

Launches annual fund drive

Community center seeks \$60,000

The Farmington Community Center has launched its annual fund-raising drive under the guidance of Leon Serdynski, vice president of Metropolitan Bank of Farmington.

The center's goal for the year is \$60,000.

"Escalating operating and maintenance costs make it necessary to increase this year's fund goal," he says.

"Class tuition, rental, special events and benefits provide the major portion of required income, but additional revenue must come from the community."

The center's board of directors anticipates greater use of the facility by residents due to the increased cost of traveling long distances.

Directors feel people are spending their leisure time closer to home, and they invite residents to make the cen-

ter's backyard an extension of their own.

Persons interested in contributing to the fund drive should contact Betty Paine at 477-8404 at the center.

Mrs. Paine, executive director of the center, says she is optimistic about the future.

"Shared activities are being initiated with other groups in the area," she says.

Some of the planned upcoming activities are:

- An old-fashioned gathering on the green is planned with the Gathering Place. Senior citizens and their friends will participate in an ice cream social, strolling musicians, horseshoes and other lawn games on the center grounds in July.

- A student show is slated which will feature works completed during the

past year. The show and sale is planned to become an annual event.

- A committee has been formed to encourage musical activities at the center. An evening of local talent, "Spotlight on You," is planned for July

12. Families are encouraged to bring a picnic and enjoy the grounds.

- The current weekly luncheon series on Thursdays is new. Many local service groups have requested use of the facility.

Rabbi Wine will host humanist conference

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official ideologies.

"They have never bothered to articulate their real beliefs because to do so would force them to deal with the discrepancy between what they say they believe and what they actually do believe."

The humanists use two sources of literature for study: the whole range of Jewish literature selectively, omitting anything to do with mysticism or the supernatural, and the wisdom of people through the ages, from Aristotle to Jean Paul Sartre.

"We observe all the holidays, but we reinterpret them humanistically," Wine says.

Students who are bar or bat mitzvah at the Birmingham Temple research old or modern Jewish heroes and present a lecture on their chosen hero during the ceremony.

Bar mitzvah students in traditional

synagogues memorize and chant a portion of the Torah, the holy book of Judaism.

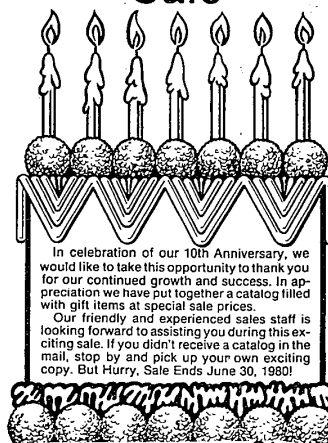
Humanistic memorial services emphasize the reality of death, the importance of preserving life, and the importance of living life fully.

"Humanism places emphasis on three important values: human happiness, reaching out beyond ourselves to others, and dignity."

"A good part of our program is created by us," says Wine.

Miriam Jerris, president of the Society for Humanistic Judaism, drafts study material to give participants humanistic alternatives to celebrating holidays or attending Sunday school. The society is also busy writing material for leadership training for the education of humanistic Jews.

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Students exchange ideas at 'round table' talks

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ing students to a variety of classes at the middle school level, they should be given the freedom to choose."

The talk then drifted to science and math requirements, which triggered responses ranging from a belief that one year of math is enough to those who would like to see a second year of math for non-college-bound students.

"THOSE NOT GOING to college won't make it with just basic math. Is that minimum enough?" asked Jennifer Ratliff, a Farmington junior.

George Fomin, a junior at North, concurred.

"It's not the best thing to leave someone with algebra as their last class in math. Encourage business math or some other practical math," Fomin said.

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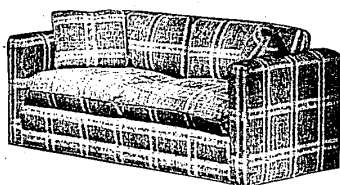
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