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on "The Troubles." They're not at the forefront of any Irish-American protest movements. Both have lived in the United States for awhile. Cowley for 44 years; Magee for 31.

Still, they quietly watch, listen, and wait for the violence to end. Too much history and too many memories are often at the core of the hatred that has spawned more than 2,000 deaths during the past 17 years.

Magee has a few memories of his own, growing up Protestant in Armagh and later Belfast.

The sectarian barriers were present from the start of a school day. Though they went to separate schools, Protestant and Catholic children would invariably cross paths.

"You'd wait for them to walk by and then you'd hurl some slurs back and forth, and it would usually end in a punch up," Magee said.

"I don't see any end to it, because people on the side of the IRA and their sympathizers, they have always had hatred for the British. It's been handed down from father to son."

John Magee

Farmington resident who grew up in Armagh, Northern Ireland

Magee moved to England, later settling in the United States where he worked as a tool machinist at Ford Motor Co. until his retirement. He coaches six soccer teams, including one at an all-girl Catholic school, Mercy High.

Cowley, who grew up near Dublin in the Republic of Ireland, has similar vignettes. He recalls going to the North twice, including once to play Gaelic football at Corrigan Park. The team stayed at the Queen's Hotel in Belfast.

"We didn't get a good reception," said Cowley, 73, who is Catholic and moved to the United States when he was 23. "I remember kids throwing rocks at our bus."

Religion is not the problem, both say.

However, it's the complicated political divisions that have manifested over time that make any proposed solution difficult.

The outland IRA wants the removal of British troops, and the unification of the six counties of

Northern Ireland and the predominantly Catholic Republic of Ireland.

Unionists, most notably paramilitary groups such as the Ulster Volunteer Force and the Ulster Freedom Fighters, are fighting to keep the status quo.

Many Irish-Americans use St. Patrick's Day to herald the cause of nationalism. Cowley, whose pub will be crowded with revelers today, isn't interested in that aspect of the celebration.

"I love Ireland," Cowley said. "I don't know the politics of it all. I don't back the IRA; I don't go against them. . . . I'd love to see peace in Ireland."

Instead of politics, Cowley and Magee are more enamored in the beauty of their native land. Both return often to visit.

"Belfast is a beautiful place," Magee said. "It's like Vancouver there's hills around it."

"It's a pity what goes on."

Fences from page 1A

tive fences as well as partition ones.

No landscape or decorative — such as picket fences or split rail fences — could have posts higher than 3 feet and must not exceed 20 feet in length. The horizontal dimensions could not be more than 30 inches in width.

There are other dimensions to abide by.

For example, a chain link or a stockade fence can be no higher than 6 feet in the rear and 4 feet along the sides.

They'll also be aware of what fences won't fly: those made of barbed wire or broken glass, and those either of woven plastic or plastic panels.

The use of stockade barriers within an existing partition, a fence within a fence, is also prohibited in the proposed ordinance.

A property owner can only have one fence in his yard.

However, some existing condi-

"When residents apply for a permit . . . they'll find out what they can do and they can't do."

Robert Schultz
assistant city manager

tions would be grandfathered under the new ordinance.

"What's there is there," Konesol said.

Issues related to fence ordinances have become prominent in recent years. The building department gets anywhere from 12 to 20 requests for fence permits a year, Konesol said.

"It seems people are more into their privacy," he said. "They want to have their own little area."

Kroger, FEA partnership has 'Food to Share' with hungry

The Farmington Education Association (FEA) has formed a partnership with the Kroger Corp. to help the hungry in the community. The program, called "Food to Share," will begin on Monday, March 21, at two Farmington Hills Kroger Stores, 12 Mile and Halsted and 11 Mile and Middlebelt.

"We live in a very diverse community," said Tom Chrzanoski, president of the 750-member teacher group. "While many in our community have never experienced hunger, there are many who

are not as fortunate. As teachers we know that a hungry child cannot focus on learning."

"Through this program we hope to show that we care and want to do something to help these kids and their families."

Two area teachers, Rose Galvin and Dan Schneider, will help coordinate the program.

To make a contribution, customers may choose one of the three cards with the amounts 50 cents, \$1 or \$5 displayed on them. They give the cards to the cashiers who add them to the cus-

tomers' groceries bill.

The card amounts, which are clearly marked as charitable donations, go into an account for food certificates or vouchers which will be distributed by the FEA to local food pantries and needy families.

Donations to "Food to Share" are tax deductible. The Kroger receipt will serve as proof of the donation. Kroger has also agreed to accept the receipt from bottle and can returns as donations for the Food to Share Program.

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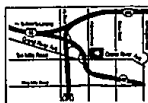
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