

Farmington Observer

Volume 91 Number 76

Monday, July 7, 1980

Farmington, Michigan

36 Pages

Twenty-Five Cents

FBI probes racial harassment of family

By MARY GNIEWEK

Police have apprehended five suspects in a cross burning episode which occurred at 12:30 a.m. July 3 outside the home of a black family targeted by racial problems since moving into their Farmington Hills residence last February.

Investigation by Farmington Hills youth bureau officers led to the apprehension of three adult and two juvenile suspects—all but one Farmington Hills residents—who will be charged with

burning an 8 foot by 4 foot wooden cross in front of the home of Rev. and Mrs. Norman Winians, 21218 St. Francis.

Police would not release the suspects' identities and the case has been turned over to the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

Police had extra surveillance on the home after a July 2 incident in which seven tires on a 1975 Ford van and a 1976 Pontiac owned by the Winians were slashed while the vehicles were parked in the driveway.

"We've had no other reports of property damage except for the tire slashes," said Chief John Nichols.

"We've had special attention on the house," Mrs. Mary Winians said her family has been plagued by broken windows, bottles thrown at the house, namecalling and general harassment since the family moved from Redford in February.

SHE WATCHED the cross burning spectacle through a bedroom window.

"I heard a noise and looked out. I thought the car was on fire. Then I saw the cross burning near the fence," she said.

"I called the operator, she got through to the Farmington Hills police who responded in one minute. Their team work was fantastic."

Mrs. Winians, who lives in the southeast part of the city, blamed the trouble on teens who live nearby but not in the immediate neighborhood.

"My immediate neighbors have been super," she said. "They've been doing a

lot of praying. I thank the Lord no one was hurt.

"I just hope the kids realize the seriousness of this. It isn't 1800. People can live where they want to live."

Rev. Winians is a minister at the Church of the Apostles and Prophets in Christ in Redford. He is also employed as a general contractor.

Mrs. Winians takes care of the couple's two children and two foster chil-

dren and sells Amway products from her home.

"We are quiet church-going people," she said. "We are trying to live a good life."

"I'm surprised people are still that ignorant."

Nichols commended the youth bureau for their quick work. He said the case was turned over to the FBI because federal statutes would be more applicable in prosecution of the case.

Firefighters seek support for EMS staff

By STEVE BARNABY

Farmington Hills firefighters have launched a campaign to establish a fulltime municipal emergency medical service in the city.

The eight fulltime firefighters are seeking to place a question on the November ballot asking residents if they want the service. Working through the Farmington Hills Firefighters Association, the group needs more than 3,000 signatures within the next month to put the question on the ballot.

Spokesman Richard Marinucci is optimistic that enough signatures will be obtained by deadline.

"We've only had about ten people refuse to sign," he said last week.

The group had collected more than 300 signatures by the weekend. Proponents began collecting signatures June 30.

Presently, Farmington Hills' emergency medical service is provided through private carriers whose efforts are spread out across more than one city.

"We have nothing against the private ambulance companies," he says. "This isn't designed to put private ambulance service out of business."

"But we're all interested in saving lives. The best way is through us (the firefighters) being paramedics. We would like to do all that we possibly can," he says.

trained only to give basic lifesaving aid. City service is from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m., Monday through Friday. Paid volunteers take over after those hours.

Marinucci's group wants the firefighters training upgraded to paramedics who operate 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

As licensed paramedics, firefighters would be in direct radio contact with hospital emergency rooms. They would be authorized to perform certain medical procedures under the guidance of a physician.

Presently, only the private carriers are authorized to perform such services.

Farmington Hills is serviced by AM-CARE which is based in Redford Township.

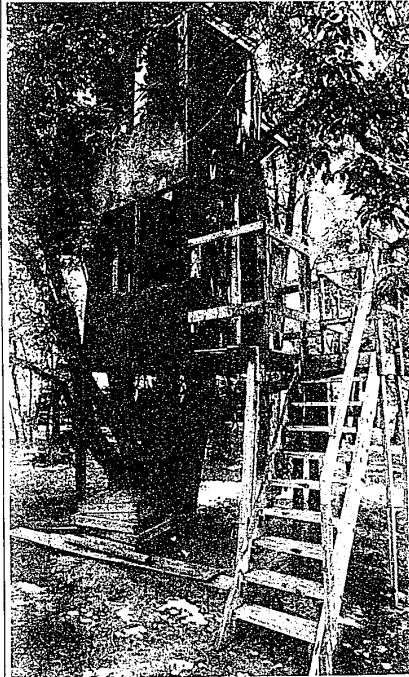
Marinucci estimates that 99 percent of the time, Farmington Hills firefighters reach an emergency before the private carriers.

"Those minutes are crucial in saving a person's life," he says.

"If the firefighters plan, the full-time staff would have to be doubled. Approximate cost would be an additional \$120,000 to \$200,000, according to Marinucci. If the Hills were starting from scratch it would cost approximately \$500,000, he says.

But the department already has available vehicles.

Marinucci counters those who may oppose the system because of cost, saying that option exist to finance the program, such as levying fees for use of service.



This treehouse in a wooded subdivision of Farmington Hills was used for shelter by a young couple and their child for three days. The father is unemployed and without an automobile. (Staff photo by Randy Borst)

Unemployment drives family to tree house

A treehouse, long abandoned as a child's toy, became a home for three days and nights for a young couple and their year-old child.

The husband and wife, both 21, and their child were eventually taken to Oakland County Social Service's Hospitality House in Ferndale by Farmington Hills police officers. Police refused to reveal the name of the couple, whom they say had been moving from one friend's house to another ever since the husband lost his job about three weeks ago.

The woman told police her husband had been laid off and unable to find another job.

The family was discovered Monday morning when Mrs. Ruth Schade heard coughing sounds coming from the direction of the treehouse situated at the back of her property on Pillsbury.

She looked into the treehouse and discovered the couple and their child shivering in the cool morning.

"The raccoons live in there now. So you can imagine how dirty it was," Mrs. Schade said.

The family evidently had subsisted in the tree house on canned goods a neighborhood boy managed to sneak out of his house, Mrs. Schade said.

THE FAMILY didn't have any money, a car or extra clothes, according to Mrs. Schade.

"I gave them a towel for the baby. It was so cold in the morning and he didn't have a sweater. He was shivering," she said.

After her discovery, Mrs. Schade began calling Oakland County agencies for help. When she was told Farmington Hills' city government didn't have a social worker, she called the Oakland County Department of Social Services in Pontiac and was referred to its Walled Lake facility.

Walled Lake suggested the family come to its facility in the morning for help, Mrs. Schade said.

In the meantime, she didn't want the family to stay in the treehouse which has two floors, each 8 by 6 feet and approached by a stairway built into the tree.

"I didn't want to press trespassing charges against them. I didn't want to call the police," she said.

After a day of calling the agencies and finding no one who would come out for the family, Mrs. Schade's son Peter drove the family to Bond School. The husband told the Schade family that he knew someone who would meet them there and help them.

Psychologists debate hypnotism pros and cons

By LOUISE OKRUTSKY

In an era where physical fitness has become chic, hypnosis is gaining popularity as a method to help lose weight and quit smoking.

While the technique is accepted as a way of helping patients deal with pain and anxiety, psychologists are split on the validity of using it to help break a habit.

"A lot of people are looking for some kind of magic. They want something to make everything go away like magic," said Dr. John Teahan, director of the Wayne State University Psychology Clinic and professor of psychology at the school.

The difficulty Teahan sees in using

the technique for weight and smoking problems revolves around trying to convince a patient to stop doing what they want.

"How do you stop people from doing things they want to do?" he said.

Ridding oneself of such habits as smoking and overeating requires behavior modifications, Teahan said.

Group sessions in which members help each other modify their lifestyles and rid themselves of a habit are more effective than hypnosis, he said.

"THEY HAVE to learn a new way of life. They have to change their whole style of living. They must learn to restrict the way they eat," he said.

Other psychologists say hypnosis

can reinforce a persons will power and help them accomplish their goals.

Dr. Don Powell, a Farmington Hills psychologist uses a system in which he initially hypnotizes the patient and then teaches a method of self-hypnosis.

The self-hypnosis, repeated at regular intervals helps the patient to renew the suggestions given him during the initial hypnosis session, according to Powell.

The success of the treatment depends on the person's willingness to continue the self-hypnosis at the required times, he said.

Hypnosis works for a person who wants to rid himself of a bad habit because it puts him in a relaxed state in which he is open to suggestion, according to Powell. That state is similar to

day dreaming and isn't like the popular misconception of hypnotic state in which everything turns dark, he added.

"You can help people make changes they couldn't make on their own," Powell said.

TEAHAN ADMITS that hypnosis could offer some help to persons who want to break a habit.

"It can have a placebo effect to help people believe they have some more control," he said.

Hypnosis is more accepted as a method of dealing with pain, anxiety and stress, according to both doctors.

It was his own extreme anxiety about speaking or performing in public which led Powell to hypnosis as a medical student at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor.

He would become physically ill before giving a speech or making a presentation. During a class demonstration in hypnosis, Powell volunteered to be the subject. He was taught self-hypnosis to carry on the treatment. Over several weeks, he noticed a gradual improvement. Today he suffers only normal anxiety before speaking to a group.

Such a use for hypnosis has been known since the 1860's, according to Teahan. At that time it was used in India to prepare patients for surgery. With the discovery of anesthetics, the use of hypnosis was dropped.

"It's just as well because not all are good subjects," Teahan said.

BOTH DOCTORS agree that 10 percent of the population can't be hypnotized. Another 15 percent of the population can be hypnotized but don't receive any relief through the process.

"A small percentage report an extreme amount of relief. It doesn't work the same for everyone. Some report a moderate amount of relief, others a mild amount and some none at all," Teahan said.

Skeptical, analytical persons are less likely to be susceptible to hypnosis, according to Powell. Extremely anxious persons are less likely to be hypnotized.

Persons who believe in hypnotism, are more trusting or are more adventuresome will respond to it, Powell said.

Powell, who gives each of his patients a psychological exam before hypnotizing them, sometimes discovers that the apparent problem is caused by other, less obvious anxieties.

A high school clarinetist went to Powell because his throat became dry before he was set to perform. During the introductory interview, Powell realized that his patient's problem was a fear of not finding a job, and an anxiety about growing up. He was graduating and was filled with misgivings about what he would do with his life.

THEY CONCENTRATED on his

anxiety instead of his stage fright during treatment, Powell said.

With lay-offs and the economic climate, Powell sees many patients for stress management.

While Powell has been asked to hypnotize persons to help them remember where they've put an object, Teahan distrusts most information from a hypnotized subject because the person is very open to suggestion.

"Freud stopped using it. He discovered that a person under hypnosis will give you what you're looking for. If you want some information and they don't have it they'll make things up," Teahan said.

Such phenomena as Sibil, the three faces of Eve and Bridie Murphy are examples of persons supplying the hypothesis with answers they think are wanted.

In the case of Bridie Murphy, a woman relived another life under hypnosis.



Dr. Don Powell, a Farmington Hills psychologist, uses a self-hypnosis technique on his patients to rid them of unwanted habits. (Staff photo by Randy Borst)

what's inside

Community Calendar . . .	5B
Editorials	7B
Inside Angles	3A
Obituaries	2A
Sports	Section C
Suburban Life	Section B

A VALIANT STRUGGLE

Many times when a business is victim to fire, the owners collect the insurance, the employees move on to other jobs and that's the last you hear of the business. But Haggerty Lumber has another story to tell. To see what happened, turn to Page 5A.