

Called a mistake

Screen of trees chopped down

By **DIANE HUBEL**
 Mr. and Mrs. Richard Osgood returned home from vacation on May 28 and found that the majority of the trees which separate their backyard from the east side of the Warner Junior High School playground had been chopped down. The trees in the Osgood's backyard along with many of the trees

in their neighbors home had inadvertently been cut down by the Farmington school administration.

The only thing that saved all the trees along that side of the school from meeting a similar fate was the presence of school Supt. Marjuna Van Ameyde. Van Ameyde went to the site immediately upon

hearing what was happening and stopped the demolition. The trees which actually stand on school grounds are the only barrier which separate the backyards of the people living along that section of Nottingham Knoll Rd. from the school yard.

The school administration and the residents have had an unwritten agreement for years that the trees would not be cut down according to Van Ameyde.

HE SAID he is investigating to find out who gave the orders to do the cutting in this case but as yet has not found out who gave the original order.

Van Ameyde said he did not find out about the action himself until some of the residents called him and told him about it. It was then that he went to the school to stop the tree cutters.

Van Ameyde said, "Although the trees are on school property I would definitely call the people who live in those houses before we made any change. We would have gone to them and told them why before we started anything."

I counted 30 rings in one tree they cut down. Where can we ever find a tree to replace that one?"

Mrs. Runk said the residents had been taking care of the trees for years. Since the trees blocked off their yards from the Junior High it offered them some privacy in their backyards.

She said many of the teachers in the school would use the trees for nature study for their classes.

"We tried to teach our children to take care of the trees and the birds that live in them and then they just come and chop them down. I think they at least had a moral obligation to call us up and let us know they were going to take away our privacy."

Van Ameyde said there are still around 33 trees and several wild flowers left.

ONE OF THE residents of



The trees were good-sized. (Evert photo)



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