

Farmington Socially Speaking

By KATHY ZISKA
GR. 4-7261

Kelly Sexton, 11-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Gene Sexton of Pleasant Valley subdivision, organized, with the help of other youngsters from the same area, a carnival to raise funds for muscular dystrophy.

The Sexton family recently moved to Pleasant Valley in Farmington Township from Southfield and I'm sure you will agree that Southfield's loss is Farmington's gain!

Kelly sent for pamphlets telling about muscular dystrophy and what she could do to help. Early in the summer, they were still residents of Southfield, So, a couple of weeks ago, the well organized carnival was held in a vacant lot in Pleasant Valley.

Participating in the project were: Keith Sexton, Kelly's younger brother; Cheryl Thurston; Debbie Fintery; Sue Nankervis; Brian and Julie Nedrow; Marsha and Linda Kitch. All of the youngsters are residents at Pleasant Valley and all of them attend Wooddale Elementary School. Each child involved in the project donated \$2 for the expenses toward the carnival.

A young lady, Virginia Schaeffer, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. M.G. Schaeffer of Drake Rd., donated her pony for the day with benefit with atmosphere plus 10 cents a ride on the pony.

In any worth while project

such as this, the adults cannot help but become involved. In this case, the adults served adult refreshments at \$1 and they had five adult participants which all helped to add to the total sum of \$22.50. Since it was too late to deliver the funds to the Muscular Dystrophy telethon, because it was held after the telethon date, Mrs. Sexton had the change turned into a cashiers check sent to muscular dystrophy.

KARL BENDA, son of Mr. and Mrs. Edward Benda of Howard Rd., a recent graduate of North Farmington High School, and his cousin Dan Juntilla of Wakefield, Mich., near Iron Wood, took a 1200-mile bicycle jaunt which they made in 10 days, making a circle tour around Lake Superior into Canada.

Early in the summer, Karl and Dan both thought of the adventure. It wasn't until just a few weeks before they returned to studies at Michigan Technological University in Houghton that they made the adventure possible.

Karl's cousin is on the football team at MTU and both of the young men are avid hockey players. Karl was on the wrestling team at North and they thought it would be good discipline and training for their individual sports.

In fact, all of Karl's family is quite athletic—there are eight other sisters and

brothers. Karl is the oldest and the first one away at college. His mother is a substitute teacher with the Farmington Schools in special education classes.

Halfway through the trip, the young men ran out of funds. A neighbor of the Benda's at their cottage outside of Clare, drove by the two cyclists, realized it was Karl, turned around and was one of the first to offer assistance and a loan.

THEY RAN into campers along the way who shared food with them and complete strangers in Thunder Bay fed them a complete meal. Near South St. Marie, an elderly couple treated them most kindly and in Munising, a funeral director and his wife treated them to a bed, warm bath, and a very welcome meal. They had left for several hours in Munising and when they returned to get ready to be off on their trip, they found their clothes washed and ironed.

Another touching experience was the day of Karl's birthday in a little town in the Upper Peninsula along M-28 a small gas station owner invited the young men in for hot chocolate and treats.

The next trip will be easier because they have already decided they would take along more money, a pair of gloves because their trip was so late

in the season that it was quite cold at times, a tent for night shelter. Some of the nights were very cold and they looked for night shelter under picnic tables and under campers to place their sleeping bags. As far as a bath, even though it's cold, you jump into Lake Superior.

KEITH WAINEO, 16 of 31065 Berryhill, Farmington has advanced to the rank of eagle scout as a member of Farmington Boy Scout Troop 35, sponsored by the Farmington VFW. A sophomore at NFHS, he has 22 merit badges, holds the order of arrow, is senior patrol leader and his principal hobbies are snowmobiling, archery and hunting.



MARK LOCKWOOD, 17, of 31031 Berryhill, Farmington, has been advanced to the rank of eagle scout as a member of Farmington Boy Scout Troop 35, sponsored by Farmington VFW Post 4033. A senior at NFHS, he is on the gymnastics and track team, is a life scout and holds the order of the arrow. He plays guitar, enjoys water skiing and back-packing.





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