

Vandalism Plagues Farmington

Farmington Schools have announced the hiring of a private police patrol to protect school property during the Halloween season.

Action by the schools came after increased vandalism costs throughout the district, especially at the Alameda School.

Last week The Enterprise & Observer reported that the broken windows in schools of the district are so numerous that one full-time employee of the district spends his entire work week repairing and replacing broken glass.

DURING THE FIRST eight months of the year city police have received 122 complaints about destruction of property by vandals.

The figure for the same period in the township stands at 559.

Added to this is the fact that many times the damage is simply not reported to the police. The homeowner grumbles, but he repairs the damage. He doesn't bother to call the police.

editorial

Subdivisions in the township have instituted vigilante patrols because of the problem. While we have definite reservations about such patrols, we can sympathize with the emotions that were instrumental in the formation of these groups.

Vandalism and destruction of property is one of the most widespread and serious problems facing Farmington today.

What's the answer?

TWO MEMBERS of the school administration had quite a bit to say about the problem earlier this week. We quote:

Alameda Principal Norman Langen said: "Of course the schools have to provide formal education for the youngsters, but the informal education about values and morals

has to be taught at home."

"This is a child-dominated society and results of it are apparent in the vandalism and other things that go on. The kids are school one-third of the day and it seems that parents expect schools to teach youngsters everything," said Harry Stultz, director of buildings and grounds for the district.

Both administrators see the problem as the long range results of changes in society's values.

"I'll leave it to the sociologists to debate the cause. The fact that there is a problem is not debatable."

THERE IS ONE segment of Farmington which contends that the problem exists simply because the parents are not aware of the extent of the problem or that it does indeed exist.

This conclusion stemmed from a casual conversation during a dinner party in town. Sally Witt, the young dynamo, contacted me with the question, "Did you know?"

The answer is yes I know, but I didn't think that the general public did.

From these two conversations has come a group calling itself "The Civic Awareness Committee." Many of the people involved in the project are members of the Jaycee Auxiliary. However, membership is not limited to the Jaycees or its Auxiliary.

Mrs. Witt has been named as the temporary chairman.

Right now the people are out gathering the facts. When they are all compiled they'll work on getting the story to the public.

Citizens groups can do so much and no more. The problem of vandalism in Farmington is something that every person should think about.

Maybe it goes back to the question asked each night on a local TV station—Do you know where your children are? To this question, however, we'd add the thought that the entire day and the child's actions should be included.

—Sue Shaughnessy

community calendar

Halloween Haunted House Tours

Farmington Area Jaycees will haunt a house from 4-8 p.m. through Oct. 31. The house to be haunted is on the south side of Grand River between Drake and Hasted. Tours will cost 25 cents.

Football Games

Oct. 27 at 2:30 p.m. -- Our Lady of Sorrows will play St. James away. Nov. 2 at 1 p.m. -- The Rockets will play at the Southfield Jayhawks. Nov. 9 at 2 p.m. -- The annual Oide Yule Log Game between Farmington High and North Farmington High will be played on the NFL athletic field. Game price is \$2.50 for adults, 50 cents for elementary school children. Tickets may be purchased at area businesses.

Farmington Community Center

Oct. 29 at 8 p.m. The board of directors of the Farmington Community Center will meet in the home of the group's secretary, Richard Justice, 32535 Danford, Farmington.

Order of Eastern Star

Oct. 29 at 8 p.m. Farmington Chapter 239 Order of Eastern Star will hold its 70th annual installation of officers in the Farmington Masonic Temple, Bessie White is worthy matron elect.

William Grace PTA

Oct. 29 at 8 p.m. William Grace PTA will hold its annual school open house.

Farmington Friends of the Library

Oct. 30 at 8 p.m. Farmington Friends of the Library will meet in building M at the Orchard Ridge Campus. Building M is located just north of Parking Lot 2. Guest speaker, Professor D. George Ladgate will discuss "Television, Feast or Famine."

GOP Operation Coffee Cup

Oct. 30 at 8 p.m. Mrs. Yvonne Krouch, 20959 Smyndale, Farmington, will be hostess at an informal coffee for Raymond Baker, seeking reelection as 64th District state legislator, and Lynn Allen, candidate for county clerk.

Pioneer Golden Age Club

Oct. 30 at 12 noon. Farmington Pioneer Golden Age Club will meet for potluck luncheon in St. Alexander's social hall.

School District Sex Education Series

Nov. 4 at 8 p.m. Farmington School District's fall sex education classes will begin in East and Farmington Junior High Schools. Resource persons are Dr. Jack Cleveland and Lawrence Freedman.

Youth Guidance Committee

Nov. 5 at 8 p.m. Farmington Youth Guidance Committee will hold its monthly meeting in the YGC office, 33423 Grand River.

YMCA Sex Education Program

Nov. 7 from 7 to 9 p.m. Farmington Area YMCA will hold the first of three sex education programs in Farmington Junior High School, 33000 Thomas. Farmington, Topic to be discussed is Anatomy and Physiology of the Body. Resource persons are Dr. Edwin Blumberg, Farmington physician, and the Rev. Carl F. Kallreider, pastor of Antioch Lutheran Church.

Absentee Ballots Now Available

DEADLINE for obtaining absentee ballots is 2 p.m. on Saturday, Nov. 2.

The Farmington City Clerk's office has announced that ballots may be obtained at the city hall from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday or between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 2 p.m. Saturday.

Township residents may obtain absentee ballots in the township hall. Hours of the clerk's office are 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. The clerk's office will also be open from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday, Nov. 2.

Volunteers Needed

An exceptional opportunity for volunteer service is being offered by a well known health organization in this area. The job requires a person with organizational abilities and a dedicated interest in health welfare. The volunteer will contact school principals and teachers to arrange heart information educational meetings.

In addition, the volunteer will work with doctors and nurses and visit industries to set up health screening examinations. If you are interested in this work to help control a deadly disease, you may apply to the Oakland County Volunteer Bureau.



WITH STRINGS ATTACHED — Forty Farmington school music students set forth in pre-dawn darkness Oct. 19 for an all-day session at the University of Michigan. The workshop gave the young string students a chance to work directly with some of the state's finest professional artist-teachers.

40 String Students Work With Pro's

Forty stringed-instrument students in Farmington schools traveled to the University of Michigan Oct. 19 to study for the day with some of the state's finest professional artist-teachers.

General chairman of the workshop was Marjorie Mowatt, North Farmington High orchestra director.

Guest clinicians at U-M included violinists Francis Bundra and Robert Courte, bassists Chester Hampton and Lawrence Hurst, cellists Jerome Jelonek and Louis Peter, violinists Angel Reyes and Mrs. Marilyn McDonald, all of the

U-M faculty.

Other instructors were Robert Rissner, director of the Hope College orchestra, and Harrison Ryker, Hope College violinist.

The Farmington contingent included: Carol McLellan, Nancy Kaum and Jennell Simons—Power Junior High; James Brush, Gretchen Kobel, Debbie Korte, Gena Pierce, Ann Mary and Barbara Stolberg, Curtis DeVarco and Tom Lek-Jelonek — Farmington Junior High; Carol McKillop, Sally McCoy, Paula Charron, Roberta

McIndoe, Karen Woodman, June Adams and Jackie Grisdale—Dumcket Junior High.

Others were Debbie Allegretti, Linda Rowe, Kathy McCusson, Adelaide Devine, Joan Welner, Carolann Bice, Tracey Hulm, Vickie Bliss, Betsy Hurd, Amy Erickson, Sue Chapman, Marjorie Russell, Lisa Marsh, Marlaann Walck, Bill Nelson, Joan Patterson, Ruth Clapper, Martha Kubitskey, Mark and Michael Tson—East Junior High; Joan Nemswandery and Arlyne Olson—North Farmington High.

City Formulates Plan For Historical Markers

The Farmington City Council has taken the first official step toward preservation of historic sites in the city.

The council has directed City Manager John Dihan to contact representative city organizations to see if they would be willing to be members of a committee to implement an Historical Preservation Program.

On the list to be contacted are the Farmington Historical Society, City Planning Commission, Board of Commerce, Beautification Committee, Jaycees and Jaycee auxiliary, Farmington Garden Club and such service clubs as the Exchange Club, Kiwanis, Elks, Masons, Soroptimists, AAUW, Girl and Boy Scouts, etc.

THE COMMITTEE will take its direction from a comprehensive report on historical preservation prepared by a sub-committee of city planning commission members, who are D. Russell Milligan and Charlotte Bruce.

The sub-committee calls a three-page report it has prepared, "basic, barely touching upon the full potential of a well directed program."

BUT MRS. BRUCE and Milligan's report has been done in-depth and cites numerous avenues of approach to historic preservation in the city.

Under the item on old houses the report lists five circa 1840 homes worthy of preservation, seven circa 1850-60 and 11 circa 1870-80.

Eleven buildings and sites of historic interest are listed, including the old McGee Hill bridge, the Warner house, the Masonic Temple and the barber shop building at Farmington

Rd. and Grand River.

IN THE EVENT that the town's historic assets do not lend themselves to a planned preservation program, the report lists suggestions to promote public awareness of them:

Identify and mark all old Indian trails, including the Orchard Lake Trail, Grand River and Shawassee Trails. Suggested markers were designs of Indian heads or arrow heads. Mark and preserve the old "Central City" site with fresh

paint, flowers, special street signs, white fences and possibly gas lamps. Suggested for any commercial property within this area was a "Plum Street" type decor.

Use of various promotional objects — city maps designating the old city, properly decorated; place mats to be used in city restaurants during Founders Day festivities; brochures illustrating history of the founding of the city; the establishment of a permanent City Historical Museum.

Readers Speak:

Bouquets To Police

EDITOR:
In this day and age, one hears quite often about police brutality. I would, however, like very much to congratulate the Farmington Township Police Department, and in particular, the officer who immediately volunteered to escort my dying wife to St. Mary Hospital on Oct. 10. When citizens do need police protection and assistance, I am glad to see that it is here, when and where expected.

Please forward my congratulations and heartfelt thanks to the Farmington Township Police Department.

CLAUDE BIGOT
32169 Bonnet Hill
Farmington

Thanks!

EDITOR:
This is an open letter to all the Farmington Township Volunteer Firemen and the Township Policemen. I would like to express my deepest thanks for the most wonderful firemen who were in my home within a minute from the time I called the fire department at 1:45 a.m. Sunday morning, Oct. 21.

They were just terrific and very kind and found the cause of the fire within minutes after arriving.

ELAINE GRIFFITHS
28360 Kendallwood Dr.
Farmington

Former Hazel Park (Mich.) high school cross country runners Ken Leonowicz and Dan Simeck now compete for Michigan State's varsity team.

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HERE'S WHAT WE DO:

- Replace spark plugs, points, rotor and condenser
- Clean fuel bowl, air filter and battery
- Inspect ignition wires, distributor, starter, regulator, generator, fan belt, and battery
- Adjust timing and check cylinder compression
- Complete lubrication and oil change (5 qts.) using top quality oil and grease.

HERE'S WHAT WE CHECK:

- Brakes
- Steering
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- Horn
- Wipers
- Front & Rear Lights
- Exhaust System
- Mirrors & Seat Belts

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