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Picture lady Mrs. Joan Crane talks about the print, "Sunflowers" by Van Gogh. (Staff photos by Harry Mauthner)

Patrol needs more money—Hills balks

FARMINGTON HILLS—The city council isn't convinced the federally funded Saturation Patrol is worth the added cost.

The council tabled the request for more money April 23 after it learned the payment formula had been changed.

Farmington Hills, Farmington and Livonia police departments participate in the program. The federal government was to pay for most of the program, originally set up for three years.

BUT BUDGET cutbacks at the federal level left the third year unfunded.

Further complicating the issue was the May 1, 1974, starting date of the program. The state department of criminal justice, which administers the grant, wants the second-year funding to continue for 14 months so the ending of the program will coincide with the close of the fiscal year.

The first 12 months would be paid for on the original 85-5 ratio with the federal government paying the major portion. The remaining two months would be on a 50-50 basis.

This means that beginning May 1, 1976, Farmington Hills would pay 20 per cent or \$14,332 and Farmington would pay eight per cent or \$3,920. Livonia would pay 63 per cent or \$31,178.

The Farmington City Council has approved, paying its share.

THE PROGRAM, praised by Farmington and Livonia police officials, has had a lukewarm reception from Farmington Hills police.

In asking the council to approve the 14-month expenditure, City Manager George Majors said that until three months ago the police department had had some concern about the effectiveness of the program in Farmington Hills.

Since that time, he said that the department has been shown that it has gotten more of its share of the total hours.

"Since our meeting, the response has been excellent," Majors said.

"THE UNIT DOES its work mostly in the evening hours," he said. "We're satisfied that the times we've asked for the unit they have responded very well."

Some council members asked for more complete information on the unit's attention to Farmington Hills surveillance.

They asked for a breakdown on the times of day that the unit operated in Farmington Hills.

In late 1974 and early this year, the Hills experienced a sharp rise in burglaries.

To combat this increase, a departmental unit Special Patrol Operations Team (SPOT) was developed. After several months, the burglary rate declined.

The department wants to keep this unit in operation.

The council also asked what the cost would be to the city if the Saturation patrol continued for only 12 months.

MAJORS SAID that that possibility had not been investigated. It is expected that those figures will be available when the council considers the renewal May 12.

This is not the first time that the council has expressed concern about the use of federal grants.

It recently rejected a proposal which would have provided for the film recording of all traffic signs in the city.

Mayor Frederick Lichtman renewed council criticism of federal grants.

"When we first went into this thing, we felt it was a worthwhile project," he said. "We might have been enticed by the fact that the federal government was putting up 95 per cent."

"IN THE FUTURE we ought to weigh the value of the project in terms of 100 per cent expenditure by the city," he said. "If it's not good enough to spend your own money on, then it's not good enough to spend someone else's money on."

Livonia provides the bulk of the Saturation Patrol manpower by contributing eight officers. Farmington provides two officers and Farmington, one man.

The patrol deals mainly with cases involving armed robbery, burglary and auto theft.

According to statistics presented at a recent Farmington City Council meeting, the unit is responsible for the arrest of 71 persons for various categories of major crimes from October to February.

Hills will hire 36 high school youths

FARMINGTON HILLS — High school-aged youngsters who until now faced a bleak summer job market will have an opportunity to work in a federally funded youth corps.

The \$21,773 grant will enable the city to hire 36 youths aged 14 to 19 years for 12 weeks this summer.

The rate of pay will be \$2.10 with an average of 24 hours work expected per week.

The corps will fill jobs ranging from maintenance of grounds at the city hall and in city parks, roadside clean-up and work on maintenance crews to assisting at swimming pools, playground and day camp duty.

This will be the first time that the program is open to any young residents of Oakland County. City Manager George Majors said priority will be given to Farmington residents.

FAMILY INCOME is an important criteria for program qualification, he said.

This income includes wages, retirement social security and unemployment compensation which must be less than 15 weeks, he said.

A youngster from a family of three, for example, would be eligible if the total family income is less than \$3,810. For a family of four, income must be less than \$4,550; five persons, \$7,220; six persons, \$3,000, and seven, \$3,770.

INCOME MAY be determined on actual 12-month totals or based on the last 15 weeks which is designed for persons who have been laid off.

Up to six hours of counseling will be available for each enrollee, he said. This will help identify occupational interests and possible barriers to future employment.

Helen Schroeder, city personnel technician, will be available to talk with interested qualified youngsters in public high schools.

Applications will be accepted until May 23.

4 Longacre mothers become 'picture ladies' to young pupils

By CORINNE ABATT

FARMINGTON—Four PTA mothers from Longacre school have a new title.

To the youngsters the mothers are known as the "picture ladies." The moniker may have sounded strange at first, even to Mrs. Arlean Mistor, Mrs. Joan Crane, Mrs. Jo Ann Kieller and Mrs. Dorothy Carruthers. But, like good actresses, they have begun to live, and consequently enjoy, their new roles.

Carrying large prints of famous paintings, they visit classrooms and lead discussions. Orientation sessions were led by Mrs. Alice Nichols, trustee of the Farmington Art Foundation, the sponsoring organization.

The art foundation is the service project arm of the Farmington Artists Club and Mrs. Nichols is a widely recognized painter-teacher and energetic community worker. The pilot program is an example of resource people in the community interacting with the school program.

Mrs. Georgine Hayes, PTA education chairman is coordinating the program.

TWO WEEKS into the program the picture ladies have made some surprising discoveries. Getting the discussions about the works of art going was no problem at all.

"One of the most exciting things that happened," said Mrs. Crane, "is the fifth graders immediately recognized a new Cezanne by the technique with a white tablecloth. They had seen a different Cezanne a month earlier. I thought that was rewarding."

Mrs. Kieller, presently showing animal paintings, remarked, "One first grader looked at the prints with such maturity—he had the ability to see much more in each painting than I did. He pointed out to many interesting details for the class. I've had many pleasant responses like that."

"At first I felt intimidated because I have no formal art background, yet now I feel helping the children enjoy looking at art has been so interesting."

"They like to talk about how the colors affect them. Bright colors make them feel happy and the dark colors have the opposite effect. They ask what made the artist say—Picasso in his blue period or Rembrandt when he painted such dark backgrounds."

MRS. CARRUTHERS says her experience has been that children see many imaginary things in the paintings of Paul Klee. The Swiss artist, who is deceptively childlike in his approach, has a particular fascination for the very young.

Mrs. Carruthers said, "They see alligators in Klee's work or sometimes lights in a harbor that I don't see at all."

Mrs. Crane smiled and recalled, "I showed them Van Gogh's 'Sunflowers' and explained it was a still life. They said it wasn't a still life because the flowers seemed to move. They pointed out that all were moving—some were willing, some were fresh—they all seemed to be doing something."

"They didn't like a still life by the American artist Harnett. They thought it was too somber and said it looked like someone had died."

MRS. HAYES said it was valuable for the children to understand there is no right or wrong in art. Children can appreciate a work of art for the response it evokes in them as individuals.

The program, which follows one established in the Plymouth schools six or seven years ago by the Plymouth Creative Arts Council, may be expanded next year to more schools if interest warrants. There is no intent to replace the art consultants in the schools, rather to provide an enrichment experience.

No one is enjoying the program more than the picture ladies themselves. Through the eyes of young children the world of great art has taken on a new perspective. Together, the ladies and the students are building an appreciative art audience for tomorrow.

Grand River beautification program, road repairs, bridge repairs, storm drain repairs and the city park system.

"WE BELIEVE this method would make income available to more persons and would provide the city with a four-man work force during the summer months to complete projects which our fulltime staff has not been able to work into their normal schedule," said City Manager Robert Deadman.

"The director of the Oakland County Manpower Program believes it is imperative to immediately begin to employ persons under this program to alleviate the unemployment condition that exists within Oakland County," he said.

The city must spend the funds before Feb. 9, 1976.

"We want to hire Farmington residents if possible," Deadman said.

The MESO (Michigan Employment Security Commission) has not been able to furnish a list of unemployed persons who live in Farmington, he said.

"WE BELIEVE that since the money is allocated to particular cities to satisfy the unemployment needs of these cities, whenever possible, persons who live within the city who are unemployed should be hired under this program."

Persons interested in the jobs should obtain an application from the city manager's office, 2300 Liberty.

May 12 has been set as the tentative employment date.



KARL VOGELHEIM

Farmington will hire unemployed

FARMINGTON—The city is seeking unemployed heads of households to make up a four-man summer work force.

The funds to hire the four persons are available through the Comprehensive Employment and Training Act (CETA). The city received an extra \$8,716 allocation after an additional \$715,000 in CETA money was allocated to Oakland County.

The money will enable the city to hire the crew for 20 weeks at \$3.50 an hour.

They would be assigned to the department of public works to work on various projects such as the Power Road-Nine Mile Road Improvement.

Senate, the classes are designed to give students a slice of life they might not otherwise experience.

The classes may last anywhere from one period to all day and cost as little as nothing or as much as \$25 for a trip to the Ontario Science Center.

Also offered is a Huron River canoe trip, an architectural tour of downtown Detroit's historic churches and cathedrals, an electronic musical instrument demonstration and concert and guide to foreign travel.

Unusual topics include taxidermy of fish, acupuncture, how to be an exchange student, race car exhibition and sound engineering.

Also, how to put shingles on a roof, practices of automotive styling studios, beginning unicycling, integral yoga, wilderness survival techniques and the future.

Other classes will cover foods, photography, sports, games and arts and crafts.

Open to all Farmington High students, a series of mini classes will be held throughout the day on stonemasonry, black jazz, transcendental meditation, elementary witchcraft and baking sourdough French bread.

Sponsored by the Student Council

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