

Warning Signal Costs Outlined

Are warning devices to prevent vandalism in Livonia schools worth between \$300,000 and \$350,000 in the Livonia School District? They could cost this

much, says Bill Bedell, assistant business administrator, who explained that some such installation might help curb the large glassbreakage and vandalism losses the district incurs yearly.

At present, the board pays rates to some custodians to keep the schools under surveillance but the Board of Education is considering other ways in which to handle the problem.

Bedell presented his ideas to the board recently and also explained that the state's bureau has advised the district that the recent low insurance bidder's quotation does not meet state requirements.

Bedell said the matter needs further clarification which will be sought but the district is covered by insurance until the matter is resolved.

The successful low bidder is the Uhlig-Murphy Agency of Redford Township.

Other matters considered by the board, included:

- Developing a program to provide special education for gifted children.

- Agreeing to co-sponsor a fiscal reform conference to be held in Livonia, March 2.

- Approving expenditures (outlined in a previous report to the board) to purchase key punch and other equipment for the establishing of computer courses in each of the district's three high schools.

- Considering proposals to improve operational efficiency in maintenance and transportation areas, including purchase of a used road grader, new stake truck, radio paging system, and public address systems for buses.

Scout Troop To Show Alaska Film

The Garden City-Westland Scout's Fellowship is sponsoring a movie, "Baker's Ridge," about hunting and fishing in Alaska, at 8 p.m. tomorrow, Thursday, at East High School, Garden City.

Tickets to the movie are available from unit leaders and at the door.



Donald W. Smith
District Manager

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SISTER M. MARTINEZ, Madonna College French class in correct audio-lingual pro-language instructor, directs a freshman chorus.

New Laboratory Adds Zest To Madonna Language Study

"The only way to learn a language is by listening to it," stated freshman Christine Kovach after her first class in the new language laboratory at Madonna College.

The laboratory consists of 32 booths or carrels. It allows students studying foreign languages to listen, repeat and record conversations.

operation is the console which can distribute seven programs through its channels at one time.

In addition to four master tape recorders, the console has a phonograph with records which the instructor can channel to student positions. Two lines furnish outlets for such exterior sources as a portable radio or tape recorder.

The inter-communication system enables the teacher to speak with an individual student, a row of students or the entire class. The instructor can also monitor students when they are reading or repeating their lessons.

Sister M. Martinez, language instructor, stated, "It is beyond doubt that the language laboratory will enhance foreign language learning and also assist instructors in other fields such as nursing and education." Other language instructors who will also be using the laboratory are Sister M. Hugoline and Mrs. Rosina Raymond.

Adjacent to the language laboratory is a recording room and library where instructors can prepare or edit tapes. Almost 500 tapes for Spanish and French classes are stored there.

Schoolcraft Aide Named Officer Of New Group

Larry Vandermolen, political science instructor at Schoolcraft College, was elected vice-president of the Michigan Assn. of Political Scientists in an organizational meeting at Wayne State University recently.

The purpose is to coordinate political science programs among Michigan universities and four year colleges and community colleges, to stimulate interest in the profession, and to promote improvement in techniques and methods of teaching political science.

Vandermolen lives at 31675 Shiawassee, in Farmington.

John Merlo Faces Murder Charge

John Merlo was bound over to the Oakland County Circuit Court on a charge of first degree murder Friday following an examination in the Farmington Township Justice Court.

Township Justice of the Peace Byron Walters ordered Merlo to stand trial for the Jan. 6 shooting of his 18-year-old estranged wife, Sharon.

Mrs. Merlo was slain while she was at work at the Crest Beauty Salon at 27432 W. Eight Mile Rd., Farmington Township. The daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George Kamen of 19340 Gaylord, Redford Township, Mrs. Merlo was seeking a divorce at the time of the shooting.

The couple had a son, Jeff, who is now four months old. During the examination Mrs. Lois Whitaker of 21716 Seminole, Southfield, testified that Merlo stood two feet in front of her and shot his wife over her left shoulder.

Mrs. Whitaker said that she turned her head to see Sharon sliding to the floor and then she died.

"I thought he fired three shots," she said, "and then when I ducked I heard more shots. The next thing that I remember is hearing the door to the shop closing and I said 'call the police'."

Merlo, who was arrested in Philadelphia two weeks after the shooting, seemed to enjoy being the center of attention at the examination. Dressed in a sport shirt and slacks, the 25-year-old youth has grown a heavy black beard since his arrest. At times his attention seemed to wander during the examination and he was more interested in who was in the courtroom.

Sharon's father was present at the examination, but her mother was not. Mrs. Martha Stanfield, owner of the Crest Beauty Salon, also testified at the examination. She said that Merlo and his wife talked in the back room and she did not hear any of the conversation.

The shop owner said that her back was turned when the shots were fired and she thought that it was a firecracker exploding. She said that she ran to the back room and stayed there. "It was only when I came out of the back room that I saw Sharon on the floor," she recounted.

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