

Council inaction stirs rumblings on 11 Mile

A lot of months have passed since we've seen any action from the gang up at the corner of Eleven Mile and Orchard Lake road.

Sort of like an old volcano, the council has laid dormant in its attempt, literally, to bore the public into utter disinterest. Not even the most avid city hall watchers can force themselves to sit through the meetings which have become even more stagnant than the water in Lincolnshire Subdivision.

But like a restless Mount St. Helen, an eruption is brewing.

The rumblings are ones more of bewildered laughter than discontent among voters who have waited in their wait for this council to do anything of substance.

Take last week's council session, for instance. First, there was poor Mike Cohen. The Civil Defense advocate has been waging a near one-person campaign in attempts to see the city adopt some sort of tornado warning system for its residents.

After negotiating for a number of weeks with individual city council members and after circulating petitions to show there is public support for his idea, Mike showed up last Monday with film and

slides in hand.

Politely, ever so politely, the council listened to his grand plea to install a system which would have cost Farmington Hills residents about a buck apiece.

The soundtrack was difficult to understand and the council was anxious to get on to other business, but they nevertheless heard out our erstwhile hero.

So much for a tornado warning system for Farmington Hills.

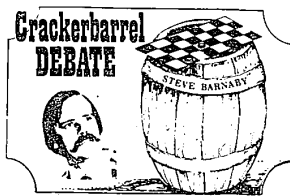
MORE PERSISTENT were a group of Hills firefighters who are fighting to see the city establish a fulltime municipal emergency medical service.

Recently, they presented petitions which will force city council to put a question on the ballot in November.

Interesting what a few signatures on a piece of paper can do in our political system. A few weeks back the firefighters were getting the same treatment as Mike Cohen.

"Nice idea," the council was saying. "But we just don't have the money."

The firefighters were patted on the head, told to



be nice boys and basically to mind their own business. Instead they went out and gathered signatures.

Suddenly, city council thought establishing an emergency medical service was the best idea since giving City Manager Larry Savage a raise in pay.

The speeches sounded like something out of a movie about Daniel Webster.

"If the people want it, we'll give it to them," they echoed over and over again. "We'll just have to find

the money."

SURE GUYS.

Only Councilman Earl Oppenheimer had guts enough to speak up and express reservations about the whole matter. And while he should be lauded for being a frank voice in a valley of empty and echoing rhetoric, emergency medical service advocates are hoping he takes a closer look at the proposition.

For if there is anyone left on the Hills council with any stature and potential for leadership, it's the veteran councilman Oppenheimer.

When it comes to making public policy decisions, most of the remaining city council members are like a bunch of sheep, mindlessly wandering around a pasture.

A city council's job is to map a course for a city's future. Presently, this council is without a leader. It is stuck in an ideological manhole, driven there by the conservative majority which is committed to going nowhere.

Meanwhile, we have one very frustrated Civil Defense volunteer and some concerned firefighters who are determined not to let the council stagnate.

He's hooked on show business

Rock and roll is success to his ears

By LOUISE OKRUTSKY

He can work up an equal amount of enthusiasm over Ted Nugent's latest screaming rock 'n' roll antics and the Romantics' finale which consists of throwing away their red leather suits to the audience.

"They're throwing away their old image and taking on a new style," explains David Leone of the Romantics finale as he sits in his hunters' green office at Diversified Management Agency (DMA).

Together with partner Nick Caris, formerly of A-Square Records, the Farmington Hills resident runs a thriving rock booking agency out of an easily overlooked yellow building which hugs the gas station next door on 12 Mile in Southfield.

Talking about rock, its musicians and writers has been a part of 38-year-old Leone's life since the early '60s.

At that time he divided his life between his teen clubs, "Hideout," Wayne State University and the courts where he fought charges against the club of disturbing the peace.

"You get hooked on rock 'n' roll. You get hooked on show business," he says.

"I tried to get away in '69 by going

to Fotomat but it didn't work."

His rock 'n' roll business life began six years before his foray into Fotomat management.

THROUGH his father's estate he had \$1,000 to use in starting a business. He took \$500 of that and recorded a group called The Fugitives doing a song by the same name. The group and the song were spin-offs of a popular television program.

The song was given radio play on WXYZ-AM but the returns were almost purely measured in pride, not money. It was then that Leone and a college friend Ed "Punch" Andrews had the idea for "Hideout," a teen night club chain dispensing rock 'n' roll and Coca Cola to the underaged music fans.

Andrews' college career caused him to leave the venture shortly after it began. His return to rock 'n' roll came through his later management of Bob Seger.

But Leone stuck it out and in 1964 east side teens were hiding out in his clubs, listening to The Fugitives sing the reputedly risqué lyrics to the Kingmen's "Louie Louie," words which were usually only audible after playing the record at various speeds

for hours.

The success of the local clubs prompted the start of a "Hideout" record label which featured such local groups as The Underdogs doing "Judy Be Mine," a song which Leone helped pen.

THE RECORDING business grew and afforded Seger his first national release in 1965, "East Side Story." But the college courses at various universities which Leone was taking to sidestep the army failed him in 1969. At the age of 24, he was signed up for boot camp instead of signing groups for his club. As he spent time in the service, the clubs and the recording label floundered, leaving Leone with debts to pay off on his return to civilian life.

After a brief but disappointing stint working outside the music business, Leone began DMA with the help of his wife Judy.

"She was a legal secretary. I was taking business courses in college. We were organized when no one else in the area was. The filing system, the booking system, Judy helped me set up. It worked and I ended up marrying her. It usually ends that way," he said. When Leone thought of rock 'n' roll,

he thought of shows and became the booking agent for the areas' most flamboyant — Ted Nugent, Iggy and Alice Cooper.

"They were white elephants. No one wanted it," he admits. Yet he had this concept of shows becoming a force in popular entertainment, he says.

"**THE BEATLES** were great but they were four guys bopping up and down. People would be wanting more," he said.

His first conversation with west coast rock promoter Bill Graham consisted of the ballroom owner's refusal to book Iggy or Nugent. Nugent was too bubbly for Graham. He believed that Iggy's ultimate addition to an act would be to commit suicide on stage.

Yet, for Leone, the reputation of those groups is quite different than that of punk groups.

"Punk, we decided a year ago that what punk stands for won't survive. It's negative. Punk won't make it like four chord rock 'n' roll made it in '64-'69."

Alice Cooper might have been punk in the late '60s when he choked rubber chickens on stage and used snakes in his act, Leone conceded. The MC's might have been punk.



Surrounded by gold records, music business mogul David Leone tells about his success in the rock music world. (Staff photo by Randy Borst)

INSIDE ANGLES

BY LOUISE OKRUTSKY

SUBSTITUTE TEACHERS. Gretchen Peterson is still looking for you. If you work in the Farmington school district, call her at 626-0711. Ms. Peterson wants to organize a non-union pressure group to improve working conditions for subs. She's still trying to get a list of names of substitute teachers who regularly work in the district. The district's administrators say there are 150 such substitutes but are unwilling to cough up their names. Undaunted, Mrs. Peterson has contacted 40 subs on her own. That's 110 to go and only YOU can help by calling her.

ANOTHER APPEAL of a different nature goes out to residents from Herb Pilo. Mr. Pilo is looking for homes a few forlorn exchange students who will be attending school this September in Farmington. Pilo is field coordinator for Youth for Understanding. Want to bring a little bit of modern day diplomacy into your very own home? Call Herb at 626-1222.

UP IN THE SKY it's a bird, it's a pieplate, it's the Starship Enterprise: No, it's a Frisbee! In a recent Founders Festival Frisbee contest, several youngsters were recognized for their skills at tossing that almost pie-plate shaped disc. They are, in the 11-year-old and younger division: Dan Barbaby, (no relation to Wallywhoozy Wink's cohort) with 13 points; Sherry Lang with seven points and runners-up Andy Chwat with 12 1/2 points, Jennifer Louisa with six points.

In the 12- to 15-year-old division, Tim Hommesyn won with 17 1/2 points and Chris Lapham placed second with 14 1/2 points. The contest drew 18 Frisbee flippers to Farmington City Park during the festival. Contestants were judged for their throwing accuracy, catching behind their backs and between legs, throwing for distance and through various Frisbee flights. Points were awarded based upon completion of the task and winners were determined by the highest points scored in the participant's respective age/sex division. Winners advanced to the state Frisbee competition conducted this past week in Livonia.

IF TWIRLING AND strutting are more your style, the Michigan State Fair's All-Trophy Open Baton Twirling Competition will be conducted Aug. 22 on the Fairgrounds' Teen Scene area with all team and corps events. Solo events will be staged on Aug. 23.

Scheduled events include fancy strutting, box strutting, military strutting, solo twirling, boys twirling and two-baton twirling. A Miss Majorette of Michigan State Fair as well as Grand Champion Strutter and Twirler will be picked during the two-day program. Medals aren't awarded in the Fair's

competition. It is an all-trophy contest. This year's program has an expanded team and corps fields with groups coming in from out-of-state.

The baton twirling portion of the contest should feature 12 hours of twirling and the presentation of more than 300 trophies. Entry forms and information about the event can be obtained by writing Harold Arnold, director of entertainment and special events, Michigan State Fairgrounds, Detroit, 48203 or by calling 368-1000. All entries must be postmarked no later than Aug. 10. Contestants who meet the Aug. 10 filing deadline will receive a free gate pass for the day of the event in which they participate. The State Fair runs from 10 a.m. Aug. 22 through Sept. 1. Admission is \$4 for adults; children under 12 admitted free.

OAKLAND COUNTY Health Division will offer a community clinic from 9 a.m. to noon, Aug. 10 at Shawwassee Recreation Center, 30415 Shawwassee Road. Immunizations for measles, German measles, mumps, polio, diphtheria, tetanus and whooping cough are available. A parent or guardian must accompany a child under 18 years old and bring records of previous immunizations.

THE FRANKLIN VILLAGE Band warmed up for the Detroit Tigers this past Sunday at Tiger Stadium. It was a purely Farmington day at the stadium with Miss Farmington 1978, Vicki Jean Whinnery, singing the National Anthem before the Tigers played.

A FEW extra Farmington Founders Festival award winners: For the best general effort in the Founders Day parade, the Shrine Keystone Kops walked away with a parade trophy.

The second place winners were the Shrine Horse Troop followed by the Shrine Clowns. The outstanding unit was a trophy which travels from winner to winner — with those placing first for three years keeping the winning cup — are as follows: The contemporary awards trophy given to an outstanding Farmington area unit went to the Elks Motor Drill Team. The chairman's Grand Award went to the Shrine Americans a cowboy and Indian unit. The Grand Award for the Outstanding musical unit went to the Scarlet Brigade of Windsor, Ont. The float belonging to the Farmington Community Library along with its bookworm placed first in the non-commercial floats division. Following it were Trinity United Methodist Church, Keego Harbor, Farmington Amateur Hockey Association and Farmington Helpline CB Club.

In the commercial division, Real Estate One of Farmington placed first while Floats, Flags and Things of Keego Harbor came in second.

The nights will get longer. The days will get cooler.... It's time to think "must-haves" for your back-to-schoolers

For Girls:

- From Carter's® white and print combed cotton in group.
 - Camisole tops, reg. 2/3.89, sale 2 for 2.79.
 - T-shirts, reg. 2/4.25, sale 2 for 2.99.
 - Print ruffle leg panties, sizes 4 to 12, reg. 3/5.5, sale 3 for 3.59.
 - Print band leg panties or elastic leg, reg. 3/5.5, sale 3 for 3.59.
 - Hip hugger panties in whites or other pastels, sizes 6 to 16, reg. 3/5.5, sale 3 for 3.59.
- From Teenform: soft beginner bra, sizes 28 to 36, reg. 3.25, sale 2.59.
- From Trifit:
 - Opaque nylon tights, assorted colors. Sizes 4-6, 6-8, 8-10, 10-12, reg. 2.25, sale 1.89 each or 3 for 5.40.
 - Opaque nylon knee-highs in a variety of fall colors, sizes S(7-8 1/2), M(8-9 1/2), L(9-11), reg. 1.60, sale 1.29 each or 3 for 3.59.

For Boys:

- From Carter's® in cotton prints, sizes 4 to 7.
 - Print T-shirt, reg. 3/6.50, sale 3 for 4.79.
 - Print brief, reg. 3/5.50, sale 3 for 3.99.
- From Trifit:
 - Tube socks, sizes 7-9 1/2, reg. 1.60 each, sale 3 for 3.85.
 - Crew socks, sizes S-M in fall basics, reg. 1.80 each, sale 1.39.

20% savings
on our famous makers: it's the biggest and best children's basic sale* ever

*Sale prices in effect now through August 10 in Children's Sleepwear, all stores.

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