He dedicates his life teaching Lincoln

remarked upon — the Detroit skyllne on another occasion.

Lincoln gave what Petz called "an important speech on slavery" before 10,000 spectators in a Kalamazoo park in 1854. He was in the state for only 24 hours.

"There were five speakers that day,"
Petz sald, "and Lincoln was the least known of any of them."

During his presidency. Lincoln set eyes on Detroit from the deck of the steamboat "Globe" which was carrying him and his wife Mary on a Great Lakes cruise from Buffalo to Chicago. Although he never set foot on shore, Lincoln did show himself to be a man

of many talents during the trip. Spotting a boat stuck on a shoal of the Detroit River, he immediately set to work aketching a device which would provide buoyancy for such stranded craft. "You could do a whole talk on Lincoln the inventor," Petz said. "His first invention happened right here in our back yard. It was never produced, but engineers tell us it would work."

Petz, who will retire in tune after do.

engineers tell us it would work."
Petz, who will retire in June after 40
years in education, the last 23 with the
Parmington Public Schools, can list
family ties with Lincoln, John Beal,
Petz' great uncle, was Lincoln's close
personal friend during the Springfield
days. Petz inherited Beal's papers.

AFTER 40 YEARS of fascination with Lincoln and his lore, Petz has ac-

cumulated more than 40,000 Lincolnrelated items, including a soldier's belt
backle he dug up (with permission)
from the Gettysburg battlefield.
"It's a drop in the bucket, really,"
Petz sald, "but my wife doesn't think so
when she has to dust it."
Petz displayed some of his more
prized items, especially an original
photograph of a care-worn President
Lincoln made from a glass plate by Alexander Gardner on April 10, 1865, just
days before he was assassinated in
Ford's Theater by John Wilkes Booth.
One of only six prints known to exist,
the photograph was the last ever taken
of Lincoln.
Another prized item was a reproduction of the famous Volk mask, a representation of Lincoln's face made by

sculptor Leonard Volk in 1880 just af-ter Lincoln had been named the presi-dential nominee of the Republican Par-

dential nominee of the Republican Party.

"The casting is so true that it has been used by anthropologists to determine a lot about Lincoln's health," Petz and the bronze paint on Petz' reproduction of the mask is worn off the tip of the nose and the right eyebrow. Reason: Bilm disteners to Petz' rectures (he has spoken before more than 1,200 groups over the past 30 years) always run their lingers over Lincoln's fance.

Volk also sculpted Lincoln's mads (the right hand's holding a length of Mary's broom stick), and Petz has reproductions. Lincoln's right hand's holding a length of Mary's broom stick), and Petz has reproductions. Lincoln's right hand is noticeably more swellen than his left

because he had just finished shaking the hands of many well-wishers after being named the Republican hopeful.

PETZ, A LONGTIME resident of West Bloomfield Township, was a contidant of Carl Sandburg, the famous American poet who popularized Lincoln. The poet presented Petz with a valuable "printer's dummy" — a bound volume containing mostly blank pages — of his "Abraham Lincoln The War Years Vo. I".

Petz, who holds a doctorate in history from Lincoln Memorial Indiversity in Harrogate, Tenn., and who wrote his master's theris on "Music and Abraham Lincoln," is the author of a book, "In the Presence of Abraham Lincoln," and the law of the Republished in 1973.

Petz is working on another book standing ovailon.

on the agenda

City of Farmington Hills City Council Meeting March 19, 1984, 7:30 p.m. Public Hearing

- Public hearing on determination for road improvement to portions of Tarabusi Roseland Gardens in Section 33.
- Consideration of introduction of zoning map amendment between Grand River and Farmington cut off.
 Proponent, John A. Turmala for Bill Cock.
- Consideration of introduction of zoning map amendment north side of 13 Mile Road, east of Ardmore Drive.
 Proponent, Robert M. Katzman for the Abbey Group.

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of preliminary plat approval of Ram-blewood No. six in section 5 for Bilt-more Properties Company.

- Public hearing for consideration of cluster housing site plan located on 17 acres at Middlebelt and 14 Mile Road.
- Public hearing for vacation to va-cate that portion of Westfield Avenue extending north from the portion previ-ously vacated and Bond Boulevard.
- Public hearing to vacate alley be-tween lots 134 and 135 of Assessor's Grand River Homes State Subdivision and Lot 311 of Grand River Homes Subdivision.
- Public hearing for consideration
 Public hearing for consideration
 Public hearing for consideration
 Agent State Stat

Unfinished Business

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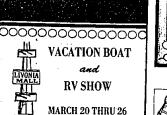
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