

Praise God—and keep blue socks, white shirts apart

By LOUISE OKRUTSKY

They're young, idealistic and far from home. For the next two years, the duo will speak about the Church of Jesus Christ Latter Day Saints to whomever will listen.

Living in Farmington and based in the Michigan Dearborn Mission office on Grand River in downtown Farmington, Ken Mundt, 19, and Gyle Yearsley, 19, are committed to increasing membership in the church.

Dressed in identical dark blue all-weather coats, the duo tell people about the teachings of the prophet Mormon by going door to door. Both are new to mission work and the accompanying trials of being away from home.

"When you think of mission work, you don't think about vacuuming and washing dishes," said Mundt.

"I finally learned not to put my white shirt and blue socks in the washer at the same time," he said. Cooking posed another dilemma.

"WE'RE NOT gourmet cooks" said Yearsley.

"It took us about two months to make tapoca that was right," added Mundt.

While they struggle with the intricacies of household chores, the two remain sure they are contributing to their faith by telling others about the Mormon church.

Progress is slow.

"Out of 1,000 doors we've knocked on, we might get one convert," said Mundt.

"It's not difficult. But people aren't lining up either," he said.

Mundt admits to being slightly surprised at first about the lack of interest the church holds for some.

For his family in Utah, the Church of the Latter Day Saints was a strengthening factor. Wracked by two divorces and three marriages, his family settled into a closely knit unit after a Mormon missionary spoke to them about the church.

Before that his family's religious experience was a bit limited.

"WE WENT to church on Christmas and Easter," he said, wryly.

Both young men remain committed to the church's emphasis on family life.

"The family is the main thrust, the basic unit of mankind," said Yearsley. "It sets the pattern for the rest of your life and for eternal life."

One of the ways in which the Church of the Latter Day Saints helps families remain close is through the Family Home Evening.

But as Yearsley is quick to add, the evenings can be used by anyone.

They are a family gathering which

starts off with a song and a prayer followed by a song, poem or story recited by a member of the family.

A discussion about the purpose of families or a session designed to reacquaint everyone is part of the program. Everyone has a role in the evening. Everyone gets a chance to participate.

Its purpose is to help families stay together.

"Everybody is going their own way," said Mundt, about other families he's seen.

"This way a family gets to know each other," he said.

"When you get to know somebody, you love them better," Yearsley added.

"FAMILIES ARE the big joy in life" said Yearsley.

According to church teachings, fathers and mothers work together to raise the children and give them proper guidance.

"Usually the woman raises the family and the man works but doesn't help much in bringing up the children," Mundt said.

In the Mormon church, both parents share in the children's growth.

This emphasis on family life gives the church a low divorce rate, according to the young men. Among members of the Church of the Latter Day Saints, the divorce rate is about three percent.

The church has 5.3 million members nationwide. In the Farmington, Farmington Hills, Walled Lake, Commerce Township area, there are 300 members of the church.

Missionaries raise money to support themselves for the two years. If their money runs out, their families are expected to support them so they can fulfill their commitment.



An added feature to Ken Mundt's (left) and Gyle Yearsley's tenure as Mormon missionaries is living in one of Farmington's historical landmarks. Here, they are shown in front of their temporary home,

the first post office in Farmington, built in 1825. The house served as both a post office and doctor's office. (Staff photo by Harry Mauthe)

Walled Lake voters could face millage request

Voters in the Walled Lake School District probably will vote on a request for additional operating millage in a special election sometime in May.

Just how much additional millage will be requested and the date of the special election have not yet been determined.

The Walled Lake Board of Education is expected to come to grips with those questions at its regular March meeting at 8 p.m. today.

The Walled Lake district includes portions of Farmington Hills and western West Bloomfield.

Consideration of a request for additional operating millage comes shortly after many property owners were hit with a substantial increase in assessments.

Several board members expressed skepticism about the possibility that voters would approve a request for additional millage in wake of the assessment increases.

Those same board members also stated that the district's gloomy financial outlook left little choice other than to ask for a millage increase.

Trustee Leo Wessinger summed up the predominant feeling of the board when he said he was "pessimistic" about the chances for voter approval of a millage request, but "we have to make a stab at it."

THE GROUNDWORK for a decision to request additional millage came in the form of a projected 1979-80 budget from Harry Carlson, assistant superintendent for business. The projected budget was presented at a special board meeting last week.

Superintendent Don Sheldon cautioned the board that the budget was only in its preliminary stages. He said that answers to questions regarding the state aid formula, the district's SEV (State Equalized Valuation), and anticipated enrollment were not yet available.

Sheldon said the budget was based on the most reliable information available at the present time and the board could not afford to postpone a decision on the millage question much further.

According to the figures presented by Carlson, the district anticipates revenues of \$19.8 million and expenditures

of \$20.74 million during the 1979-80 school year — a deficit of approximately \$940,000.

Expenditures have exceeded revenues in both the 1977-78 and 1978-79 school years. The Walled Lake District had a deficit of approximately \$104,000 in 1977-78. This year (1978-79) the deficit is expected to be approximately \$596,000.

The district started the 1978-79 school year with fund equity of approximately \$1,005 million. A deficit of \$596,000 during the present school year would reduce the fund equity to \$409,000 — an amount far too low to cover the anticipated \$940,000 deficit in the 1979-80 budget.

Carlson also reported that his pro-

jected 1979-80 budget did not include pay raises for school district employees. None of the employee unions in the Walled Lake District have yet settled wage scales for the upcoming year, and the teachers' union is gearing up for prolonged negotiations through a regional bargaining effort with the 28 other Oakland County teacher unions.

Carlson said a seven percent increase for all employees in the district would cost in excess of \$1 million. He would not reveal exactly how much a seven percent increase in wages for all district employees would cost.

Carlson reported that the district will have to levy a minimum of 2.158 additional mills in 1979-80 merely to cover the anticipated \$940,000 deficit.

THE INSIDE * ANGLE

AS ANGLES SHIVERS and curses its way through another Michigan spring, it's taking a look at the high flying Audubon Society. The society has developed an educational system based on a series of expeditions around the country. For a year or two of travel, camping and research the wandering student can learn to respect the environment as well as learning about such diverse subjects as archeology, anthropology and civics. For further information, call the National Audubon Society Expedition Institute at 212-832-3200.

FOR THOSE WHO WANT to stay closer to home, the Ten Mile Community School offers CPR and First Aid classes free of charge, taught by instructor Barbara Seabolt. Beginning April 2 and lasting for three Tuesday sessions from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the school, the techniques involved in solo and team Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation will be taught. First aid class will be taught on Friday for four weeks beginning April 4 from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the school. Reservations are required. To reserve a place in the free classes call 474-5233. The instruction is free but the CPR handbook will cost students 37 cents and the first aid book will cost students \$7.

MR. AND MRS. SOUREN KEOLEIAN are bursting with pride over their son's academic achievements. Gary Keoleian, son of the Farmington couple, will receive the William J. Branstetter Freshman Prize at the University of Michigan. The recognition is given to freshmen who have achieved a 4.0 average in their first semester. That average places the young Keoleian in the top five percent of his class.

THE GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH OF THE HOLY CROSS in Farmington is sponsoring a 10-day pilgrimage to the Holy Land beginning on May 21. It will include visits to the shrines and churches of Jerusalem Bethlehem and Mount Sinai. Interested persons should call Rev. Stephen Anthony, pastor of the church.

JUAN ROBAYO, director of clinical programs, faculty of pharmacy at Wayne State University, will speak on the use of anti-inflammatory agents for arthritis at the monthly mutual support program sponsored by the arthritis foundation at 7:30 p.m., March 12, at St. David's Episcopal Church on Twelve Mile between Southfield Road and Greenfield in Southfield. The program is open to the public free of charge.

THE HILLS (AND THE CITY) are alive with scholars. Several area residents distinguished themselves at Mercy College of Detroit last semester. Constance Denise Sanford and John Joseph Truitt, both of Farmington Hills, attained straight A averages.

Lisa Gaye Faria and Cynthia Marie Kwasniewicz of Farmington received B plus or better averages. Susan Getsoff Dahiya, Sister Karen Marie Michaels, Lynne O'Day Moffitt, Michael Joseph Patton and Martina Marie Sorek of Farmington Hills received B plus averages or higher.

JAMES ARNOLD of Farmington Hills is a charter member of the Lawrence Institute of Technology Student Chapter of the Association of General Contractors. All members are construction engineering students at Lawrence Institute of Technology in Southfield.

WORKING WITH THE ELDERLY, a career workshop, will be conducted on April 3 at Mercy College of Detroit. Keynote speaker will be Charles Wolfe, executive director of Jewish Homes for the Aged of Michigan. His topic will be the challenge of work with the elderly. The workshop will open with registration at 8:30 a.m. in the college's student conference center, 6200 West Outer Dr., Detroit. The program will begin at 9 a.m. and conclude at noon.

SEARCHING FOR A JOB? Mercy Center is presenting a job search workshop on three Thursdays beginning March 15. The seminar, from 7:30 p.m. to 10 p.m. will be conducted by Dr. James Krolik, Ph.D., and Maryanne Kent, MSW. Fee is \$15 and it can be sent to Mercy Center at 28600 Eleven Mile.

The workshop will use a group method in identifying skills and interests that relate to the work world. The use of community resources, informational interviewing, resume writing and effective job interviewing will be taught.

DEADLINE

Material submitted for the Inside Angles, 23352 Farmington Rd., Farmington 48024, should include the name and phone number of the sender. Typewritten notices are appreciated but aren't required. Items should be legible and should be on the 1A desk about one week before publication. Photographs can't be used. All material becomes the property of the Farmington Observer. Laughs will be passed on to the community.

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