

# Vandalism Cost Sparks School Board Debate

By STEVE BARNABY

**FARMINGTON**  
The Farmington Board of Education was in a positive mood Tuesday as it passed all but one of the major resolutions before it in a meeting that lasted just over an hour.

Board members Dr. Mervyn Ross and Elizabeth Brennan were absent.

Slowing the fast paced meeting was the final construction bill for Harrison High School, now long completed.

Through the negotiation efforts of Harry Stultz, director of buildings and grounds, the bill was whittled from \$12,000 to just under \$9,000.

Aldo Vagnozzi, vice president of the board, and Trustee William Corliss feel the debt can be lowered by renegotiating the vandalism clause of the bill.

**THE CONTROVERSY** is over \$2,700 for alleged vandalism that occurred when students occupied the third floor before completion of the structure. Replacement for glass breakage was \$700 with the balance going for damage of mechanical items.

Guilt for the vandalism has never been determined.

Board Secretary Ronald Emmitt expressed regret at what he felt was unnecessary cost.

"This vandalism occurred after we moved in. These are our kids who did it. This hurts me," Emmitt said.

He continued that even though the administration had done all it could to keep down costs, renegotiating would be futile.

"We don't have a leg to stand on," he said. "We're fortunate we got out of it for \$2,000."

Vagnozzi moved to amend the \$9,000 bill by deleting the \$2,700 vandalism clause. This was rejected. Corliss and Vagnozzi voted negatively on the complete \$9,000 debt.

Because of their opposition the bill must be renegotiated with the contractors.

**OTHER ITEMS** on the agenda which received more favorable treatment were the authorization of a levy for debt retirement and levy for school operations.

The board said the six mill levy for debt retirement wouldn't provide sufficient revenue to meet the total requirement of more than \$3 million. The fund has \$550,000. To meet this deficit a 7.0 mill levy was approved for the 1972-73 school year.

Also passed was the use of the authorized extra voted levy for school operations in order to "maintain a quality education program." For the City of Farmington and Farmington Township, this means a total for each of 29.83 mills. The West Bloomfield Township levy will be 29.83.

Although there was a voice of caution from the audience about participation in the federally funded Head Start program, the board unanimously supported application for and participation in the program.

The objection was that the Farmington area put out more in tax money than it received and that corruption could easily be involved when Federal money was used locally. Loss of local control was feared if federal money was accepted.

Trustee Kathryn Stirling said the district should take advantage of the program despite the possible disadvantages. Vagnozzi concurred.

"This program has been especially successful in Oakland County. We have to keep remembering there are pockets of poverty in Farmington. Those people can be helped from this," Vagnozzi said.

Under this program the district has been given nearly \$10,000 for the education of underprivileged children.

**THE EFFECTIVENESS** of the district's vocational training program was brought up by Vagnozzi. He said those students not going to college should be trained to look for alternate types of jobs.

Trustee Emmitt voiced satisfaction with the vocational program, saying he had talked with a number of co-op students who indicated satisfactory training in looking for jobs.

Membership in the Michigan Association of School Boards for the 1972-73 fiscal year was approved. Membership fee is \$1,300. Also approved was membership in the Michigan High School Athletic Assn.

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INDIAN GUIDES YMCA members help dry a Volkswagen at a recent car wash which raised \$100 for the Farmington YMCA. On the left side of the car are Seminole Tribe chief Bob Coe (Little Moose) and his sons Scotty (Running Feet) and Chip (Little Thunderbird). On the right are Mike Glicker (Sleeping Raccoon) and his son, Glenn (Climbing Raccoon).

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## Miss Casby Accepts Award

**FARMINGTON**  
Susan Casby, of 25219 Branchester Rd., Farmington, attended the Alpha Phi sorority centennial convention at Washington D.C. As president of Alpha Phi Theta chapter of University of Michigan, she accepted, on behalf of the sorority, the first place award for educational concept. In the international competition the sorority attained the highest scholastic point average.

Miss Casby is actively involved in geological field explorations at Jackson Hole, Wyo. She will graduate next year with a degree in marine geology and mineralogy.

She graduated from Mercy High School, Farmington and during summer vacations works at the Tam O'Shanter Country Club with pro golfer Warren Orlick.



SUSAN CASBY

## wood creek farms

By ANNE M. PHILLIPS MA 6-6335

Our summer polluck picnic date has been changed from Sept. 16 to Sept. 23.

It will still be held at the home of the Angelos, 2929 Wellington, and our Dick Carlson will still provide one of his wonderful haunches of beef.

**CLARK AND Margaret Kruse** have had a most interesting visitor from Poland. Dyzslawa Michalski has both a BS and MS degree from the University of Warsaw. He now teaches Russian language and literature at the Gostynin High School earning \$12 per month.

And he wants still more education.

Of course the Kruses saw to it that he did the right sight-seeing, going through Ford, Cranbrook Institute, Greenfield Village, dinner at the Art Institute, plus the Rolling Stones concert at Cobo Hall that night so many police were called in.

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\*Annual percentage rate 8.41% \*\*Annual percentage rate 11.08%

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