



GANGSTERS PLAYED a central theme in the history of Farmington, according to the Jaycees. Don Bosco and Kay Bowen, stars of Farmington Graffiti, portray the 1930's.

Jaycee play tells 'real' past history

By DAN McCOSH

"Farmington Graffiti" is coming to Harrison High, March 22-23, beginning at 8:15 p.m.

Is Farmington ready? The annual Jaycee play, a light-hearted, irreverent look at the community, has a sesquicentennial theme this year.

A play in four vignettes, portraying four periods in Farmington history, the production features a funny, if slightly warped view of the past.

BEGINNING with the real reason

the settlers stopped in Farmington, and ending with the present-day community, scriptwriter John Hay works in some satire of present-day residents.

Tickets for the production are available from Jaycees and at the Chamber of Commerce office, Farmington Rd. and Grand River.

The play is one of the first events celebrating the Farmington sesquicentennial, as well as an annual fun event for the Jaycees.

Cast members include: Jack Davis, Julie Taylor, Robert Greulich, Ron Zarilla, Rick Bowen, John Sprys and Carol Keller.



PROHIBITION sets the theme for the Jaycee play. Ron Zarilla, and Carol Keller portray the Mob.

Northwestern is criticized at state committee hearing

By APRIL KORNILLER

LANSING—Again Northwestern Highway and its proposed extension through western Oakland County was a topic of discussion among state legislators and again local residents were on hand to speak out against it.

Ten Franklin, Farmington Hills and West Bloomfield Township residents sharply criticized the project Wednesday at a House Committee on Roads and Bridges hearing on a bill introduced by Rep. Philip O. Mastin Jr., D-69.

That bill, House Bill 5696, would reduce the present high priority building status on 9.3 miles of freeway proposed for construction from the present Northwestern Highway interchange at Telegraph Road northwest to M-275 in Commerce Township.

"IT IS an antiquated solution to a contemporary problem," said Frederick Doner, 31750 Brondingham, Franklin, speaking on behalf of the Concerned Citizens of Franklin.

He said the small, history-oriented community of Franklin would not particularly appreciate any greater traffic flow or business the proposed freeway might provide.

Doner contended that he felt that the drawing power of the freeway to the northern suburbs would retard the efforts of Detroit to revitalize that core city.

"EVERY TIME a building goes up in Southfield, one comes down in Detroit," he commented.

Ruth O'Gawa, president of the regional Citizens Council for Land Use Research and Development (CLURE), criticized the state highway department and Oakland County Road Commission for "not looking objectively" at the project.

She said those two agencies had not considered other critical studies in their determination of a need for the freeway, adding also that "local officials are not speaking for residents."

IN THE PAST, both the Farmington

Hills mayor and the West Bloomfield Township supervisor have supported the construction of the freeway.

The Franklin Village council on Jan. 14 voted unanimously to oppose the project.

Mary Jane Sternick, 29647 Lochmoor, in Farmington Hills spoke on behalf of the Council of Homeowners Associations of Farmington Hills representing 23 subdivisions opposing the extension.

SHE REMINDED the members of the roads and bridges committee that the Farmington Hills City Council will be holding a public hearing on the proposed freeway March 25, the input from which could influence the council's stand on the project.

Mrs. Sternick commented that she also had received very little information on the committee's hearings and felt that the public should be kept better informed on such a major issue by their representatives.

Area representatives include Rep. Clifford H. Smart, R-Walled Lake;

Rep. James E. Desebaugh, R-Bloomfield Township and Rep. Raymond L. Baker, R-Farmington.

SHEILA OATLEY, 5607 Farmington Road in West Bloomfield, said that building a freeway just wouldn't help area commuters who would still have to travel the potholed local roads.

"You'd zoom down this highway and still hit the bottlenecks when you got off," she commented.

"And I don't want to see a highway built just to create business for West Bloomfield," she added, referring to an earlier question by a committee member who asked if the suburbs might not appreciate the growth the freeway offered.

The House Committee on Roads and Bridges will hold its fourth meeting on the Mastin bill on March 20.



Optimists go to ice show

Dave Coffin, president of the Farmington Optimists, and Donna Lind, from Eagle School, took a trip to the Ice Capades recently. The club sponsors the trip annually for area children confined to wheelchairs.

Harrison musicians earn contest honors

Maurice Wildt, choral director at Harrison High School, announced the "one" ratings earned by both the women's and concert choirs in their first appearance in festival competition.

The Michigan School Vocal Assoc. festivals held on two recent week-ends at Walpole Lake Western and Birmingham Seashore, featured competition of high school singers throughout the northwest suburban area.

The Symphony Band also won top honors at their festival in Warren. They earned first ratings in performance and sight reading.

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