Synagogue members to rebuild after fire

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many congregations — both Christian and Jewish — that have offered to lend a helping hand.

"There's a wonderful feeling of friendship. They've really extended themselves. They've been super-nice. We've received so many letters saying 'we're praying for you and with you.'"

WITHIN HOURS of the fire, offers of places to hold Sabbath services, weddings and long-scheduled bar and bat mitzvah observances poured in from neighboring churches and synagogues.

Some members are anxious to hold services even in the school "because it's their building," Fishman said.

Those who need more room or prefer a regular sanctuary, are making arrangements to relocate special celebrations or services in other synagogues.

David Newman, who celebrated his bar mitzvah Saturday at the Church of Christ Scientist, was thankful that the celebration was held — no matter where the location.

"I'll remember that day all my life. I was afraid (the ceremony) might have been cancelled," the West Bloomfield youngster said.

"I'm happy because I'll probably go down in history as one of the few to have a bar mitzvah in a church. And I'm glad I'm having it with my own rabbi.

"But I'm sad because it (was) in a church. And I'm disappointed because the Torah burned."

DURING A two-day mourning period, members of the congregation donned black ribbons to symbolize their grief over the loss of five sacred Torahs. Firemen recovered remnants of the scrolls. Tradition dictates that the remains be buried, although no date has been set for the ceremony.

Prayer books, pictures of synagogue presidents and other items also were lost in the blaze.

"It's a tragedy when a synagogue is destroyed," noted Senior Rabbi Irwin Groner of Congregation Shaarey-Zedek, Southfield. "Something sacred has been violated."

The executive director of Shaarey-Zedek, Thomas Jablonski, talked his way through police roadblocks and entered the charred structure Tuesday morning to offer that congregation's support.

Hills honors champions

The Week of State Champions was kicked off on Monday of last week by Farmington Hills City Council members, who presented a proclamation to representatives from Mercy and Harrison high schools

The Marlins recently captured the state Class A championship in basketball, while the Hawks now reign as state Class A champions in football.

Mercy's starting five — Amy DeMattia, Annette Ruggiero, Mary Resowski, Carolyn Bert and Sarah Basford — their coach, Larry Baker, and principal Sr. Mary Thompson were on hand, as were Harrison's lineman and co-captain Tim Smiglelski, kicker Dave Blackmer, quarterback Ken Kish, line coach Bob Sutton and principal Jim Gieger.

The champs were honored with a resolution that proclaims,

"WHEREAS the Mercy High School girls' basketball team, the Marlins, and WHEREAS the Harrison High School football team, the Hawks, have won the Class A state championships in their respective sports, and WHEREAS these young athletes have brought honor, pride and recognition to the community of Farmington Hills through their endeavors and WHEREAS these Farmington schools, including their staffs, coaches and administrators have provided outstanding leadership and guidance for young people in both academic and athletic endeavors, and WHEREAS the city of Farmington Hills wishes on behalf of the entire community to recognize the importance of this display of excellence, sportsmanship and personal commitment, be it THEREFORE RESOLVED that the mayor and council of the city of Farmington Hills do hereby proclaim the week of January 17-21, 1983 as the week of state champions in the city of Farmington Hills."

Rudofski named to dean's list

Richard Rudofski of Farmington Hills has achieved the dean's list in the college of engineering at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor.

The honor is earned by a grade point average of 3.5 or higher out of a possible 4.0.

Rudofski is a senior in biochemical engineering. He has just completed his fourth season as a trumpet player and rank leader in the University of Michigan Marching Band.

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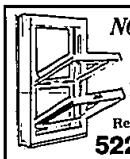

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by Charles H. Williams, C.P.A.

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Why? Because it's worth the difference to put your tax return in the hands of someone with the knowledge to find every likely loophole, and the experience to know which are acceptable. And as you reach the higher brackets, you'll get the advice you need on sheltering some income from taxes.

Some free help is available from the IRS. Revenue employees will answer your questions (but the tax court has challenged some of their answers) and prepare the simplest returns. There are also independent and chain tax preparers who pop up at tax season. Their workers may not be experienced enough to catch all legal deductions.

A certified public accountant can handle most complex returns and are familiar with shelters and investing. His or her tax know-how can save you more than the fee.

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