

School replants tree felled by a pioneer

By DIANE HUREL

On March 8, 1834, the first tree in the Farmington area was felled. On May 23, 1974 the great-great-great grandson of the man who chopped it down dedicated another one which had been planted in its place.

Philip Power, descendant of the founder of Farmington, addressed the students at Alameda school where the tree had been planted.

The school is within a mile of the site where the original tree was chopped down.

THE TREE, a Norway Maple, was purchased for the school by the Alameda PTA. The teachers in the school wanted a tree which could use as a "story telling tree". In nice weather they will take their classes outside under the tree for a change of pace.

Alameda principal, Gerald Mo-

raswki said, "We thought of having Mr. Power come here as part of the Sesquicentennial celebration.

"This is such a historic area, anyway, since it is so close to the original settlement. This way the tree means more to the students.

"It is more than just a tree in the playground, it has some meaning."

Power told the Alameda students how a man named Arthur Power came to Michigan with his son Nathan 150 years ago. They had come from Farmington, New York to find a good place to settle with their families.

THEY STOPPED first in Royal Oak and Birmingham which he said had only one house and one church at that time.

Finally they arrived in the Farmington area, it was late, and they wanted to build a fire so they chopped down a tree.

Soon after that he built a cabin and sent for his wife and children. Power said the cabin was built on the North East side of the intersection of 11 Mile and Power Roads.

"This tree we are planting in your school yard is symbolic of that first tree which was felled," he said.

Members of the Alameda PTA raised the money for the tree by having a monthly hot dog sale in the school at lunch time. They also had a book sale for the students at the school.

ALAMEDA CONTINUED their sesquicentennial celebration with an ice cream social which was held on Thursday, May 30.

Parents attending the ice cream social were invited to view the "young authors book fair". Students at the school had written and illustrated books which were bound and covered and placed on display in the school.

North end Optimist club started on Northwestern

By SHELLEY EICHENHORN

Optimism is running high in Farmington Hills for a new Optimist Club forming.

A young, enthusiastic core of 12 members began meeting several weeks ago in an effort to provide the recently incorporated city with a new service club.

With a focus on youth, the group will sponsor a range of activities and

events to benefit the area's nearly 50,000 residents.

A round of friendly introductions begins the Wednesday breakfast meetings at McInerney's Restaurant on NW Highway co-chaired by Thomas Kukes and Bruce Frankel.

"THE COMMUNITY is starving for a good service group," said Kukes. "We want to provide anything the city's needs are geared to."

Mayor Robert A. McConnell was guest speaker recently in an effort to launch a membership drive. The club

needs 35 members to receive its formal charter.

Interested citizens may call Kukes for information.

The new club is an outgrowth of the West Bloomfield Optimist Club. "Each group begets another," said Bill Hulbert, West Bloomfield's new club-building chairman.

Although the city of Farmington has an Optimist Club which serves its 20,000 residents, Kukes feels that Farmington Hills has larger needs which require another group.

THE FARMINGTON Optimist group has welcomed the new club. Art Pusey, representing the older club, was a guest at last Wednesday's breakfast.

Suspect is bound over

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rather to find out what went on in the house."

Halpern based his argument that Thornton was acting in self defense on the fact the vehicle which Day and Rasen went to retrieve did not, in fact, belong to either one of them.

He also cited testimony which said that Day had grabbed Thornton at one time and told him, "we've come for the truck and it is not yours."

He also said Rasen's contention that he had come from California to help

Day get the truck because Day needed help in driving was absurd.

Rasen had said that two people had come, one to drive the truck to Boston and the other to drive the truck there.

The defense attorney however indicated that Day had not driven from Boston but had rented a car in Detroit and therefore Rasen's presence as a driver was superfluous.

The prosecuting attorney had originally asked for a charge of murder in the first degree. Hand, however handed down an open charge of murder.

"There is a common link, and we should help each other out," Pusey said.

Handicapped youth is the primary interest of the established club. "We feel they receive little funds from other sources, and the handicapped needs are great," said Pusey.

"There was a feeling that the new club wanted to serve all youth as well as the handicapped. The basic objective of helping youth is the most important consideration," said Frankel.



Philip Power examines the tree at Alameda. (Evert photo)

Coy is running for re-election

FARMINGTON-Lew L. Coy, 54, of Wixom recently announced that he will seek a fourth term on the Oakland County Board of Commissioners as a representative of the 24th district.

Coy is a retired captain with 25 years of service in the Detroit Fire Department. He is a graduate of Oakland Community College and Wayne State University's Mortuary school.

A Republican, Coy said that he has supported the hospital board to assure the continuance of County Hospital.

He said that he advocates a tight-

ening up of the county car policy and seeks more accountability from the county building department.

HE SUCCESSFULLY introduced legislation which now permits toll-free telephone service to the county court house from any place within the county.

Coy said that his priorities include promotion of coordination among departments, elimination of duplicated services and limiting the budget.

He is active in the Wixom-Walled Lake Lions Club.

Walker to withdraw

FARMINGTON-Roger Walker, running for the Republican nomination as state representative from the 64th district, has withdrawn from the race.

Walker said an illness in the family prompted his withdrawal. Walker announced early in May, but had not filed his petitions, therefore his name will not appear on the ballot.

The deadline for filing is June 18th.

Warner student dies of attack at school

A 12-year-old Warner Junior High student suffered a heart attack and died during a gym class on May 31.

The county medical examiner said that Ricardo Washington died of a congenital heart disease.

Warner principal Alton Bennett said Washington was playing team hand ball in a gym class when he suffered the heart attack. Bennett said Washington had lay on the floor while his team was resting.

However, when the rest of the team got up to go back into the game Washington remained immobile.

Bennett said he was given artificial respiration and heart massages but did not respond to either. He was taken to Botsford Hospital on Grand River.

Bennett said, "He got along very nicely with his peers. Like all students he had his own circle of friends with whom he was especially close. He played football for us in the fall. He was just a normal, nice kid."

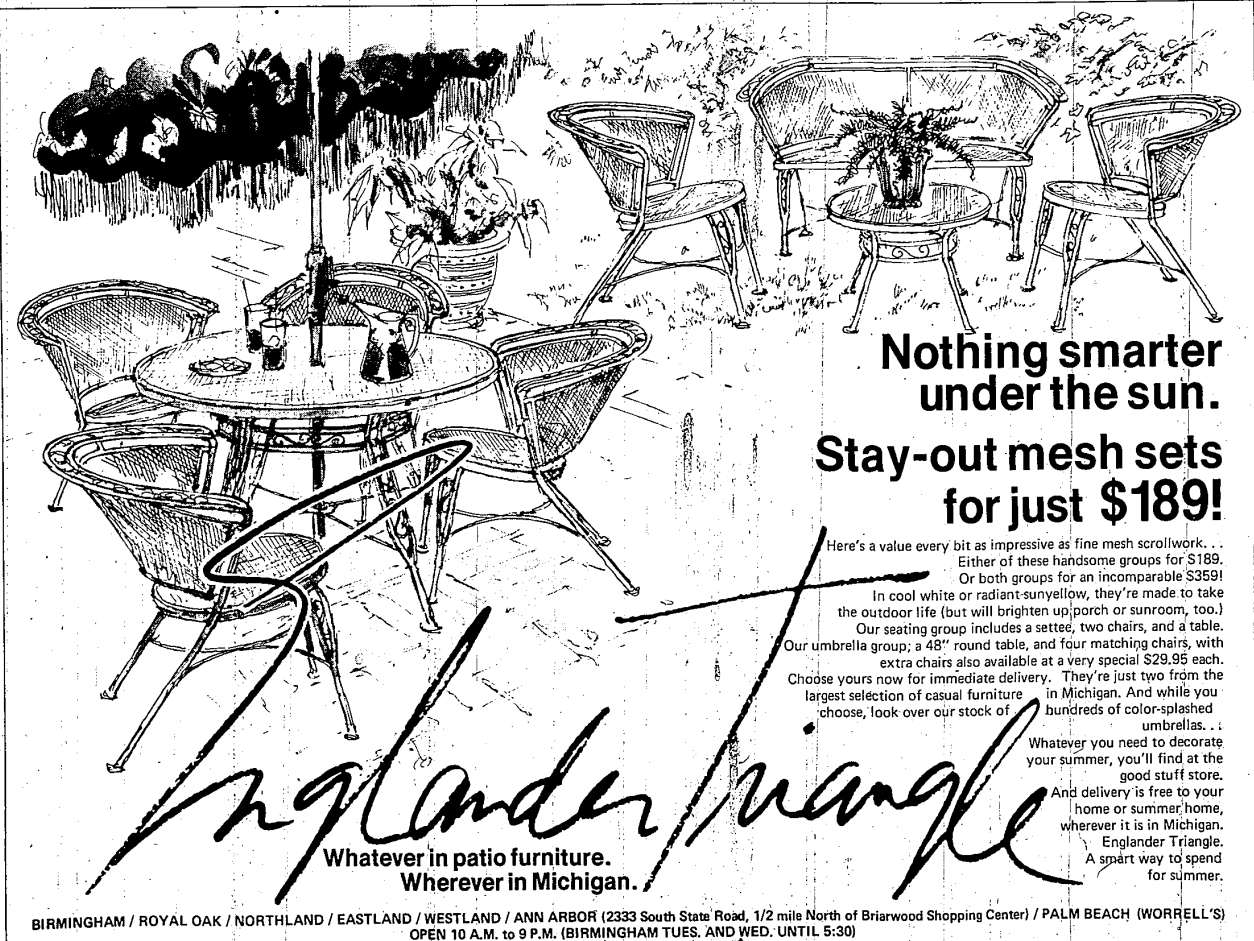
Bennett said the children in the school have begun to collect money for a memorial for Washington.

Elks observe flag day

FARMINGTON-Elks Lodge 1986 will observe Flag Day in an 8 p.m. ceremony June 14 at Farmington High School, Shiawassee at Lakeview.

Boy Scout Troop 110 will be the official flag bearers in the ceremony which will include flags from the time of the Continental Congress to the present 50-star flag.

James Brodel will discuss the history of flags. Judge Michael Hand of the 47th District Court will present a patriotic address.



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