

# His small-town roots run deep

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likes its community service projects. Each time Bell travels through central Michigan, he, in turn, transferred his Lions membership. He's secretary for the local club and once served as district officer.

Carvell's most avid support goes to the group's involvement in the William Beaumont Hospital program to aid children with hearing and speech impediments caused by cleft lip and palate.

"They're doing something I like," he said of the hospital program.

IN THE coming year, Carvell will be involved in yet another service project. A member of the First United Methodist Church of Farmington, he's been chosen church historian. For the congregation's 150th anniversary next year, he has been commissioned to write through the requisite paperwork for a state historical marker.

"When we retired, one of the reasons we stayed in Farmington was that I was involved in so many things," he said.

Carvell, his wife, Claire, and their two sons and daughter came to Farmington in 1966. He was transferred to Detroit from Lansing after a string of jobs with Michigan Bell took him throughout the central part of the state.

"I started in the stockroom in Kalamazoo and went to second-level management in the Detroit area," is the way he sums up his career. He retired from Bell's special service bureau in 1981.

The family considered Farmington the closest thing to the small towns they'd left behind. "Both my wife and I are small-town products," he said.

They still enjoy being able to walk to the First Methodist church on Grand River. Their children attended old Farmington Junior High School, which once stood behind the church.

NOW THAT his family is grown, he finds the time to tend his 100 rose bushes. Among those backyard blossoms are experimental hybrid roses a commercial grower sends to dedicated amateurs like Carvell. In return, he jots down his impressions of the ease with which he could nurture the new bud.

To Carvell's delight, one such rose was dubbed "American Spirit" by the grower and became commercially available. When he isn't raising roses, he's putting with his lifelong collection of American commemorative postage stamps. "I've been a stamp collector since back in the '30s. My uncle got me started in that."

In many ways, Carvell and his wife have tried to recapture the cozy atmosphere of his home town, Vicksburg. There, south of Kalamazoo, his folks ran a grocery store. Carvell and his two brothers spent their boyhood making deliveries to customers.

It was in Vicksburg that he met his wife. He was young, freshly drafted into the Army. She was a Michigan University. They were married in August 1946.

Yet even back in Vicksburg, people have forgotten that his first name isn't Dick. It's Charles, a name he signs on legal documents and little else.



— Staff photo by RANDY BORST

Dick Carvell shows a green thumb in tending his backyard rose bushes.

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EVEN HIS own mother, who still lives in Vicksburg, quip calling him Charles when he was a boy.

"My grandfather's name was Charles, so that was an old man's name," he said. "My uncle started

to call me Dick, my middle name."

Two Charles Carvells in a small town was bound to cause confusion. And as the younger Carvell came into adulthood, it did.

When he was drafted into World War II, the local paper ran his legal name in its list of new servicemen. "People said, 'Charles Carvell? Charles is 86 years old.'"

# Center students now back home

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they included details of the students' health, information about medications, insurance numbers and everything that was needed by the hospital. Chaperones also had lists of which hotel rooms housed which students and, as a safety precaution, had made sure everyone stayed on the same floor.

"I can't have enough about it," said Parker, who served on the school safety committee that developed the policy.

The paramedics said they had never seen such a good work-up on kids. It was really a valuable thing. It really put all the paperwork to the test."

Farmington school board trustee Susan Renner had only partial details of the incident last week, but said "If there was any part (of the policy) we . . . used, I'm very pleased it was in place. I think it points out unforeseen circumstances can occur anytime, any place."

She added that the new policy had made "people more aware, teachers

more aware" that an incident can occur on a field trip.

THE POLICY was developed after the drowning of a 7-year-old mentally retarded Farmington boy while he was on a school-sponsored field trip last summer.

The policy requires written parental permission and detailed information about students, which is taken on the trip. Detailed proposals for field trips must also be submitted to building principals or supervisors before they are approved.

According to Ken Panamara of the Chicago Health Department, the Farmington-area group was staying in the western suburb of Countryside and "ate at various restaurants."

All the restaurants are being investigated by either the city of Chicago or the Cook County Health Department, he added. Most were fast-food-type restaurants.

The suburban restaurant that delivered the box lunches was closed temporarily after the incident, Parker added.

## police/fire calls

Listed below are some of the Farmington-area police incidents, fire calls and court cases reported during the past week:

### THEFTS REPORTED

A bicycle valued at \$200 was reported stolen from a storage cage at Gateway Apartments May 22-24. A moped valued at \$550 was reported stolen from a house on

Rensselaire May 23-24.

A fiddle leaf fig tree and two fig leaf trees valued at \$854 were reported stolen from Firwood Office Plaza May 24-25.

A VCR, a telephone, speakers and jewelry valued at \$3,600 were reported stolen from a house on Wellington May 25.

# School candidates discuss issues

Continued from Page 1

won't be able to function in the next century," she added. "We need to develop the capability in each of our schools so we can make it adaptable in the future." She also stressed the need to train staff before investing in hardware.

The issue of equality between the sexes was raised in two different areas. One involved the federal Title IX program, which mandates equal educational access to students; the other pay equity for the district's secretaries and paraprofessionals who have been working without a contract since last July.

Prutnow said although the district still has a coordinator for the Title IX program, the officer "hasn't been

all that busy lately." She said she would advocate a review of the program.

Jacob said he advocated equity in all areas, but was not familiar with Title IX.

ON THE issue of pay equity for the school union, Jacob said "equal work should get equal pay. The old fallacy that the man has to support the family is just not true."

Prutnow said the school board had offered the employees "what we feel

is a fair settlement" and explained their equity complaint was not among members of the support personnel unit, but in comparing their jobs with those in other unions.

Prutnow said she supported efforts to equalize school financing at the state level, but remained concerned

that legislation not be passed that would harm Farmington and make all education "mediocre."

Jacob said he advocated a sales tax increase and property tax decrease plan, which would "seem to be the most equitable for everyone concerned."

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## Bloodmobiles

American Red Cross Blood Service Southeastern Michigan Region will host bloodmobiles twice in June in the Farmington area.

• Wednesday, June 1, Farmington Public Library, 23500 Liberty, Farmington, 2-8 p.m. For an appointment, call LeeAnn Hamel, 474-7770.

• Thursday, June 16, Farmington Hills City Hall, 31555 11 Mile, Farmington Hills, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. For an appointment, call David Justus, 473-9580.

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A diagnosis of osteoarthritis of the knee may mean you need to slow down. However, you can and should continue to consider that you will be an active participant in life about you, and that you can undertake the adventures you have planned.

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