

Expanded programs mark year for Farmington Public Safety

By DANIEL A. BYRNES
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During the year 1977, the Farmington Department of Public Safety has added several new programs to its operations, changed others and expanded still others.

Our reserve program has been expanded somewhat, and we now have a reserve patrol car on duty when manpower permits, cruising subdivisions and providing house checks for residents on vacation. The number of hours of reserve fire training have been increased and these individuals have proved their usefulness during several fires in the past year.

The community's Helping Hands program has undergone some changes due to a cooperative effort among the police, schools and program participants. Procedures have been developed for the recording, reporting and exchange of information relating to incidents involving actual or suspected occurrences of child molesting. The changes are intended to involve participants of the Helping Hands program in aiding the police in preventing such incidents from occurring through the exchange of useful information.

THE DEPARTMENT, with the purchase of several child safety film programs, has begun a more active program in the elementary schools covering such topics as "Careful with Strangers," "Pedestrian Safety," "Bicycle Safety," "Safety Rules for Playing," "School Bus Safety Rules" and many others which are an expansion of the present Green Pennant program.

The past year has seen our CB Community Observation Patrol Service (COPS) get off the ground, and we now have more than 150 active members.

During the past year, these members have reported more than 400 incidents requiring police attention via their CB radios, and, as a result, have reduced police response time. Calls have ranged from motorist assists to felony in progress runs and covered such incidents as vehicular accidents, traffic hazards, larcenies in progress, drunk drivers, fires, medical emergencies, stolen automobiles and burglaries.

During the month of October, the department held an open house for Fire Prevention Week, which drew almost 500 residents, in addition to sponsoring a Junior Fire Marshal pro-



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gram in the elementary schools. During the month of May, we held our second open house and offered rides with an officer on patrol in honor of National Police Week, which drew more than 400 participants.

CRIME PREVENTION continues to be a program of importance within the community, and officers are available to provide this assistance to residents as well as businesses. Currently, all new residents are contacted by a public safety officer and advised of the services offered by the department.

The department now has four trained Emergency Medical Technicians on duty to provide a higher level of on-scene emergency medical service to residents. A smoke detector ordinance has been introduced, which, if passed, should provide a higher degree of life safety to residents of both single family and multiple residential units.

During 1977, the department completed its final conversion to compact patrol cars. It is expected that despite increased gasoline prices and rising labor costs, these vehicles will cut gasoline costs by 25 per cent and maintenance costs by 10 per cent or more.

Also, for the first time, the department has on regular patrol a totally unmarked vehicle, which has resulted in numerous arrests of crimes in progress and we believe contributed to a decrease in injury accidents.

Based upon current projections, 1977 should prove to be one of the most rewarding years in more than a decade, as we anticipate a better than 20 per cent reduction in major crimes occurrences; this following a nine per cent reduction in 1976, shall drop the frequency of major crime back to 1968 levels.



Medved is accustomed to being first in his endeavors.

Glory makes Medved run

By JUDITH BERNE

His business card says it all. It reads: Mike Medved, The Czechoslovakian. Who do you know that wants to buy a car? Also used cars. Then, there's the usual address and telephone number.

He believes it's a card customers can't forget.

"This whole business is really remembering," said Medved, named the top Pontiac car salesman in the country for four consecutive years.

The West Bloomfield Township resident, who operates out of Art Moran Pontiac in Southfield, has no false modesty. "I was number one in everything I've ever done."

He cites a "God-given talent" to explain how he sold 520 Pontiacs this year and 551 the year before. "I could sell more," he says, matter of factly. "I just don't have the time to do it with service and talking to people."

He makes and takes 50 to 100 telephone calls a day, too.

MEDVED IS PAST the point where he approaches the walk-in car customer with a "May I help you?" Nearly all his customers are repeats or referrals.

Basically, he operates his own business out of Moran. "I'm really a dealer within a dealer," he said.

He's furnished two houses and travelled around the United States and to Mexico and Europe for selling the most cars in short-term sales contests. He reports a library "loaded with trophies and plaques."

Now that he's achieved the financial

status he was seeking, glory is what makes Medved run.

He doesn't worry about going a day or two without a sale. "There are days I don't sell any cars. The next day I may sell seven. At the end of the month it's always there."

He has no canned approach "because people are different." Older people have to be handled one way, the single working girl another. "My personality just fits in to the situation."

In nearly every instance, he takes the customer out on a test ride. "That's the most important thing. You can tell them but they have to drive it."

ALL SET to go to college, Medved gave it all up 20 years ago when he lined up his first sale as a salesman for a 72-hour Pontiac sell-a-thon while in California.

"I sold 10 cars and wondered what do I need college for," he said.

Although he believes he could sell anything, cars are closest to the native-Detroit's heart. "I remember riding my bicycle out to the Dearborn Proving Grounds," he reminisced.

Even as a youngster, he made it a point to be familiar with each year's new models before they hit the dealers' showrooms.

Although he claims thorough satisfaction with his work, he and wife Shirley, have another route in mind for children Dawn Marie, 9, and Michael, 7. "I'm going to educate my son to be a doctor or dentist," he said. "This business takes a special person."

"The only difference between Casius Clay and me is I'm white, he's black. He's a hell of a salesman."

W L school budget nears red

Administrators in the Walled Lake School District are going to have to start juggling some figures to make certain that expenditures do not exceed revenues at the end of the 1977-78 school year.

Assistant Supt. for Business Harry Carlson revealed recently that the district could well find itself some \$204,000 in the red at the end of the current school year unless some changes are made.

Carlson told the school board that revenues of some \$18.2 million had been anticipated at the time the

budget for the 1977-78 fiscal year was adopted in July. A recent budget review indicated, however, that the district can anticipate revenues of \$17.7 million for 1977-78, a decrease of approximately \$300,000.

The decrease in anticipated revenues is off slightly by a corresponding \$85,700 reduction in expenses. But the school district could still find expenditures exceeding revenues by some \$204,000 if the current projections prove accurate.

School administrators are not yet pressing the panic button, however.

In a statement released to the school board, Supt. Don Sheldon said "it would still be our recommendation at this time that we should not attempt to curtail programs through staff reduction or program abandonment."

He suggested that the district could still balance its 1977-78 budget through "a combination of conservative expenditure patterns as well as utilization of a part of the general fund equity if need be."

Carlson reported that two major factors were behind the anticipated \$204,000 decline in revenues—a decrease in state aid because of a declining enrollment and cutbacks in the state and county special education funds.

The major portion of the problem is attributed to faulty projections of school enrollment—a key factor in the state aid formula.

School officials had anticipated a student enrollment of 11,850 students, an increase of 30 students over the 11,600 students in the district in 1976-77. When official fourth Friday count figures were tabulated in October, however, it was discovered that the

11,500.

The district had anticipated state aid revenue of some \$5.34 million based on the projection of 11,530 students. With the actual count of 11,500 students, however, state aid revenue to the local district dropped to \$5.07 million.

The \$270,000 loss of state aid revenue represents the vast majority of the \$300,000 decrease in general operating fund revenues.

Another major factor in the decrease of revenues in special education payments from both the state and county. In his budget projections, Carlson had anticipated revenues of \$388,000 from the state and \$125,000 from the county, \$513,000 from the county. Carlson told the board recently, however, that he now anticipates \$388,000 from the state and \$125,000 from the county in special education funding for an overall decline of some \$72,000.

Carlson reported that the overall deficit was reduced to \$204,000 by decreases in anticipated expenditures.

Sheldon defended the enrollment projections, noting that the projected 30-student increase was a conservative estimate of a five-year average.



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