

Students build 'Puff' with 80 blocks of ice at Plymouth festival

Some 70 Oakland Community College students haven't minded these cold winter days at all.

The students, members of culinary courses at OCC's Orchard Ridge Campus in Farmington Hills, stayed warm by working hard on their 18-piece ice sculpture depicting the child's story and song, "Puff, the Magic Dragon."

In addition to the story's two main characters, Puff the dragon and Jackie, there are many smaller pieces called Squeezes.

The work of art was OCC's entry in the Ice Sculpture Spectacular held Jan.

13-15 in Kellogg Park in downtown Plymouth.

Directed by cooking instructors Jim Stawars, Jeff Wolf and Dan Rowlin, the students used chisels and chain saws to transform 80 blocks of ice, each weighing 400 pounds — into Puff and his pals.

The students resorted to ice tongs to haul the blocks around, and a special lift was needed to finish the dragon's head, which is about 20 feet off the ground. And they didn't mind working in the cold.

"Actually, we needed some cold, cold

nights to fuse these blocks together," Stawars said. "And we sure got them."

The blocks of ice came from the Midwest Ice Co. of Detroit. The festival was a joint venture of the city of Plymouth and the Mayflower Hotel, a landmark in that community, with the Chrysler Corp. as the largest sponsor.

Other sponsors include E.F. Hutton, Eastern Air Lines, Caesar's Palace and British Airways.

Officials estimated that between 75,000 and 100,000 people visited the festival. Sunday, Jan. 15, reportedly was the biggest day with an estimated 40,000 visitors.

State board splits, 4-4, on land transfer question

By Patricia N. Bowling
Novi-Walled Lake News

A deadlocked state Board of Education failed to decide the boundary dispute between the Walled Lake School District and a group of Farmington Hills residents.

There was little discussion when the request to transfer Section 6 of the Walled Lake district to Farmington Hills finally was presented at a Jan. 11 board meeting. The request was pulled from both the November and December board agendas.

The board split 4-4 on a motion to deny the transfer. The same split occurred on a subsequent motion to approve the transfer. Since both motions failed, the request was put on the agenda for the February meeting, state board secretary Lad Dombrowski said.

The state requires at least five affirmative votes for a motion to pass.

THE TRANSFER is requested by 24 of 27 residents in Section 6 of the Walled Lake School District. The section consists of one square mile in Farmington Hills.

The section is largely undeveloped and consists of two incomplete subdivi-

sions: Farmington Ridge and Country Ridge.

Country Ridge occupies about half of Section 6 and contains 380 single-family lots, said Farmington Hills City Planner Richard Lampl. Farmington Ridge contains 480 single-family lots. The area also has some property zoned for multiple units.

Only partially developed, Section 6 contributes \$193,000 to the Walled Lake School District. When fully developed, the section might produce as much as \$4 million in taxes, Walled Lake Supt. Don Sheldon said.

Only 15 school children would be affected by the transfer, should the state board decide to grant it.

"It's unfair for the board to leave us in limbo," said Mary Ann Beyer, parent of one of the 15 students. "Obviously, we're not happy about (the board's decision)."

BECAUSE OF the section's potential tax revenue, Walled Lake school board members suggested last week that they would sue the state board if the transfer is granted.

The transfer was requested in 1981 by the developer of Country Ridge subdivision, Robert Brody of Country

Ridge Home Builders Inc., Troy, said in a September interview that he thought the transfer would make it easier to sell home sites in his subdivision.

In October 1981, Brody asked a University of Michigan professor to determine whether a transfer to the Farmington Hills School District would benefit children living in Section 6.

The professor was unable to justify the transfer, and said he would send his own children to Walled Lake if given the choice. So Brody dropped the transfer request. One year later, the Section 6 homeowners petitioned the Oakland Intermediate School Board for the transfer.

THE BOARD denied the request in 1982, so the homeowners appealed to the state board. The decision has been pending since the board held its hearing on the request nearly one year ago.

The homeowners argue that their children are unable to develop friendships with their classmates because of the distance between Section 6 and district schools. The distance also affects participation in after-school activities, they say.

The parents also say their children could receive a better education in Farmington schools.



BILL BREIDENBACH photograph

Puff, the Magic Dragon, was Oakland Community College's entry in the Plymouth Ice Sculpture Spectacular held Jan. 13-15. Some 70 students

used 80 400-pound blocks of ice to build the 18-piece sculpture.

INSIDE ANGLES

Know someone doing something notable? Let us know. Write: Inside Angles, Farmington Observer, 23352 Farmington Road, Farmington 48024.

SCOTT ORWIG, son of Mr. and Mrs. Elaine Orwig of Farmington Hills, is one of 200 high school musicians selected as a member of the Michigan School Band and Orchestra Association 50th Anniversary Honors Jazz Band. More than 50,000 band, orchestra and jazz students from high schools throughout Michigan were eligible to audition. Scott is a member of the Harrison High School jazz symphony and marching bands, directed by Mark Phillips.

ERIC W. SMITH, son of Wickie and Edna Smith of Farmington Hills, enlisted in the Air Force's Delayed Enlistment Program. Eric, a senior at Farmington High School, is scheduled for enlistment in the Regular Air Force on Aug. 9. Upon graduation from the Air Force's six-week basic training course near San Antonio, Texas, he is scheduled to receive technical training in the mechanical aptitude area. He will be earning credits toward an associate degree in applied sciences through the Community College of the Air Force while attending basic and technical training schools.

PAUL FITZPATRICK, son of David and Rosemary Fitzpatrick and a graduate of Farmington High School, has won the \$500 first prize in the Nathan Burkan Memorial Competition at the University of Michigan Law School. The announcement was made by Hal David, president of the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers. The winning essay is titled "Copyright Protection for Name, Likeness and Personal History: Variations on a Balancing Act." Paul will be considered for national Burkan awards, to take place at a later date. Recipients of the national prizes will be awarded prizes ranging from \$500 to \$3,000.

BOTSFORD GENERAL Hospital has child safety seats available for rental. If you are an Oakland County resident in need of a safety seat and cannot afford to buy one, contact Susan Locky at 471-8091 or the Oakland County Health Division at 858-0005.

JANUARY 27 is the deadline for mailed-in entries for the 1984 Alma College Statewide Print Competition organized by Alma and sponsored, in part, by the Michigan Council for the Arts. Hand-delivered entries will be accepted from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday and Sunday at Alma College's Clark Art Center. Up to \$2,500 in purchase awards will be given in the competition, with \$500 the top prize.

OVER FIFTY DEALERS will offer antiques and collectibles at the Tel-Twelve Mall Antique Show through Sunday. Services offered at the

show include appraisals, furniture stripping and chair caning. Tel-Twelve Mall is at Telegraph and Twelve Mile in Southfield. Hours are 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday through Saturday and noon to 5 p.m. on Sunday.

CARRIE BURLAND, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Carlyle Burland of Farmington Hills, was initiated into Kappa Alpha Theta. Carrie, a sophomore, graduated from North Farmington High School and is majoring in telecommunications at Michigan State.

LINDA RENNARD of Farmington Hills was one of ten Good Citizens honored by Quakertown Chapter Daughters of the American Revolution at a luncheon Jan. 7. Linda was surprised to receive congratulations at the luncheon from her grandfather, Robert Rennard of Cheyenne, Wyo. Linda's late grandmother, Shirley, was DAR State Regent of Wyoming 1974-76. Linda represented North Farmington High School.

QUAKERTOWN CHAPTER of The Quakers raised just short of \$900 to give to Farmington Community Center when members staged their first open-to-the-public auction last month. The money has been earmarked to restore the floor of the building's sun porch. The restoration project will be carried out following agreed-upon pictures which show the porch as it was when the home was occupied by the Goodenough family early in the century.

DR. KENNETH POSS, foot specialist, has relocated and announces the opening of his new offices called Foot Health Centers. The locations are: Novi, 41630 W. Ten Mile, 349-5559; Northville, 311 Center St., 349-4904; and Livonia, 30931 Seven Mile, 478-1166.

CEDAR POINT will hold auditions for singers, dancers, musicians and specialty acts in Ann Arbor at the University of Michigan, in the Anderson Room of the Michigan Union, Friday. Applicants must be at least 18 years of age as of May, 1984 and should bring a single-page, typed resume. Registration will be from 12:30 to 3:30 p.m., with auditions beginning at 1 p.m. Auditions will also be held for Cedar Point's two groups of roaming mid-way musicians, the Keystone Kops and the Hobo Band. Selections for the park's four costumed animal characters, the Berenstain Bears, will be made on the basis of personal interviews. The last audition site will be at the Employee Visitor Center, Cedar Point, Sandusky, Ohio, Saturday. Approximately 20 positions are available for experienced sound and light technicians, projectionists and costumers. Interviews for technical positions will be by appointment only at Cedar Point's Employee Visitor Center Tuesday, Feb. 9 and Friday, Feb. 10.



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