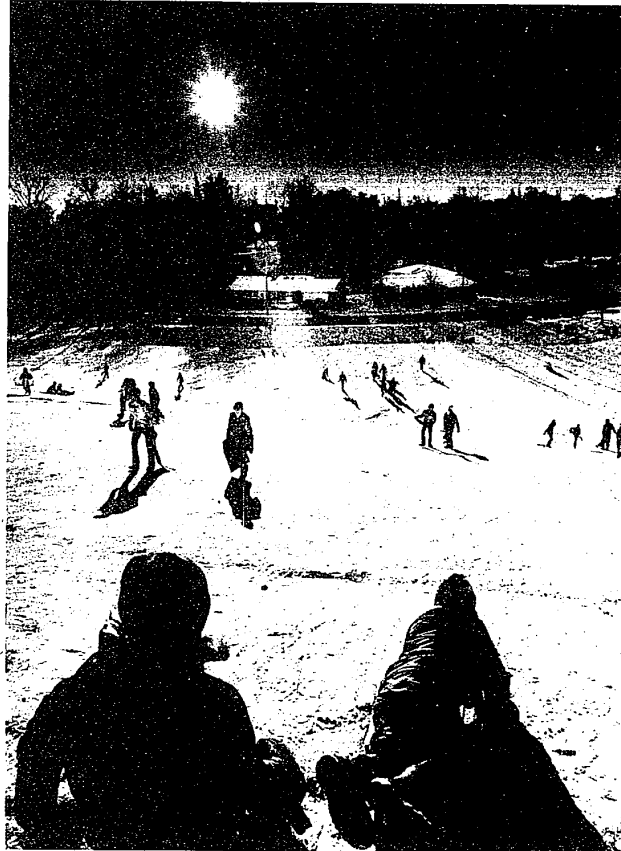
By the time the students are at the high school level they are expected to study the Bible from the original Hebrew text. There is an emphasis on language, customs and ceremonies. There is an attempt at integrating religion with everyday life.

This month, younger grades are being told about Hanukkah as a miracle for the ancient Jews.

OLDER STUDENTS will consider the questions of Jewish identity in the secular world, and assimilation.

Instead of instructing students to keep a certain set of customs, the teachers will ask students to consider their own values. They will compare their value of tradition with other values.

At every level, students are encouraged to learn at their own pace. But students aren't allowed to let any one subject lapse in favor of another. Each of the three sections is visited during each after-school session.



Winter dawns

The first snowfall of the season was enough to bring sledding enthusiasts to the hill behind Farmington School District administrative offices on

Shiawassee. To see how one young person enjoyed the day, turn to Page 3A. (Staff photo by Randy Borst)

Brotherton labels sunset bill as meaningless

A program review bill which passed the State House of Representatives last week has been branded an ineffective piece of legislation by state Rep. Sandy Brotherton, R-Farmington.

"A termination amendment was key to making the program review bill a

sunset bill and thereby giving the legislature the means to get at waste and inefficiency in state government," Brotherton said.

With a sunset bill, state agencies and programs would have to justify their expenditures or would cease to exist.

"Without termination dates, the bill is a meaningless exercise in futility."

"It will result in a new legislative committee, expensively staffed with no assurance that any in-depth review will actually be accomplished," Brotherton added.

If the amendment which Brotherton supported had passed, each agency and program in state government would have been given a termination date on which it would cease to exist unless the legislature specifically acted to renew the agency or program.

The bill without the amendment passed on a vote of 64 to 38.

"Termination dates are the catalysts that would make the legislature act," said Brotherton.

"There are reams of evidence that unpopular or controversial decisions are put off until the last minute unless there are dates forcing the legislature to act."

"It should have been a debate, as Common Cause has indicated, over the merits of whether or not the review the state government so desperately needs will ever be accomplished without termination dates," said the local state representative.

Common Cause in Michigan worked with Rep. Paul Hillegonds, R-Holland, to draft the termination dates amendment.

The citizen lobby led the struggle for sunset bills in 34 other states in the union and for a sunset law for the federal government.

Postmaster has packaging tips

Christmas packages will stand a better chance of arriving at their destinations in good shape if customers follow a few simple instructions.

"Select a corrugated fiberboard box with the 'burst test' number printed on it. That number is usually found in a little circle on the bottom of the box,"

said Farmington Postmaster Kenneth B. Harris.

"The higher the pounds-per-square-inch number, the sturdier the box."

Boxes rated 125 pounds may be used for many types of merchandise weighing up to 20 pounds. A box rated 175 pounds can hold up to 40 pounds of

goods. Items that are fragile or breakable such as cameras or glassware should be packaged in a 275 carton.

Books or other dense and heavy materials also need stronger boxes. Check appliance stores for these heavier cartons, and make sure the seams aren't broken.

Harris also offered these additional tips for wrapping gifts for mailing this Christmas.

- Make sure the contents are well cushioned and there is no empty space in the box. Use crumpled newspaper around the item, on the bottom, the sides and on top of the gift. Padded plastic shells and air pocket padding are also good cushions.
- Brown wrapping paper and twine cord are not necessary. Wrappings can rip off, and twine can get caught in processing machinery.

- Put a slip of paper with the recipient's name and address and your return address inside the box.
- Use sealing tape to close and seal the box. Three types are recommended: pressure sensitive tape, kraft paper reinforced with nylon or glass and filament reinforced pressure sensitive tape. Don't use masking tape or cellophane tape. They're no longer recommended due to past poor performance.

- Use a smudge proof ink for the address which should appear in the lower right hand corner of the box. Write your return address in the upper left hand corner. Be sure to include the zip code for both the addressee's address and your return address.
- Remove any other labels or addresses from the carton.

Thieves net cash, jewelry

Thieves walked away with \$150,000 in cash and jewelry after a late afternoon robbery of the Farmington Hills apartment of a jewelry broker.

In addition to \$111,000 in custom-made jewelry, thieves took \$39,000 in cash, according to Farmington Hills police.

The jewelry taken in the Dec. 5 theft consisted mostly of solid gold rings ranging in value from \$100-\$20,000. Some of the rings feature precious stones surrounded by diamonds. A gold and diamond identification bracelet was also taken.

The broker, who police refuse to identify, wasn't insured for the loss.

inside

Agendas	2A
At Your Leisure	6A
Community Calendar	3B
Inside Angles	3A
Monday's Commentary	8B
Sports	Section D
Suburban Life	Section B

LEARN ABOUT GOVERNMENT

The Farmington-West Bloomfield League of Women Voters think you should know more about Michigan's government. Because of this they are offering a booklet which can aid in that endeavor. To see what it's about, turn to Page 2A.