

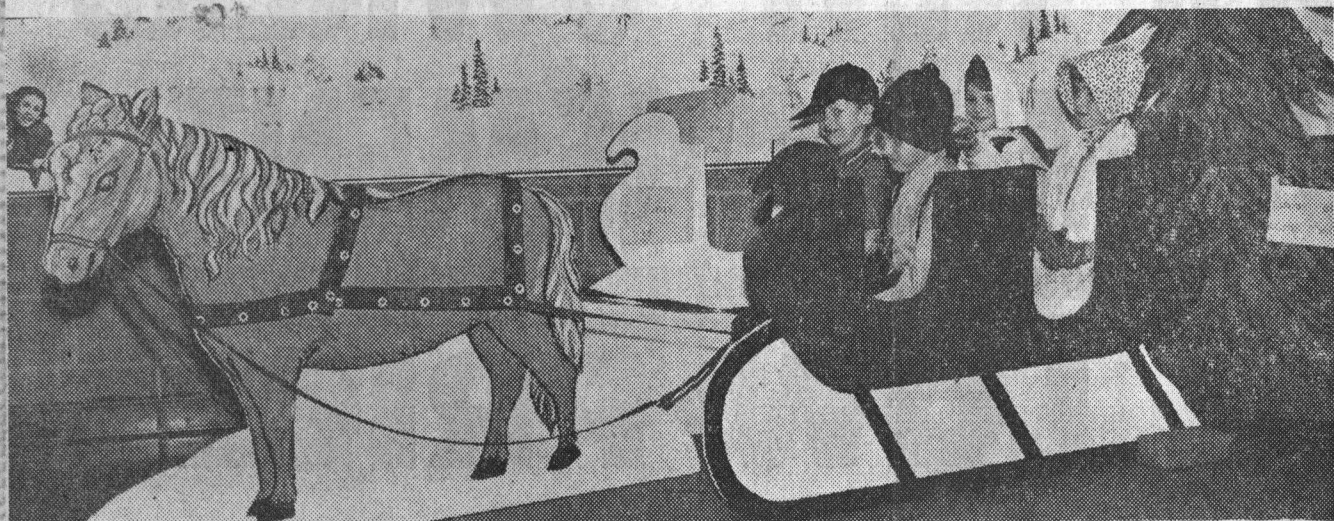


# SCHOOL NEWS



Page 10

Sunday, November 24, 1968



All hitched up for a ride "to grandmother's house" for Thanksgiving are Randy

Smith, front left, David Henderson, Geraldine Skidmore, back left, and Pam Hodges.

These first graders are in Mrs. William Hoffman's class

at Virgil Hauselt Memorial Junior Academy.

## The School That Builds Character

By Jean Baker  
Sentinel Staff Writer

Building character is as important to molding man as is knowledge.

To that purpose, Virgil Hauselt Memorial Junior Academy, a Seventh-day Adventist School, is dedicated.

VHM has an interesting history, a history that has developed over a period of about 50 years, not long in the span of time, but meaningful to those who have given so much that the school might be.

In 1918, the first class was taught in the home of a Mrs. Bearclough with just a few students. Two years later, Julia Look (Mrs. Harold Atwood), then a teenager, and Loeta Flint continued the parlor classroom in a house on Seventh Avenue, across from Twin Lakes Beach. The beach was the playground.

Miss Look had 18 children in grades 1 to 8, and Miss Flint taught six 9th and 10th graders.

Within a short time, the facility was outgrown and the school made another move somewhere in that immediate area.

The next home for the school was to 547 Rodriguez Street—a two-room school. But this, too, was eventually outgrown. This time the building was moved to the present site (Capitola Road extension). The building was sawed in half and a third room added between the



Thelma Blackburn's fifth and sixth graders are studying

represents a different Latin American country and is filled with the products in-

Mexican hats worn by Steve Casper, Beverly Brown and Stephanie Miller were also

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two. This three-room school house still stands. It is now used as the Adventist welfare building.

Norman Morris was the principal when it became apparent that the school would once again have to expand its facilities, and in 1960 the first classes were begun in the present plant. Today the enrollment totals 176 students in grades 1 to 10.

The school bears the name, Virgil Hauselt, in memory of one of its former students who was injured on a toboggan while on a snow trip with a group of Monterey Bay Academy stu-

border." Each car in the train dents and died as a result of that injury. Through substantial gifts from his parents, with aid from Central California Conference of Seventh-day Adventists, and by contributions from interested people, the school was financed.

The curriculum at VHM is determined by the conference of the church, which works closely with the state Department of Education.

In addition to meeting the state's curriculum requirements, the school also conducts reli-

gious classes and has a chapel service once a week.

Class work also is tied in with the Pathfinder program, similar to Boy or Girl Scouts, according to William Hoffman, school principal.

There are eight classrooms—a first grade, a second grade, combination third-fourth and fifth-sixth grades with departmentalization taking place in some of the subjects for 7th through 10th grades.

The staff is composed of nine full-time teachers. Hoffman teaches driver's education. In addition, Clarence Warwick, a part-time instructor, teaches wood shop and a general drafting course to the upper classes on a daily basis and to eighth graders, once a week.

Byrl Ford, the school secretary, also teaches girls' physical education and home economics for eighth grade girls.

Because music is an integral part of VHM, the school is proud of its four choirs directed by Iola Paxton, who also teaches individual piano lessons.

The choirs are from first and second, third through sixth, seventh and eighth and ninth and tenth grades. They make appearances in the four Adventist churches in the county and combine at the end of the year for a special program.

In the regular curriculum, courses are offered in science on an alternate basis with world history, new math, and most of the basic courses given in a public school with the exception of language.

The California State Achievement Tests are given at least once each year and Hoffman notes that the VHM students score "a bit above average."

Because Seventh-day Adventists observe the Sabbath (from sundown on Friday to sundown on Saturday) and because the church has special teachings in

one of the art projects.

center of the field, escorted by



Even the secretary, Byrl Ford, right, gets into costume to step back into history as the youngsters in Mrs. William Hoffman's first grade class at Virgil Hauselt Memorial Junior Academy study

early America. Connie Peck is at the "butter-churn." Decorations in the room include a spinning wheel, wood stove, a cabin in the woods and a number of antiques.

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regard to social activities, much—if not all—of the student's social life is centered around the school. Oftentimes the social events are family affairs as well.

To provide a place for these activities, the school needed a gymnasium-social hall. In 1964, Duffield Hall, a combination gym and auditorium with kitchen facilities, was built and named for Arthur Duffield who made much of it possible through land donations and gifts of money.

Each Monday night this building is used for physical recreation. On Saturday nights, films are shown (the school will sponsor a showing of "Sound of Music" in January), kids skate or a game night is planned. One of the social, recreational highlights of the year for 9th and 10th graders is a three-day snow trip to Yosemite.

A parent-teacher organization meets regularly. Like other such groups, this one is concerned with fund-raising events for the school, but Hoffman hopes eventually that parent classes may be a part of the club activities.

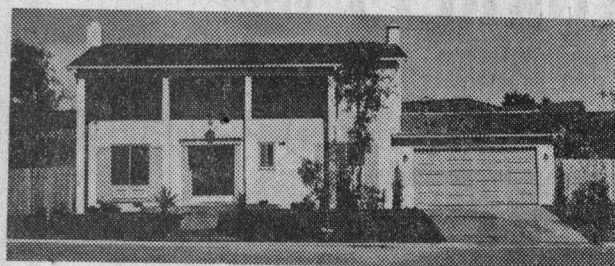
"No school has all it ever needs," Hoffman notes, "and we're no exception. We have particular needs for lab equipment and for more library books." (A book fair last night was sponsored for this purpose.)

Students come from throughout Santa Cruz County. The school has one bus which picks up youngsters in the eastern part of the county. James Harper, school maintenance man, drives the bus.

VHM, while primarily an Adventist school, does take non-Adventists and has 10 enrolled now. The school welcomes anyone "who desires a character-building education, who is willing to support school principles, and who will comply with school regulations."

Tuition meets about three-fourths of the expenses with the rest coming from subsidies from both the local parishes and the conference. Funds are provided through church and individual contributions to help those students who want to attend but have limited financial resources.

Hoffman says that it is the school's philosophy to teach the child to use both his hands and his head to prepare for practical living. He attributes the success of the school to small classes and teacher dedication.



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