

PTA Council begins consensus survey

In keeping with its 1974-75 goal of Parents Taking Action, the Farmington Council of Parents and Teachers Associations will begin a program of surveying the community to determine what needs the citizens believe the schools should meet.

A canvas will begin to discover what the community finds favorable in the school district, what its concerns are, what it would like to see in the future and what information would be of interest to the community.

"COFFEE AND COMMENT" sessions will get under way in late January in residents' homes where hostesses will invite friends and neighbors.

At each Coffee and Comment, a consensus taker will be on hand to receive input.

"We hope to meet with all citizens, not just parents," said Vivian M. Jurosek, president of the general council.

Donna Tupper, who can be reached by calling 477-5771, is taking calls now from persons willing to open their homes for one of the sessions.

As things go along, a public relations bulletin, to be edited by Lorna McKwen, will be distributed through the schools, answering those questions the community desires to be explained and giving brief outlines of those programs which they believe need more explanation.

"Volunteer money will be greatly appreciated in the hopes of being able to directly mail to every citizen the most important bulletins," Mrs. Jurosek said. "A single mailing will cost approximately \$300."

Contributions to the program may be made directly to Mrs. Jurosek, and she can be contacted by calling 476-4082.

"WE ARE OFF to a great start and are anticipating a fulfilling year of community participation," Mrs. Jurosek said. "Our community survival depends on a good school system."

The 12 local PTAs make up a 2,500 membership, affiliated with the National Congress of PTA. The educational organization aims to unite the forces of home, school and community.

The Farmington contingent presented resolutions at the state convention in 1973-74 having to do with children who have learning disabilities and Devil's Night.

The resolution concerning the Michigan Association for Children With Learning Disabilities became the key goal resolution for 1974-75, and the Devil's Night resolution was passed by local governing bodies and the school board.

THE COUNCIL'S achievements in the past year included two blood bank drives and the presentation of three scholarships of \$300 each, made available through a benefit and contributions from local PTAs. Another blood drive is scheduled for the spring of '75, and another benefit is scheduled to make the scholarships possible again this year.

The Junior Great Books program, sponsored by the council, will be expanded this year.

Ongoing programs include the fluoride treatments, Helping Hands, Bicycle Safety Week, Bucket Brigade, the junior and senior high school principal programs, taking the school census, being active in millage proposals and sponsoring a Candidates Night prior to school board elections.

During the coming school months, ongoing programs will continue, but with heavy concentration put on the Coffee and Comment sessions.



farmington community arts council calendar



Information Compiled by the Farmington Public Library

Arts Council calendar yours for the asking

The Farmington Community Arts Council calendar for 1975 has been distributed to 10 different spots in the two cities and is now available to the first 5,000 persons who choose to pick one up.

You can make your own personal notes on the calendar in the space provided with each date. You can hang it up from the top or from the middle, keep it in a loose leaf notebook or stand it up.

But the unique part of the calendar is the listing of the year's activities that come from the dozens of participating local organizations.

ONE PART OF THE calendar is devoted to clubs and organizations who have special events for the year listed, with a little bit written to identify the workings of the group; the dates of regular meetings and even telephone numbers for membership inquiries.

The Farmington Public Library staff acted as a clearing house for all of the information which poured in from the various groups wanting events listed in the calendar.

It was a complete restructuring of the way things had been done in the past three years the calendar has been printed.

"As the calendar grew in popularity we were running out of money and manpower to handle this," said Marlowe Benlanger, president of the arts council.

The library has a card set-up now for all of the participating organizations and residents who want up-to-the-minute information on what any of these groups are doing can now get it at the library.

THREE OF THE sponsors of the calendar contributed to its

publication for the fourth consecutive year. Metropolitan Bank of Farmington, Roger Peck Chevrolet and Top of the Tee Golf Range. John Wesley College joined as a contributing sponsor for this year's calendar.

Each of the sponsors have a supply of the calendars at its place of business: The Metropolitan Bank, at the main office at 3225 Grand River, Roger Peck at 30230 Grand River, Top of the Tee on Fourteen Mile Road near Orchard Lake; and the college, on the corner of Farmington Road and 140th.

The calendars, \$2.50, also be picked up at the Farmington Public Library on Twelve Mile Road, the Farmington District Library on Farmington Road south of Grand River, the chamber of commerce office, the Farmington Community Center and at both city halls.

Citizens band radio: an expanding medium

By MARILYN BETMAN

"Break."
"Go, break."
"How about it, Big Ace? Are you by?"
"This is Big Ace. Come on, we've got you."

This conversation is an attempt to make contact through the new and expanding medium of citizens band radio.

Citizens band was established in the early 1950s as an expensive means of communication from a vehicle to a station or house without the use of the telephone.

There are 18 million sets in use in the United States. A citizens band radio set contains 22 channels, including channel nine which has been set aside by the FCC for emergencies. Average range of a four-watt transmitter in the Detroit area is eight to ten miles.

Oakland County, has 10,000 citizen band operators.

Among these operators are the husband and wife team of Allan and Anna-Jean Karden. Allan and Anna-Jean are better known by their "handles."

"A handle," explained Karden, "is a name that is used instead of call letters. Some examples of handles that are familiar around this area are Big Ace, Appollo, Mr. Magoo, Gremlin and Blue Diamond."

"A person will usually pick a name that is associated with his personality, automobile or type of work."

Karden, a free-lance photographer and movie-maker, said his citizens band radio is helpful in his job and personal life.

"There are many times when I am traveling from one job to another and am unable to reach a phone," he said.

"With the use of citizens band radio, I am unable to contact my wife from the car and find out if there have been any calls of important errands that she would like me to run," he said.

Karden also devotes a portion of his time to monitoring calls on emergency channel nine.

"Through the use of channel nine," said Karden, "a person can obtain information on weather, road and traffic conditions, and can also report accidents or personal injuries."

"The emergency calls are answered by the Michigan Emergency Patrol as well as individuals who may be listening at the time."

"Unfortunately, as with anything else, there is a certain degree of abuse perpetrated by irresponsible citizens band radio owners."

"This abuse can come in the form of illegal power, profanity on the air and interference with emergency calls."

Karden cited an incident that occurred in New Mexico last year, in which the voice of a young boy was heard on the emergency channel calling for help.

The boy claimed that he was trapped as a result of a pick-up truck accident, and that his father was seriously injured.

The emergency patrols in the area conducted extensive air and land search, but found nothing. It was later determined to be a hoax.

"A similar hoax took place earlier this year in Southfield," said Karden, "when somebody claimed to be calling from an airplane that had crashed on Eleven Mile and Lahser."

"Many citizen band operators

from the area responded in order to give assistance, but when we arrived, nothing was there."

Another form of illegal operation is the use of "moonrakers," which are directional antennas that put out more power than the 150 mile range allowed by the FCC. They also exceed the limit of extending 20 feet above the ground.

"The FCC is now beginning to crack down on illegal use," Karden said.

"They are able to detect the location of an abuser by the use of radio direction finders that pick up a signal, according to where the triangular lines meet."

"Violators may have to pay a fine ranging of \$25-\$5,000 depending on the nature of his crime and the number of previous violations."

The equipment can also be confiscated," he said.

Several times a year, citizens band operators meet. There are "jambores" annually at the Michigan State Fair and in Inlay City.

Sometimes the people who share a certain channel will get together for "coffee breaks" at which time they display and sell equipment, give out door prizes, and hold various contests.

A group known as the "Bearcats" have organized in Oakland County for the purpose of assisting police with traffic control and parades.

"With the constant increase in telephone rates and inefficiency of service," said Karden, "citizens band radio may well be on its way to becoming an effective mass communications instrument of the future."