

Evening of music is dedicated to seniors and handicapped

By LORRAINE McCLISH

The Farmington Community Arts Council pulled off its biggest coup to date when a capacity crowd turned out for a concert of nostalgic music in Harrison High School's auditorium Thursday night.

The evening of music was dedicated to senior citizens and the handicapped with the aim of getting these people out into the community, rather than a program of music being brought to them.

Buses marked "Farmington Public Schools" or "Clarenceville Methodist Church" and specially equipped vans for the handicapped unloaded three to four hundred persons who made their way into the auditorium on foot or in wheel chairs. Many came with the aid of crutches, or canes or walkers.

A nurse, from one of the local convalescent homes, commented that one of her patients had not been outside of the home for eight years.

City council members, decked out in colorful tuxedos, acted as ushers. Corsages and boutonnières for the honored guests came from the Metropolitan Bank of Farmington, the Farmington Insurance Agency and

Brajer Greenhouses.

Harrison High School relinquished a long standing rule that made way to provide for an afterglow of refreshments.

Bicentennial pins were given as mementos of the occasion.

And the youth of the community were there. Many in handsomen's uniforms there to play nostalgic music with the Farmington Community Concert Band. Others who were noticeable were the mini-skirted nurses there to care for their charges. Still others were there to serve punch, coffee and cookies.

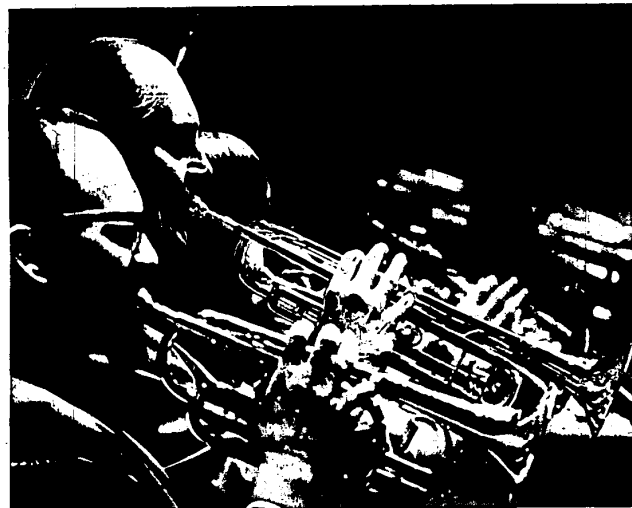
The concert dedicated to the seniors and the handicapped is the first of its kind in the state, made possible by the local arts council through a grant from the Michigan Council of the Arts.

Its evaluation will come from Joe Zende, a field service coordinator from the state council who was seen in the lobby before the concert.

Marlene Belanger, president of the local council, a familiar figure at city council meetings who has fought and is still fighting, for more arts related programs for the community, was obviously encouraged by the turnout.

And this came coupled with news from the governor's office that a bigger budget for the arts is on its way.

Photographed by
Harry Mauthe



Observant residents aid police in arrest of break-in suspects

FARMINGTON — Police credit two residents with aiding in the arrest of two Detroit youths charged Friday with breaking and entering.

The youths were arrested shortly after midnight Friday at the Welsby House of Music, 33317 Grand River. Police said that the youths were in the process of hauling several guitars to the rear of the store.

Capt. Daniel Byrnes said the arrests were made with the help of two "observant residents" who called police after they heard a car driving up and down the street and saw two persons stop the car get out and walk through the alley behind the music store.

Byrnes said that one of the youths kicked out the glass in the front door of the store and then opened the rear alley door.

Arrested were Steven Thorson, 19, and a 18-year-old juvenile.

Byrnes said the break-in was one of 19 recorded in January.

"THAT'S RATHER high for us," he said. Break-ins for 1974 totaled 121.

Of the 19 break-ins, 12 were a residential.

He stressed the importance of resident awareness to help slow down crime.

Pointing to the two residents who

"Without their assistance, without their willingness to get involved and call, we wouldn't have apprehended them."

called to report the youths caught in the music store, Byrnes said, "Without their assistance without their willingness to get involved and to call, we wouldn't have apprehended them. He said the residents had become more alert after reading a crime prevention article in the Farmington Observer & Eccentric.

"It's important to understand that police can't be everywhere at the same time," he said.

He said he urges residents to call the department to report suspicious cars or persons that may be lingering in subdivisions or on streets.

An increase in the number of apartment break-ins prompted Byrnes to send a letter to all apartment dwellers in the city listing tips to prevent burglaries.

He urged single women to avoid the use of Miss or Mrs. on mailboxes. Instead of placing a first name on the mailbox use initials.

WOMEN WHO are alone at home

should never admit this to strangers, he said. A woman should say that her husband is sleeping and does not wish to be disturbed.

Salesmen and solicitors should be referred to the building manager and then the police should be called.

He urges that a buddy system be developed with neighbors to watch and around the parking lots.

Outer main doors should be kept locked, he said.

He encouraged residents to ask the building management to have auxiliary deadbolt locks installed on apartment doors. Spring-latch locks are easily opened.

Supplement locks should also be placed on window. A piece of wood in the track of a sliding door or window can be used to prevent entry.

Turn the telephone down, leave a light on and the radio playing quietly to give the impression that someone is home.

Valuables should be stored in a vault or safety deposit box, he said.

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