

Recall Threats Followed By Pledges Of Support

FARMINGTON Threats made to recall the Farmington Board of Education have already resulted in pledges of support for trustees from community groups.

Last week, the Farmington Parents for a Responsible School Board sent letters to each trustee threatening to petition for recall of any board member not agreeing to reverse his position of voting for adoption of the human sexuality curriculum for Farmington Schools.

After the ad hoc committee's announcement, letters of support were sent to the board from the Farmington Education Association (FEA), executive committee of the Farmington Area PTA Council and the Farmington-Southfield Vicariate.

IN ADDITION, the board

since its last meeting has received from individual residents 39 letters supporting the sex education program and two letters opposed.

James E. Wells, attorney for the ad hoc committee suggesting recall, wrote trustees that his clients "object to your total disregard of the desires of the community..."

"In the event that you do not choose to reverse your position by return mail," wrote Wells, "they will have no alternative but to institute their petition for recall of each non-responsive member of the school board. I feel that 72 hours is sufficient time in which to reply." The letter was dated April 1.

Committee members met Sunday, April 4, but refused to disclose what decision was made explaining the committee preferred to write its own statement later.

THE PTA COUNCIL executive committee on March 31 reaffirmed its March 18 resolution supporting the board's efforts to develop a program to foster minority understanding, another curriculum program criticized by many of the recall backers.

One of the recall backers had told this newspaper earlier that although the recall drive it started would be based on passage of the sex education program, many committee members also were opposed to the minority understanding package.

The FEA, sole bargaining agent for Farmington teachers, has gone on record as urging adoption of the minority understanding report.

"It is regrettable that some citizens and groups have resorted to threats, circulated false innuendos, and disrupted meetings for their own political purposes," wrote Robert Neubauser, FEA president, in an April 5 letter.

"To attempt to split and disrupt the school community for political purposes at the expense of the education of our children is reprehensible, whether it comes from the far right or left."

A RECENT meeting of the Farmington-Southfield Vicariate council, a coordinator for Catholic parishes and institutions, adopted a resolution supporting the Farmington School District's effort to implement a human sexuality program.

"The vote, although not unanimous, was adopted by a substantial majority," says Rev. Francis Dietz, vicar.

"To avoid any misunderstanding I must point out that the resolution... represents only the position of the individual member of the council and in no way commits the Catholic parishes or institutions in the Farmington area..."

The letter from the vicariate was dated March 23.

It has been reported that 5,000 signatures from qualified voters are necessary on a petition to recall school board members. The committee seeking recall claims to have the support of 3,000 residents.

To date, not a single school trustee has announced he will reverse his vote on human sexuality adoption. The board's vote to implement the program was unanimous.

Martin Lawlor, 19, of Birmingham, entered a plea of guilty on April 2 at a pre-trial examination before Farmington District Judge Michael J. Hand.

The charge was unlawful use of and addiction to drugs, Yakes says. Lawlor was arrested by township police on Jan. 28.

Judge Hand will delay sentencing pending a report from the probation department.

WWI Vets Will Install Officers

FARMINGTON The wives and widows of veterans belonging to WWI Farmington Barracks 1152 will be guests of the barracks at a coffee and desert hour Thursday, April 8, at 1 p.m. in the American Legion Hall at Grand River and Lakeway.

At the meeting, newly elected officers will be installed by Guy Poppy Jr., vice commander of the department of Michigan.

A short movie will be shown and a speaker will explain the benefits of new legislation and its effects for veterans and widows.

Officers to be installed are: Brown Snell, commander; James Reeves, senior vice; Peter Keiser, junior vice; Jess Bills, chaplain; Ernest Lueder, quartermaster; Peter Johnson, judge advocate; and Rio Mathieu, adjutant.

Admits Guilt

FARMINGTON A man arrested on a narcotics charge has pleaded guilty and is awaiting sentencing, according to Farmington Township Police Chief Irving Yakes.

The charge was unlawful use of and addiction to drugs, Yakes says. Lawlor was arrested by township police on Jan. 28.

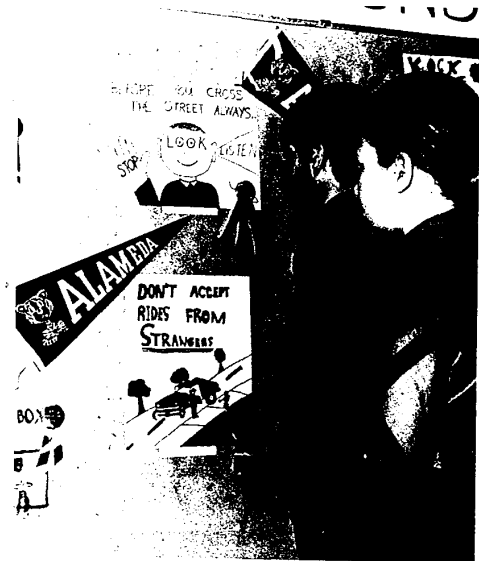
Judge Hand will delay sentencing pending a report from the probation department.

Will Present 'Kiss Me Kate'

Casting has been completed for Farmington High School's upcoming musical, "Kiss Me, Kate." John Roscoe, drama coach, will be its director with Harold Kacanek, choir director, in charge of the play's wide variety of 19 songs.

George N. Heller, orchestra director and head of the music department, will be responsible for the background music.

Members of the cast include Mike Beale, Robin Spjeldt, Greg Steele, Bob Kin, Lorraine Manz, Ralph Josephson, Deb Watson, Ann Doullite, Dick McAdams, John Kerastas, Andy Abid, John North, Rick Lukey and Brad Allen.



SELLING SAFETY—Creatively selling the need for safety has been the student body of Alameda Elementary School in Farmington School District. The students made a number of creative drawings, paintings and posters and then heard a talk from a member of the Farmington Township Police Department. Shown above are Bob Benzny, second place winner in the safety art contest, and first place winner Deborah Williams. (Evert photo)

Why John Agby—manager of the area's No.1 muffler shop—switched to Tuffy.



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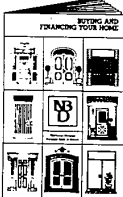
Why more people finance their homes at NBD than at any other bank.

This year, as in the past, more Detroit area people will come to see NBD about a home mortgage than will go to any other bank. We think their reasons will tell you a lot about our ways of putting families into the homes they want.

It isn't just the fact that we have more than 100 offices, although it's certainly convenient to do business right in your own neighborhood. And it isn't because we have more money to lend, although the fact that we're Michigan's largest bank let us keep right on making mortgages while certain other lenders were backing away from the business.

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