

Take reins of power

Students learn government ropes

By Craig Piechura
staff writer

The most important lesson some students learned on Student Government Day was that Farmington City Hall is located in Farmington, not Farmington Hills.

Kim Fournier, elected by Farmington High School students as a city council member for the day, sheepishly explained that she was late for the regular city council meeting Monday night because she went to Farmington Hills City Hall instead. Other students admitted they had to ask for directions, too.

The following day, Fournier and 17 other students changed places with their adult counterparts in city government, the police department and the courts as one of the annual events surrounding Michigan Week.

They were given a tour of city facilities by City Manager Robert Deadman and treated to a lunch at the Steak and Ale restaurant by the Farmington Rotary Club. The highlight of the day's festivities was a mock city council meeting chaired by students who requested reports from students acting as department heads.

On the agenda at the meeting was a discussion about solving annual problems over graduation parties by high school seniors that spill over into the city parks and streets.

Like their adult counterparts, students found no solution to the perennial problem and recommended no change in the posted 10 p.m. park curfew.

ACTION TAKEN by the students in the mock meeting included a decision to raise the speed limit on Drake Road from 25 miles per hour to 30 miles per hour.

The students thought the Miss Farmington pageant should be expanded to include a Mr. Farmington to avoid the "sexist" practice of limiting \$1,000 scholarships to young women and not men.

Meeting in the room adjacent to the city council chambers before they held their council meeting, students said that the regular city council meeting the night before surprised them by its informality.

"It was a lot more laid back than I thought it would be," said Andrea MacIntosh who was elected mayor for the day by her fellow-student council members.

"I thought it'd be a lot more complicated," said Ted Moore, a councilman during Student Government Day.

"Some council members seemed so bored and agreed with everything anybody said," said Carol Dillon.

Many of the students were surprised

that the city manager runs the day-to-day operations of the city under direction by the city council and that the mayor doesn't work full-time for the city of Farmington.

"I THOUGHT the mayor stayed in his office all day," said Moore.

"Mr. Deadman seems to run everything," said Beth Church, a council member.

Things many city officials take for granted were news to the students. When they were told they would be going to lunch at the Rotary Club to hear guest speaker Gary Cumberly, host of Channel 2's "Morning Magazine," one student asked "What's a Rotary Club?"

Another girl answered him by twirling her index finger in the air and saying somewhat facetiously, "A club that goes like this."

By the end of the day the students were asking intelligent questions about police procedure on high-speed chases ("Don't assume you are not going to be chased," said Sgt. Norm Maddison) and asking for a cost breakdown of each fire run.

Other students participating in Student Government Day included Mike Miller, who played the city manager, and Chris Looser, Paul Hickey, Brian Hunt, Barrie Smith, Bill Atkinson, Kevin Flynn, Frank Lusci, Doug Warner, Jeanine Bergers, Kim Courville, Astrid Letsee and Maryann Shewbridge.

Paul Hickey filled in as city clerk.



Representing the Department of Public Safety was Kevin Flynn (left) and Frank Lusci.



Andrea MacIntosh was mayor for the day. It was her job to preside over the City Council meeting.

INSIDE ANGLES

BEVERLY WINNICKI gets this week's salute for doing one of the more interesting things this summer. The Kalamazoo College student will work on a Sioux Indian Reservation in South Dakota. She is one of 190 Kalamazoo students who participate in the off-campus career development internship. Other Farmington-area students participating in the program are Kelly Ann Boring, who will work at Arles Tube and Metal in Birmingham; Jill Moran, who will go to New York and work with the Periodic Management Company; and Andrew Perrin, who will work in the Detroit Edison legal department.

ART LOVERS should head on over to see the most recent display of Sr. Mary Ignatius' students, whose works are hanging in Mercy Center through May 27. The sister is herself an accomplished artist who has a real knack for passing on her talents to students. Those who go to see the works are asked to enter the Mercy complex from Gate 4 on 11 Mile, east of Middlebelt, then enter the building under the blue canopy to find the show.

MEMBERS OF THE Farmington Hills Branch of Women's National Farm and Garden Club were out in force early this week planting hundreds of alysum and geranium plants bordering the front and sides of the Farmington Historical Museum, which will be officially opened this weekend. The last-minute planting was one of a dozen preparations in readiness for the dedication activities. Next week, the women start their annual vegetable garden on the grounds of the Sarah Fisher home.

IF YOU'RE TIRED of being a below-par duffer and would like to bring your score down, try the golf lessons being offered by the Farmington Hills Parks and Recreation Department. Classes are 50 minutes each, twice each week for four weeks, beginning on May 25. Each participant will be asked to purchase a bucket of balls for each lesson. In case of inclement weather, all classes will be made up. Classes will be on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Cost is \$18 for all but senior citizens who will pay \$10. Site of the lessons will be at the Sliger Golf Range, 29725 Grand River, west of Haggerty. Lessons for teens (10-17) will be 6-6:50 p.m.; for senior adults (60 and older) will be 11-11:50 a.m.; and for adults from 9-9:50 a.m., 10-10:50 a.m., 1-1:50 p.m., and 4-4:50 p.m. For further information, call the recreation offices at 474-4115.

A BIG THANKS from the folks over at WOB-FM of Oakland Community College to local businesses who recently helped out the student station.

by making some donations. For the businesses' \$100 donations, a banner was flown across the sky on the hot-air balloons during last weekend's balloon fest at the Orchard Ridge campus. Those contributing were the Big Boy Restaurant, 24084 Orchard Lake; Schaak Electronics of Royal Oak; Walsh College; Morgan-Watt Printing and Re-Sell It Shoppe on Grand River in Farmington.

CONGRATULATIONS TO Mike Miller, who was one of only seven students from the metropolitan area to receive a scholarship from the Detroit Sports Broadcasters Association scholarship program. Formal presentations will be made at the Awards Banquet at Penna's in Warren in conjunction with the first annual Great Putt Putt Playoffs on June 7. Miller ranked No. 1 in his class while earning a 4.0 grade point average at Farmington High School. He is a Phi Beta Kappa, Boy's State candidate and member of the Lettermen Club and Physics Club. He played varsity football and will study engineering at the University of Michigan.

THE CHILDREN'S Leukemia Foundation will host two blood drives in conjunction with its annual Leukemia Week June 5-11. The drives, on June 5 in Livonia and June 6 in Southfield, should help to ease the traditional blood crunch due to the seasonal slack in regular donations. The Livonia drive is from 9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at the Livonia Senior Center, 29691 Six Mile, Suite 100 C. The Southfield drive will be from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the CLF main office, 19022 10 Mile, between Southfield and Evergreen roads. Persons between the ages of 17 and 65 weighing at least 110 pounds may participate.

RICK FREUND has made his mark on the world of powerlifting by taking first in statewide teen competition. Last spring he competed in a bodybuilding contest and placed third in the Mr. Michigan Teen competition. A freshman at Farmington High School, he participates in football, track and wrestling.

A BIT OF THE FARMINGTON jazz sound will be heard down at Hart Plaza June 2 when Farmington's own Larry Nozoro joins in the mini-Madrieur extravaganza. It's part of the area's celebration for the Grand Prix Nozoro is a saxophonist-flutist. Other musical groups to participate will be Jack Brokenbush, Austin-Moro Band, Top Brass, Brookside Jazz Ensemble, George Benson Quartet, Lyman Woodard Organization, the Stan Kenton Orchestra and the Northwestern High School Band.

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