

Farmington Calendar

BLUE STAR MOTHERS

June 18. Chapter 49 of the Blue Star Mothers will hold its monthly meeting and potluck dinner to honor secret pairs at 11 a.m. in the Farmington Community Center. Members only.

HANDICRAFTERS SALE AND SHOW

Through June 20. A Michigan Handicrafters Sale and Show will be held daily from 9:30 a.m. to 9 p.m. at the Oakland Mall Shopping Center, 412 W. 14 Mile. Troy. All items are made by handicapped, homebound persons. Show sponsor is the Department of Education, division of vocational rehabilitation.

BOARD OF EDUCATION

June 22. Farmington Board of Education will meet at 8 p.m. in Farmington High School, 32000 Shiawassee. The monthly curriculum report will be "Secondary Public Studies."

OCCEO PUBLIC HEARING

June 24. The Oakland County Commission on Economic Opportunity will hold a public hearing and commission meeting at 7:30 p.m. at 1 Lafayette, Pontiac, to discuss problems, program desires and objectives, and to get suggestions and ideas from county residents. Records of the meeting will be used to plan the OCCEO 1971 program.

CLASS REUNION

June 27. The class of 1950 of Farmington High School will hold its 20-year class reunion in the Farmington Elks Club.

OAKLAND COUNTY FAIR

June 24-28. Oakland County will hold its annual fair at the Cal-Building grounds, 5640 Williams Lake Rd.

Primary Safe For Incumbents

Two relatively unknown Democrats will battle each other for their party's nomination to run against incumbent Raymond L. Baker of Farmington for the seat from the 64th district in the State House of Representatives.

The race between Leonard T. Baruch of Southfield and Howard J. Fried of Walled Lake for the Democratic nomination from the 64th district appears to be the only area contest in August 4 primary.

BAKER, the Farmington Republican, was unopposed with the filing deadline approaching Tuesday afternoon. He is completing his fifth term.

Baruch was defeated by Baker two years ago after taking the Democratic primary. Neither he nor Fried issued announcements of their candidacies.

The 64th district includes Farmington, West Bloomfield, Lathrup Village, Keego Harbor and part of Southfield west of Lahser and north of 12 Mile.

Has Passion Blinded Critics?

Isn't it amazing sometimes how small groups of people can be so noticeable amongst huge crowds? A case in point is the North Farmington High School marching band, one group which stands out in a crowd.

The 50 or so musicians making up the Raider marching band were criticized because, after marching in Farmington's Memorial Day Parade, they did not stick around to hear a general's speech at the Monument. Some feel the Raiders showed poor taste and a lack of patriotism.

Editorial

But isn't it strange how their exit from the Monument was observed so quickly? Some 10,000 Farmington residents watched that parade, but when it was over only a small group of about 500 gathered around the Monument to hear the general's speech.

The 500 who stayed amount to 5% of those 10,000 spectators of a few minutes earlier. The Raider marching band represents about 1/4% of that crowd of 10,000. If the Raiders were unpatriotic, cannot the same be said for the 95%?

For some reason, those who choose to criticize the North Farmington musicians for leaving immediately after the parade have chosen to ignore the 9,500 Farmington residents who did the same. This seems a bit strange.

By the way, there were two speeches that day - one at the monument and one in the American Legion Hall. The Farmington Enterprise & Observer covered both speeches and is also aware some enjoyed the meal but did not stick around for the honored military speaker at the banquet.

Protocol is one of the least of our community issues.

EMORY C. DANIELS



OLD NORTH? - On July 4, 1966, these children from Kendallwood 1 in Farmington Township entered a float of the Old North Church to depict the hanging of the lanterns. But a book published in 1969 by Hiller Zabel, Harvard lawyer turned historian, includes new evidence/ the lanterns were hung in Christ's Episcopal Church. But it's not the kids' fault - Paul Revere made the historical boo-boo.

Derby Prize Is LIT Scholarship

FARMINGTON A record number of registrations to compete in the Oakland County Sesqui-Centennial Soap Box Derby Exposition have been received from boys throughout Oakland County and from boys living in Detroit, Flint, Saginaw, Bay City, Ann Arbor and Grand Rapids.

The grand prize is a four-year college scholarship given by Lawrence Institute of Technology, Southfield. All boys throughout Michigan who have registered to compete in Chevrolet-sanctioned soap box derby competition are eligible to compete for the scholarship and for \$500 in other prizes, said Gerard Lacey, originator of the event. All they must do is to request a registration form from Tom Jackson, director of Oakland County Soap Box Derby, 2800 Watkins Lake Rd., Pontiac.

Boys wishing to enter must bring their soap box racers to the Pontiac Mall at Telegraph and Elizabeth Lake Rd. in Pontiac, July 5.

Other prizes include trophies for best constructed racer, best designed racer, best up-holstered racer, most unusual racer and most popular racer.

Ellman To Arbitrate

FARMINGTON William M. Ellmann of Farmington has been appointed chairman of an arbitration panel to hear the dispute between the international association of Firefighters Local 431 and the City of Royal Oak.

Commissioned

Kim DeCourcy of Farmington, a cadet in the ROTC at Central Michigan University, has been commissioned a second Lieutenant in the United States Army Reserve.

Finishes Olivet

Gregory K. Snider, son of Mr. and Mrs. Curtis Snider, 30051 Wicklow, Farmington, was one of 102 graduates to receive the BA degree from Olivet College this month.

Receives Honor

Virginia Parsons, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Williams Parsons of 32545 Ridgewood, Farmington, was recognized for superior achievement on the recent annual Honors Day at Northwood Institute.

Wins Award

Miss Betsy J. Brush, of 2545 Manning, Farmington, received the Freshman YWCA Council Award at Butler University's Honor Day program.

How Churches Helped Gain Nation's Freedom

Legend has it that the lanterns used as signals for Paul Revere's couriers were hung in the steeple of the Old North Church in Boston.

But, actually, the lanterns were hung in the steeple of Christ's Episcopal Church which is still standing in Boston. The confusion about which church was used can be blamed on Revere himself who led early historians to select the Old North Church as the spot.

REVERE, in an account he penned for the Massachusetts Historical Society in 1798, stated the lanterns were hung in the "North Church Steeple."

Only he was actually referring to Christ's Church. Old North Church was pulled down in 1776 by British troops for firewood. Because Christ's then became the oldest surviving church in the north end of Boston, the popular nickname of North and Old North was transferred by the townsmen to Christ's Church.

When Revere wrote in 1798, he was using the popular vernacular of his times by calling Christ's "North Church." Actually, the Old North Church could not have been used because its steeple was slumped and any lantern hung there could only have been seen a few blocks away.

CHRIST'S CHURCH was used for three reasons. First, because it had the tallest steeple in Boston.

Second, Revere was familiar with how far you could see from Christ's steeple because

(On July 4 residents of Kendallwood 1 and Colony Park will once again stage their special Independence Day observance which includes a parade with children acting out the history of the Revolutionary era. This year's theme is, "Massachusetts Bays contribution to American Independence.")

(Today's first in a series of articles examines the contributions of the churches in Boston to American Independence. Maybe paraders can garner an idea for an entry from this and future articles. If not, it is hoped reading about our past will prove interesting to our readers.)

as a boy he had a part-time job as a bell-ringer for that same church.

Third, and most important, was the fact that the person who hung the lantern had possession of a key to Christ's Church. Robert Newman, 23 years old when he hung the lanterns, had keys because he worked part-time as a sexton and his brother as organist.

Hanging of the lanterns was made popular by Longfellow's poetic account of Revere's ride (quite an inaccurate one by the way) but contributions of Boston churches to independence was much more significant than this one abuse of a steeple.

EARLY CONTRIBUTIONS were the sermons from the pulpits, especially from the Mather brothers, and the debates on the church porches after the congregations were finally dismissed.

Churches in colonial days were hotbeds of sedition, espe-

cially in Boston. In fact, the Puritans of New England referred to their churches as "meeting houses."

Churches were the center of intellectual life for the colonists and on church lawns were held great and long discussions on politics, current events, local scandals and doctrine.

These were the days of three-hour sermons and one-hour prayers. Samuel and Increase Mather, who both pastored at Old North, could be counted on for heated critique of the way King George handled God's people in the colonies.

In fact, the Sunday after the Boston Massacre a blistering sermon was delivered in Old North by the Rev. John Lathrup. Using Genesis 3:10 as a text, Rev. Lathrup exhorted the British Lathrups (troops) should be put to death for their sins.

The churches were used as meeting places because most

of the public halls, such as Faneuil Hall, could not accommodate large crowds.

CHURCH BELLS were used to summon townsfolk towards the church building, and not just on the Sabbath either.

The peal of bells in the evening was a signal for fire and men would rush towards the church with buckets. Bells were also used to draw townsfolk for an outdoor meeting. And often the bells would ring with an unpopular act of the British Parliament was repealed.

Church bells also tolled over the withdrawal of an unpopular governor or over tyranny. Ringing of the bells also opened and closed the markets.

When Bostonians were on the streets angered over political issues of the day, the excited mood was heightened by the ringing of bells from almost every church steeple.

Thus, if a small incident occurred someplace in Boston between a British soldier and a local ruffian, a crowd could quickly be assembled to that spot by tolling the bells of a church in that locality. Boston radicals fermenting unrest often relied on church bells to obtain an instant mob.

You might be interested to know Christ's Church had eight bells - the largest weighing 1,545 pounds and the smallest 620 pounds. One of the bells was cracked and recast by Revere. Revere's recast bell weighed 2,437 pounds and still hangs today.

JUST IN TIME FOR Father's Day

1/3 OFF

ON EVERYTHING

Except Fair Traded Items

Men's - Ladies' - Children's Apparel

IMPERIAL APPAREL

10 Mile at Orchard Lake Road - Farmington

HOURS - 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.

477-7990

the farmington enterprise & observer

EMORY DANIELS, Editor
Editorial Office
32523 Farmington Road
Farmington, Mich.
Phone 474-6225

Home Delivery Service
Newsstand per copy, 10¢
Carriers monthly, 10¢
Phone 474-8737

Published every Wednesday and Weekend
Published by Observer Newspapers, Inc., 271 South Main Street, Plymouth, Michigan 48170
Entered as Second Class Matter at U.S. Post Office, Plymouth, Michigan
Address of principal office: 2576 to Box 200, Plymouth, Michigan, 48170