

Farmington Observer & Eccentric

Volume 86 Number 37

Monday, February 24, 1975

Farmington, Michigan

24 Pages

Fifteen Cents

Usage of psychedelics up, FAAC figures show

Editor's note: The following analysis of drug use in the Farmington area was written for The Farmington Observer & Eccentric by Betty Arnold. Ms. Arnold is administrative director of the Farmington Area Advisory Council.

Psychedelic drug usage among young people in the Farmington area was higher in 1974 than during the previous year, according to statistics compiled by the Farmington Area Advisory Council (FAAC) and its Rap Line Crisis-Intervention Telephone Service.

Multi-drug use continues to be prevalent with high incidence of alcohol and marijuana use.

The 1974 figures placed depressants, primarily the methqualone drugs

(Quaaludes, etc.) in the number one position of drugs abused, with the psychedelic category falling into second place. These two categories have exchanged positions over the past 12 months.

THE 1974 FRONT-RUNNER in problem calls received at Rap Line in the psychedelic category was phenylethylamine (PEA), an animal tranquilizer with a sedative effect as a psychedelic drug. It is considered dangerous and physically addictive, with extended use. The bad experience rate with PEA is high. It reacts unfavorably with alcohol, and some accidental overdose deaths have been attributed to the mixture of the two.

Drugs which callers referred to as THC, LSD and mescaline composed

the next highest number in the psychedelic category. Research sources, however, report that there has been almost no real mescaline available during the past few years and real THC has never been found on the street. It is believed that what is being peddled as mescaline and THC is in actuality PCP, PCP-LSD combinations, or LSD and other adulterants. This has been verified in the cases in which FAAC has been able to have these drugs analyzed.

IF WE ARE to understand why people continue to take LSD and other mind-altering drugs, aside from social reasons, we must first accept the fact that some experimenters have had what they consider to be good experiences, not bad trips. Thus, it is eas-

ier to rationalize. "The bad won't happen to me."

This rationalization is much the same as that used by cigarette smokers who have been presented with the harmful effects of tars and nicotine.

Rap Line statistics show only 16 percent for marijuana calls. This particular figure, according to the organization, may be misleading in interpreting drug trends. In research other than the statistics from hotline calls, there is indication that marijuana is still the most widely used illegal substance.

MOST OF THE CALLS received regarding marijuana are from concerned parents. Very few users seem to consider this drug a problem, and

consequently, do not call the crisis phones about it.

Narcotics represent only six percent of the total drug-related calls received by the Farmington program. This is the smallest percentage in the major classifications of drugs.

Drugs classified as depressants or "downs" rank near the top in problem calls received by the phone service. Within this category, Rap Line has had a marked increase in calls related to alcohol abuse among young people, and national surveys continue to name alcohol as the country's number one drug of abuse.

LOCALLY, methqualone drugs are still used, and other prescription drugs such as Valium and Librium are increasing in popularity with

youth. The most common source of supply for these drugs seems to be the family medicine chest.

By contrast, there has been a significant decrease over the past few years in the teenage abuse of stimulant or "upper" type drugs. FAAC believes that this may be attributed in part to the federal crackdown on prescription speed.

However, these drugs are apparent, is easily and inexpensively made in illicit laboratories, and are still readily available on the street.

These statistics tend to indicate that the trend among youthful drug users in Farmington seems to be toward the use of substances which produce a tranquil "high" or what users hope will be an unusual and temporary trip from reality.

Colonel promotes Air National Guard

If you've been sitting on your hands, staring out the window and wondering how to fill your weekends and make extra money, Leroy Hartman has the answer for you: The Air National Guard.

Hartman, who has been with the guard for 22 years, is the director of personnel for the Farmington School District. He is a colonel, an appointment which had to be approved by Congress and the president.

Enthusiastically he describes the guard as his avocation, a hobby, and something he really enjoys. The walls of his school office reflect his achievements and awards. His shelves hold mementoes of military life along with pictures of himself and his Cessna airplane.

However, he is one of a dwindling number of military enthusiasts and it worries him.

He spent \$100 to buy a promotional movie on the Air National Guard which he has scheduled to show in high schools throughout the county.

Those who joined the guard to avoid the draft are now leaving, adding to the rapid decrease in the ranks, he said.

"In 1969, we had a lot of men joining the guard to avoid the draft. We had file drawers full of applications and actually had our pick of men," Hartman said.

But these men have come to the end of their six-year enlistment and

are not going back for more. Without the draft to provide the impetus, the rate of those filing out the doors with discharge papers in their hands is fast outstripping eager recruits.

In order to increase their numbers, the guard has placed its emphasis on pay and retirement benefits, minimal requirements, and job training.

Previously barred from this service until after commencement, an 18-year-old high school senior who will graduate in six months or less may enlist and attend drills to fill his pocket with a little extra green stuff.

He or she may defer entry to basic training for up to six months, while they attend monthly drills and earn at least \$30 for each two-day stint.

ENTRY REQUIRES a battery of tests to determine aptitudes and ascertain minimal requirements. Aptitude tests are determining factors for job training interests.

Those enlistees from the Southfield Farmington area will most probably be sent to Lackland Air Force Base in San Antonio, Tex., Hartman said.

A beginning airman will earn nearly \$700 a year for 119 days' work. As he increases in rank, he will be paid proportionately more. Progression to sergeant in four years is not unlikely, Hartman said, and will earn the enlisted \$925 yearly.

By the end of his six years, he will be earning \$1,025 in addition to whatever he makes in civilian life.

Upon retirement at 60, an airman with at least 20 years' experience will

collect about \$200 a month, assuming he has progressed normally in rank, Hartman said.

In exchange for these benefits, the Air Guard requires a six-year first-time enlistment. One weekend a month during those six years must be spent drilling at a base. In addition, recruits are required to spend 15 days during the summer, playing war games at their bases, and otherwise readying themselves for their country's service.

"LAST SUMMER we had a huge, simulated war game at Grayling with thousands of troops from all over the country. We flew air to ground support," Hartman said. He belongs to the 127 Tactical Fighter Wing of the Air National Guard.

If you want to be a jet engine mechanic, for example, you must first prove an aptitude for it. If you do, and there is a school slot open for you in that area, you will be sent to that school.

That might mean you'll take a six-month course as a "full resident" and be paid about \$350 per month. Pay is about the same for a private and includes room, board and uniforms.

But you don't have to opt for that route. After basic training, you can leave and snatch a job elsewhere—but the once-a-month plus 15 days is still required.

If you were in one of the military branches previously, you have the option of a one-year trial period, with rank comparable to the one you left behind. If you don't like the guard after one year, you can leave it.

You begin job training at the level of apprentice and progress after training and testing to the level equivalent to a card-carrying journeyman. Next step is supervisory, going from technical sergeant on up the line.

Women, by the way, may be interested to know there is no chauvinism in the guard.

"THERE IS absolutely nothing a woman can't do that a man can't, except fly a plane," Hartman said. The only service to allow women flyers is the Navy, which restricts them to non-combat flights.

One of the drawbacks to joining the guard is flagrant discrimination by employers who don't like the idea of losing 15 days of valuable employee time in the summer, Hartman said. Often, airmen were forced to count their field training as vacation time.

However, employer support has recently been more positive, he said. Ford, General Motors and Chrysler have allowed their airman employees to attend the training without vacation penalty.

More and more companies are beginning to match the difference between a guardsman's pay and civilian earnings.

ONE PRD is already under construction at the southeast corner of Drake and Nine Mile. Another has been approved at the southeast corner of Fourteen Mile and Halsted.

Other changes on the master plan updated the map to reflect rezoning which have taken place recently. In other action, the commission recommended approval for Holy Cross Greek Orthodox Church to be on the west side of Middlebelt between Ten and Eleven Mile Roads.

Use of the area, zoned single-family residential, met with the commission's approval. Before site plan approval was recommended, the church must submit landscape plans for a berm.

Planners eliminate PRD designations

FARMINGTON HILLS—The planning commission adopted an updated master plan map Thursday night.

The new plan eliminates the controversial "potential planned residential development" (PRD) designation from the map. PRD combines single-family homes, multiple dwellings and open space in one development.

The potential PRD encompassed 25 percent of the city and represented 75 percent of the undeveloped land in the city.

Some residents and members of the

city council had expressed concern recently about the designation.

THE COUNCIL of Homeowners said the word "potential" would give developers legal basis in a court argument that the land was already zoned PRD.

PRD was designated with a shaded overlay atop certain single-family residential areas in the western portion of the city.

The overlay indicated that PRD would be a possible use for the area. These areas had not been rezoned for PRD.

Although the designation was stricken from the map, which was a carryover from the township days, PRD is still a part of the zoning ordinance.

ONE PRD is already under construction at the southeast corner of Drake and Nine Mile. Another has been approved at the southeast corner of Fourteen Mile and Halsted.

Other changes on the master plan updated the map to reflect rezoning which have taken place recently.

In other action, the commission recommended approval for Holy Cross Greek Orthodox Church to be on the west side of Middlebelt between Ten and Eleven Mile Roads.

Use of the area, zoned single-family residential, met with the commission's approval. Before site plan approval was recommended, the church must submit landscape plans for a berm.

IN ADDITION, plans for the spire must be taken before the zoning board of appeals.

The church plans met with some criticism from nearby residents.



Discovering the functioning of an animal's internal organs was shared between elementary students and their high school teachers. (Staff photo by Harry Mauthe)

High school students help teach youngsters

By SUSAN AVERILL

FARMINGTON—Nothing helps understanding like actual experience, and for learning about circulatory and digestive systems, what could be better than seeing the actual thing?

Five North Farmington High School students spent several hours Friday teaching sixth graders at Lakeshore Elementary School about their own digestive systems with the aid of a few sheep.

The sheep's digestive system is called "pluck" and includes the heart, gall bladder, lungs, liver and assorted veins, capillaries and arteries.

Teaching the sixth graders and four fourth graders were biology students Greg Case, Annette Lynn, Jim Sche-man, Paula Ramsay and Shelly Ziska, most of whom wanted to be doctors.

The sixth graders would, in turn, present the program to the fourth graders, who would ordinarily learn north-

ing of the subject until they reached junior high school.

THERE IS apparently no problem in the transfer of information from the sixth to fourth graders.

"They do real well," said Sharon McConagie, sixth grade teacher and instigator of the program.

It is easy to see they are interested in the dissection. Seven or eight children huddle over each table, examining the tray of pluck in front of them.

Some reach out a hesitant hand to touch a soft heart, while others run their fingers over the liver, amazed at the silkiness of the feeling.

One of their young instructors slipped a rubber tube into a lung and blew into it, demonstrating the function of the organ. Several sixth graders poked it, finding it more resilient than expected.

"Hey, look!" said one girl, walk-

ing up to the teacher with a bit of lung in her hand. She held it up for view, and said seriously, "Look, these are capillaries, they're pretty good."

"YES, THEY'RE a lot nicer than the ones we had last week," said Ms. McConagie with a smile.

"We studied the heart last week, and the students brought in stethoscopes and a couple of white mice and gerbils, and we listened to their heartbeats and then to our own," she said.

The program is in its second year and was designed by Ken Berry, a biology teacher at North Farmington and Ms. McConagie.

"It was an outgrowth of studies of the human body, part of the family life series ordered by the board of education," she said.

Benefits to the students include not only the opportunity to learn about an important body function, but the opportunity to share that knowledge with other students.

ARE MINER'S HAPPY?

You bet they are—because Miners of Bloomfield found the delivery man they wanted. How did they do it? By placing a Help Wanted Ad in the Observer & Eccentric Classified Section. One ad was all they needed to fill the job.

So when you're looking for happiness with new personnel, remember to advertise where the best people look—The Observer & Eccentric Classifieds!

522-0900 / Wayne County
644-1070 / Oakland County
652-3222 / Rochester and Avon Twp.

The Observer & Eccentric index

News	Section A
Columns	8
Community calendar	13
Good Life	6
Sports	16
Suburban life	9
Classifieds	Section B