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Substitute teacher fee splits trustees

By MARY GNIEWEK

Despite a plea from substitute teacher spokeswoman Gretchen Peterson for \$40 a day, the Farmington Board of Education Tuesday set the pay scale for substitute teachers at \$36 a day, up \$3 from the previous rate.

The school board was split 4 to 2 in its decision. Those who approved the new rate claimed they'd like the substitutes to be paid a higher daily wage but

acted cautiously because of shrinking district revenues.

"You advertise for parking lot attendants who will be paid \$5.50 an hour and you don't list any special requirements," Mrs. Peterson said.

"This is nearly \$40 a day. Yet we have degrees and teaching experience and you offer us \$36 a day," she told the board.

"We don't feel our pay has kept up through the years. We've subsidized the

district long enough. No one has been speaking up for us."

Mrs. Peterson successfully challenged administrators earlier this summer to pry loose a list of names of substitutes who regularly teach in Farmington. She won her case and has scheduled a meeting next Tuesday for substitutes to discuss their concerns, especially salary and school policy.

"\$40 a day is not an out of line request," she said.

SHE CITED Dearborn's \$42 a day rate for substitute teachers and Redford's \$39 daily scale. But School Superintendent Lewis Schulman cited a survey of substitute teacher pay rates in surrounding areas and noted that \$36 a day is in line with neighboring districts.

"This is not what the district would like to pay, but what the district can afford to pay," said Board President Jack Inch, supporting the measure.

"I know the value of a good substitute teacher and I think we are moving in the right direction.

"But state aid is constantly being cut. We also have several amendments to cut more (aid) looming in front of us. Bigger increases now might be revoked later and we have to act honestly and competitively," he said.

Trustees James McGlinchy and Dick Wallace voted against the rate, opting

for more money. Trustee Emma Makinen was absent. By comparison, first-year fulltime teachers are paid \$56 a day in Farmington.

Again, the district will pay substitute teachers \$48 a day for assignments that continue beyond 10 consecutive days. The \$48 rate goes into effect on the 11th day of the assignment.

Substitute teachers receive no special benefits or insurance coverage.

Security plan costs students parking lot fee

By MARY GNIEWEK

The Farmington Public Schools administration won approval from its board of education Tuesday to secure high school student parking lots, hire guards to patrol the lots, and charge students a \$10 annual fee to park there.

It was a compromise settlement that the school board agreed upon, chucking an earlier administrative proposal calling for new fencing at the three high school lots at a cost of \$20,000.

Instead, the district will spend \$6,000 from the general fund to install gates and posts at Harrison, and posts, fences and gates at North Farmington.

The New Hudson Fence Company of Novi was contracted to do the work, which is expected to be complete when school reconvenes in September.

Farmington High will make do with two posts around the entrance of its student lot, which is chained off for drivers education range driving. It will add a sign on the chain link barrier to ward off outsiders.

School administrators have been talking about beefing up parking lot security all summer.

"By fencing the lots and providing an attendant during school hours, we will free the administrative staff for more professional duties," said Lynn Nutter, assistant superintendent.

ADMINISTRATORS HOPE the security measures will provide a more

orderly use of the parking lots, provide better control of visitors, serve as a deterrent to class-skippers who loiter in the lots, and reduce vandalism.

The three high schools combined reported \$23,884 in theft and vandalism losses last year.

Six attendants will be paid \$5.50 an hour to supervise the lots. There will be two guards assigned to each school. They'll work four hour shifts and be responsible to the principal. They won't be in uniform.

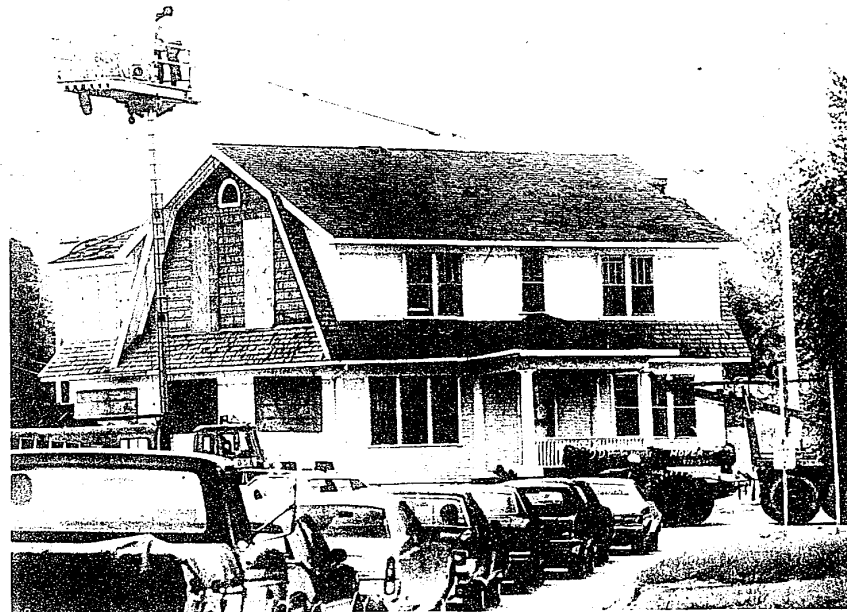
Each high school will have its own decal sticker. Students who drive more than one car during the school year can get additional stickers. Occasional student drivers will pay 25 cents a day to park in the lots and must show their identification card to be admitted.

Nutter, who has met with the three high school principals to talk about identification cards and attendants, told the board there is "quite a bit of interest."

"We'll be ready to go by the beginning of school," he said.

The board's Safety and Operations Committee unanimously approved the revised proposal Tuesday, then recommended the board adopt the policy during the school board meeting which followed an hour later.

The board voted 6 to 0 to adopt the policy. Trustee Emma Makinen was absent.



Show stopper

A Dutch Colonial on wheels stopped traffic at the busy intersection of Farmington and Eight Mile roads Tuesday afternoon on its way from Livonia to Farmington Hills. Wayne County Road Commission

workers (upper left) pick up a traffic light in the path of the house. (Staff photo by Randy Borst)

Hypnotist teaches clients to relax away fears

By SHERRY KAHAN

Mark (the Bird) Fidrych has used it. So have Nanette Roth of Plymouth, Karen Farkas of Livonia and Hack Chapoton, of Detroit.

They are trying to solve problems under hypnosis.

The Bird wanted to improve his pitching. Ms. Roth hoped to lose weight and Mrs. Farkas wanted to conquer insomnia.

Chapoton was looking for a way to rev up his memory, stop smoking and lose weight.

With the exception of Fidrych, they all have been hypnotized by Patti Wooldridge. She recently moved her office in Livonia to Farmington at 23280 Farmington Road in the Harp Chiropractic Clinic.

"I lost 104 pounds in three weeks," said Ms. Roth. "I feel better about myself. I think my weight problem is from anxiety."

"Under hypnosis I was in a very calm state. It was like I was floating. Then she (Ms. Wooldridge) says positive things about losing weight."

"I was nervous the first time and didn't think I'd go under."

Once the hypnosis takes effect, Ms. Wooldridge has her clients breathe deeply, stretch out their chest muscles and relax. Then she suggests they relax their whole bodies.

"THEY FEEL a sensation of relaxation all over," she said. "Then I attempt to deepen that comfort until they are in an altered state."

"A trance is an altered state of awareness. It is a slowing down of conscious mental processes."

But there is more to the matter than temporary comfort. Ms. Wooldridge gives them a way to return on their own to this feeling of relaxation.

"I taught Nanette a way of anchoring back into the deep relaxation she felt while in a trance," she said.

"She can go back to that feeling of comfort when stress begins to build," Ms. Roth said she had done just that when she became tense.

"When I feel stress, I sit down and think back," she said. "It calms me down."

Mrs. Farkas can also plug into the way she felt in the chair in Ms. Wooldridge's office.

"I can lock into the feeling I had

then," she said. "It is one of extreme physical heaviness. It's a very comfortable, peaceful sensation."

"When in this state, you are very open to suggestion. She told me that a doctor said a person will get 80 percent of his rest if he merely lies still."

"By giving that suggestion to my brain, she's made me realize it is OK not to have so much sleep. It has reduced my anxiety about the need for it."

Mrs. Farkas said she felt in total control during hypnosis.

"I heard what she said, processed it, and thought about where I could use it," she said.

CHAPOTON DESIRED to improve his memory because much technical data passes under his eyes.

"It's stuff that is boring," he said.

"Under hypnosis, my mind was retrained to make my mind and eye work together."

"She tells you you are going to remember more of what you read not by reading every word, but scanning it for its meaning, like speed reading."

"It has increased my memory. I tried



PATTI WOOLDRIDGE

it to learn to quit smoking, but that hasn't worked. However, it has helped with my weight. She put in my mind that I could eat one course and be satisfied."

"It worked. In seven weeks, I went

from 218 pounds down to 195 pounds." But what really grabbed Chapoton was the effect on his 8-year-old daughter.

"She once got hit with a baseball bat," he said. "She was in the hospital 10-12 days. Her school work suffered, and she was held back a grade. I brought her to Patti for two or three sessions."

"Her school work improved 100 percent. The change was unbelievable. The sisters wondered what was going on."

"I think under hypnosis she was told her school work would be easier. I wasn't there. But she began to enjoy school work. When she got her spelling words on Monday, by that night they were all memorized."

"It used to be a whole week battle to get her to memorize them. It is a good case of teaching the mind to do the things it is supposed to do."

Commenting on this case, Ms. Wooldridge said the youngster may have reacted to the emergency room situation and negative remarks by doctors as to the possible results of her injury.

"The girl acted out their expectations," she said. "When the brain is highly sensitized, that is the time suggestions are received and acted on."

MS. WOOLDRIDGE SAID that most people can accomplish what they want in two sessions of hypnosis.

Some ask to take home the tapes of their sessions for reinforcement. The initial visit costs \$35. The followup costs \$15. Those wishing to come back after that pay \$25.

In outlining what she considers value of her work, Ms. Wooldridge said most people in our society aren't as well-developed as they could be.

"They aren't taught until college about human relations and personal growth," she said. "They are told what not to do, so they feel restricted and that they aren't OK."

"One thing hypnosis does is teach people that they have everything they need to make wise decisions. Society teaches us to seek every specialist available rather than look inside ourselves for solutions."

"I approach hypnosis as a tool for stimulating everything that a person has so he can do what he wishes: learn, remember and concentrate. I feel a person can come here to learn to turn on their potential."

Ms. Wooldridge said her interest in hypnosis was kindled in 1976 when she consulted Dr. Lewis Green, since deceased, about migraine headaches.

"I learned he had been doing hypnosis for at least 40 years in his medical practice," she said.

He once told her he would like to "go into every hospital and shake the doctors by their lab coats and convince them to use hypnosis."

Break-ins probed

Farmington Hills Police are investigating three break-ins which occurred last weekend at two local businesses and residence.

More than \$20,000 in pumps, heaters and supplies were reported stolen from Jack Roberts Pool's warehouse at 32750 Northwestern Highway Saturday.

An employee discovered the break-in when he reported to work Saturday morning and found the locks cut on the warehouse door, which is inside a fenced yard. A sliding glass door was also forced open.

The employee told police a company hand truck stored inside the warehouse was used by the culprits to wheel the supplies to a waiting vehicle outside.

AN EMPLOYEE reporting for work

at Bates Hamburgers, 22291 Middlebelt, Sunday night found the back door unlocked and \$1,400 in cash missing.

A cash drawer containing \$300 and a plastic cup with \$100 were both hit as well as a safe. Tracks in the grass outside the restaurant looked like the safe was rolled along the north side of the building.

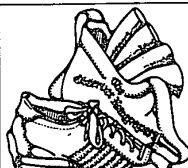
Police think the culprit may have entered the building with a key. The owner verified that there are several keys for the building unaccounted for.

A family returning home from a weekend trip Sunday afternoon discovered their Dewberry Street residence was the target of a weekend prowler.

Coins and jewelry valued at nearly \$1,000 were reported stolen. The thief entered the house by breaking glass out of a basement window.

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Your Observer carrier will be stopping by this week to collect for the month. Please be ready, and be sure to save your receipt — it's worth a \$1.00 discount on the next classified ad you place in your hometown newspaper.

Police investigate arson conspiracy

A preliminary examination has been set for Sept. 5 in Farmington District Court for a Farmington Hills man accused of trying to burn his home and another house.

Thomas B. Hatter, 54, of 25795 Farmington Road, pleaded not guilty at his Aug. 5 arraignment before Judge Michael Hand on two counts of solic-

ing to burn, a felony punishable by up to 20 years imprisonment.

Hatter was arrested Aug. 4 by the Michigan State Police Arson Strike Force at his home at the conclusion of a meeting between Hatter and an undercover police officer.

According to police, Hatter attempted to hire an undercover officer to burn his home and another area residence.