

Farmington School Board Goes To School For A Day

By W. W. EDGAR

"Individually you are not going to the board in session. This terse and ego-shattering remark greeted the members of the Farmington Board of Education when they returned to school this week to learn how to conduct themselves and handle the problems that often confront the lay members."

The remark came from the lips of Dr. Norman Weinheimer, executive director of the Michigan Association of School Boards, who had been invited to handle the special training session.

"And never get ambitious and try to take a hand in running the schools," he added, "because you are just a policy making group, working through the superintendent, making recommendations—but never become a rubber stamp."

With these opening remarks the board went into session with a group of about 20 members of the PTA looking on in one of the most unusual training classes.

The two hour course consisted of a film of a school board, in living color, wrestling with 10 "sticky" questions that could happen in any locality.

Each member was given a booklet prepared by the state association containing various ways the problems could be acted upon. Each member was asked to rate him or herself. The answers were in the book.

Among the problems were such instances as a member, on learning the playground swing was broken, repairing it himself so his son could use it—and then presenting a bill to the board for lumber.

Another had to do with a member meeting an official of the teacher's union at a luncheon club and working out a deal for a new contract. The union threatened to strike if the "deal" was not accepted.

One more came when, at the end of the meeting, a member presented a petition with 500 signatures asking that the name of a school be changed from that of an honored former superintendent to the late Dr. Martin Luther King. How to handle that one? It developed into quite a hassle.

Still another had to do with the board president inviting a student to sit with the board in an advisory capacity and what happened when the teachers, senior citizens and other groups wanted the same recognition.

Other "sticklers" concerned altering the agendas, calling recesses for "executive sessions" and interfering with the teachers to obtain passing marks for influential citizens' children.

It was all good fun.

How did the board members fare in the test? No one knows. The results were not announced.

But Mrs. Emma Makinen remarked, at the close—"It was interesting. But we will always disagree on the board as each of us represents a different part of town."

Christmas Dim For Farmington

FARMINGTON Plans to conserve energy in the City of Farmington will dim the lights, if not the spirit, of Christmas.

The city council approved plans to leave the new Christmas decorations unlighted this year, although they will be hung on the poles. The council is also suggesting the business community limit lighting to the period between Dec. 15 and Jan. 1.

The Christmas tree will shine at City Hall, however, and the building will be light-

ed for a few hours in the evening.

Other fuel-saving measures being initiated by the city include instructions to shut off city vehicles when not in use and reducing the heat in the city buildings.

"I suppose we have to set an example for the people," Councilman John Allen said when the actions were approved.



ADDING THEIR CONTRIBUTION of Campbell soup labels which will be exchanged for an overhead projector are Kevin Callahan and Laura Bekkila with Mrs. Arthur Des Graule. (Evert photo)

local news

By MARIE LONG GR 4-3114

Eagle Holding Boot Sale

FARMINGTON A skate and boot sale is scheduled for 3:40 p.m. Nov. 29 and 30 at Eagle Elementary School, 14 Mile and Middle Belt Rds.

Sponsored by the school PTA, the sale will benefit the school's more than 400 children. Seller will receive 60 per cent of the sale price with the PTA receiving the remaining 40 per cent.

Items to be sold or donated should be brought to the school from 8:45 - 10 a.m. Nov. 28-29.

Mr. and Mrs. Arthur King of Colgate in Farmington announced the birth of a daughter, Jennifer Kay, Little Joe, 11 ounces and is the first child for the Kings. Both parents are 1970 graduates of Farmington Senior High School.

Arthur is employed by Michigan Bell Telephone Co.

Maternal grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Robert Johnson of Violet in Farmington, and paternal grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Francis King of Oakland Ave., in Farmington.

Mr. and Mrs. Edward B. Hammond Jr. of Union Lake welcomed the birth of a son, Jay D. Hammond, recently. Weight of baby Jay was nine pounds, nine ounces. Mrs. Hammond is the former Linda Stelter. Both Harmonds are graduates of Farmington Senior High School.

Maternal grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Bruce Altmeyer of Farmington and Mr. and Mrs. Donald Stelter of Westland. Paternal grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Edward B. Hammond Sr. of Farmington.

Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Rock of Farmington Hills enjoyed a brief visit with friends in Benton Harbor and a shopping tour of the town recently.

Tracy Conroy and several Farmington friends drove to a hunting lodge at Clare last week. Conroy got a deer and returned home on the weekend.

Mrs. Lulu Schaeper, long time resident of Farmington, is now at the Oakhill Nursing Home, John Aland, a lifetime area resident, is also a resident of Oakhill. He was forced

merely employed by the City of Farmington for many years.

Please remember these shut-ins with visits, cards and flowers, particularly during the holiday season.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Beyerlein of Pickett, will stay in Michigan this winter. They have rented their home in Arizona.

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Mrs. George Polydoros of Hartwell, is now at home from Ford Hospital where she underwent tests and treatment for three weeks.

Air Force Capt. Margaret

E. Schreiber of Langley Field in Hampton, Va. spent Thanksgiving with her father, Paul R. Schreiber of Oakland Ave.

Your local news correspondent was a guest of oldest son, Herb Jr., and his wife, Angie, of Westland for a bountiful Thanksgiving dinner with other family members and friends.

Attorney Richard Uhl and family of Independence Commons enjoyed a Thanksgiving get-together in their new home in Farmington. With new offices in Northland, Uhl is delighted with Farmington's historical homes and beautiful wooded areas.

This Thanksgiving should hold something special for us as a close-knit community.

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2 Arrested For Robbery

A pair of juveniles, aged 15 and 16, are suspected of the hitchhike robbery of Robert E. Brown Jr., 21, of Garden City.

The two allegedly were picked up by Brown while they were hitchhiking early Friday morning on Telegraph Rd. in Southfield.

Brown said one youth pulled out a revolver while they were driving along Eight Mile, and forced him to drive to 11 Mile and Halstead in Farmington, according to Farmington Hills police.

They left him after taking his watch, wallet and car. The two, one from Redford Township and the other from Detroit, were later arrested by Royal Oak police who spotted the stolen car.

They were turned over to Oakland County juvenile authorities charged with carrying a concealed weapon, and possession of a stolen vehicle.

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