



Farmington Observer

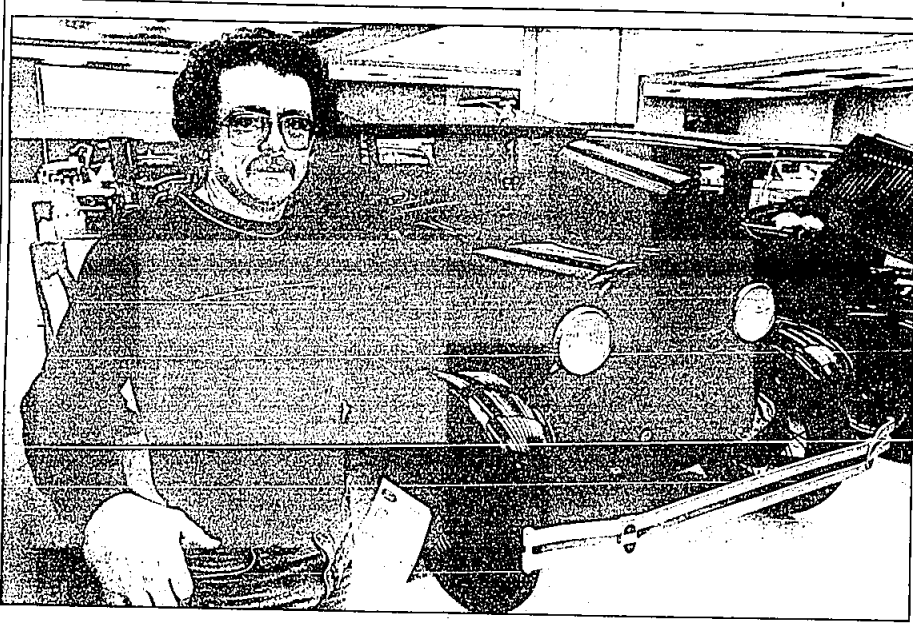
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Dodson's delights

Jerry Dodson of Farmington shows off his two vintage Fords, a 1925 Model A pickup truck and a 1932 two-door sedan, at the 32nd-annual Autorama last Friday at Cobo Hall in Detroit. Dod-

son's autos were two of more than 500 custom vehicles at the show. Story on 3A.

RANDY DORST/staff photographer

Hills seeks candidates for council

By Joanne Maliszewski
staff writer

Twice unsuccessful Farmington Hills City Council contender Terry Sever and Democratic activist Aldo Vagozzi have announced their intentions to seek appointment to council.

Both are bidding to fill the vacancy left when former Mayor Fred Hughes officially resigns in mid-January.

Last Tuesday Hughes announced his intention to resign from council to become an assistant vice president with the newly organized telephone company. Hughes did not specify when his resignation would be effective.

When his resignation becomes effective, council will be faced with appointing a replacement until the next general election in November. Council will discuss procedures they will follow in appointing someone to fill the vacancy at 7:30 p.m. tonight.

EVEN THOUGH Hughes was recently re-elected to serve a two-year term, the appointee may serve only until the election, said City Clerk Floyd Cairns.

"Whoever is appointed will have to run for election to stay on," he said.

Meanwhile, Sever, who fell 398 votes short of nabbing Hughes' fourth place finish in last November's council election, intends to submit his resume for the council's consideration.

"I was runner-up and I should get some consideration," Sever said. "Right now the resignation isn't formal. But when the council makes the announcement, I'll submit my resume."

"You know it makes a difference between when six people pick a council member and a couple thousand do."

Vagozzi, who also intends to submit his resume when Hughes resigns, said he hopes the council follows the same procedure used when Jan Dolan was first appointed to the council in 1975. At that time and again in 1976 when Bob Amori was appointed, council

members held a public meeting to interview the prospective appointees.

"It was such an open meeting I hope they follow it again," Vagozzi said.

Councilman Joe Alkateeb said Friday that the city charter "is very vague on what happens" when the council must appoint a new member. Alkateeb's choice is to pass a resolution detailing the rules of the game.

RESUMES THEN will be accepted from potential appointees based on those rules. For example, Alkateeb said that in past years council set a precedent of not considering a person who had lost in the preceding election.

But whatever set of procedures the council chooses to follow in filling Hughes' seat, most members mentioned resumes and applications when asked how they will go about the appointment.

Councilwoman Jodi Soronen said she assumes resumes will be accepted and candidates will be interviewed.

"However, it is helpful to have some knowledge of city government," she said, referring to anyone interested in sending their resume to the city clerk's office.

Mayor Charles Williams said there obviously are many ways to advertise the opening to the community even though "some council people have people in mind."

Although not specifically pointing to council members' feelings, Williams said he is aware of sentiments toward seeking Sever as an appointee because of his close vote total to Hughes. On the other hand, he said, some mention has been made about appointing former council members.

Whatever the outcome, Councilman Donn Wolf said he is hoping the council's final choice is made with a unanimous vote of the six council members. "I think it would be much better for the city and the person," Wolf said.

Wolf added that "there's something to say" when a candidate comes with a known strong support of the public.

Jewish leaders have mixed views on Jackson's Syrian initiative

By Joanne Maliszewski
staff writer

Jewish community leaders had mixed feelings about the Rev. Jesse Jackson's recent success in obtaining the release of a U.S. Navy officer held captive in Syria.

While lauding his success, their reactions to his political sympathies and involvement in the Middle East range from apathy to uneasiness.

"I haven't heard any community reaction to Jackson," said Alvin Kushner, executive director of the Jewish Community Council in Detroit.

"People might be personally upset with him. But not the Jewish community. It really isn't looked at as a Jewish issue."

Rabbi Sherwin Wine of Birmingham Temple in Farmington Hills says Jackson should be congratulated and "deserves enormous praise," both for his help in getting Navy Lt. Robert O. Goodman released last week and for encouraging negotiations between Israel, the Palestinian Liberation Organization (PLO) and other warring factions in the Middle East.

'He pulled a coup. Give it two weeks and we won't hear anymore about it. Nobody (in the Jewish community) sees him as a contender.'

— Alvin Kushner

"But I am not so sure he is the answer to the conflict," Wine said. "His encouragement of the PLO is questionable."

IF JACKSON can encourage the PLO to recognize Israel, that might be a start to successful negotiations and an end to the conflicts of the Middle East, Wine said. But if Jackson cannot do that, "he will be used by them (PLO) and used by them badly."

Although pointing out that Jackson, as a presidential candidate, has never spelled out his stand and explained his sympathies toward the PLO, the Jewish community is uneasy because of Jackson's past connections with the

PLO, said Ezekiel Leikin, executive vice president of the Zionist Organization of Detroit.

While Jackson identifies with Yasser Arafat's liberation movement, "we (Jewish community) feel they are terrorists," Leikin said.

Jackson has been encouraging discussion and negotiation between Israeli officials and the PLO. Israel and the PLO do not recognize each other, yet both lay claims to the land that one group calls Israel and the other Palestine.

But Jackson points out, by implication, Leikin said, that "Israel should not be favored" and the U.S. should be "more even-handed" toward the warring

factions in the Middle East.

THOSE IDEAS, of course, upset many members of the Jewish community, Leikin said.

And, while the Jewish community "applauds" Jackson's success in helping to obtain Goodman's release, "Mr. Jackson still has not proven his expertise in foreign affairs," he said.

Jackson's Middle East trip is "more political" for his role as a presidential candidate than it is an issue that should upset the Jewish community.

"He pulled a coup," Kushner said. "Reaction? Give it two weeks and we won't hear anymore about it. Nobody (in the Jewish community) sees him as a contender (for the presidency). You won't find an overwhelming vote for him from the Jewish community."

On the other hand, Rabbi Efray Spectre of the Congregation Adat Shalom in Farmington Hills preferred to offer no comment to Jackson's Middle East trip. Instead, Spectre said he would "let his (Jackson's) campaign go for a little longer and then I may have something to say."

District shift still in limbo

State officials still are uncertain whether a request to transfer Walled Lake school district property to Farmington Hills will appear on the board's agenda, one week before the state Board of Education's January meeting.

State Board Secretary Lad Dombrowski said last month the board has been waiting on additional information before considering the request.

But state board hearing officer Raymond Godmer said last week he did not know why the request was withdrawn from the November and December board agendas, or why it should not be considered by the board this month.

(The transfer request) was eligible, but they pulled it off the agenda, I think at the last meeting there was one board member absent, and that's why they

didn't consider it. They like to have all the members there," Godmer said.

THE TRANSFER is requested by residents of Section 6 of the city of Farmington Hills. Their petition for the transfer was denied by the Oakland Intermediate School Board in September 1982, but the residents appealed the decision to the state board.

After a hearing last March, Godmer recommended the state board concur with the intermediate board. However, after some discussion at the board's July 13 meeting, the board instead asked Godmer to prepare reasons supporting the transfer.

Dombrowski said the board's direc-

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C'ville seeks views on school chief

By Teri Banas
staff writer

The Clarenceville School District school board will hold six public forums Tuesday and Wednesday to allow residents to suggest what kind of school superintendent should be appointed to succeed retiring Supt. David McDowell.

McDowell retires in June after 18 years as superintendent.

The Clarenceville district includes the northeast section of Livonia, a southeast area of Farmington Hills and a northwest area of Redford Township. The Tuesday meetings will be:

- 1:30-2:30 p.m. — Boisfort Elementary Learning Center, 19515 Leathers.

- 7:30-9 — Room 107, Clarenceville Junior High, 20210 Middlebelt.

- The Wednesday meetings will be:

- 9:30-10:30 a.m. — Clarenceville Senior High School Learning Center, 20155 Middlebelt.

- 10:45-11:45 a.m. — Room 107,

Clarenceville Junior High. School office, 19814 Louise.

- 3:15-4:30 p.m. — Room 107, Clarenceville Junior High.

School officials have asked that those unable to attend any of the meetings write their comments about the desired "characteristics and competencies of a superintendent" and send them to either the district's consultant on the hiring, Carl Brautigam, Michigan Association of School Boards, 431 W. Kalamazoo, Lansing, 48933, or to Michael Manore, president of the Clarenceville School Board of Education, 20210 Middlebelt, Livonia, 48152. The deadline for written correspondence is March 2.

OPINIONS expressed at the public hearings will be considered by school trustees when they consider applicants for the superintendency, Brautigam said. So far, applications have not been accepted.

Brautigam, who was hired by the board to assist in the hiring process, will moderate the public hearings. Although the information received at the hearings ultimately will be directed to the board, trustees are not required to attend the hearings, said assistant school superintendent Edward Saliz.

"He (Brautigam) is going to take notes and tell them (the board) what he finds," Saliz said.

Other opinion-seeking hearings will be held with district administrators and other employee groups, Saliz added.

Brautigam, a part-time consultant with the Michigan Association of School Boards, predicts the district will receive 50-60 applicants.

NOTIFICATION of the approaching vacancy in the school chief's position will be sent soon to colleges and university placement offices across the state. In addition, Brautigam said formal applications should be arriving shortly af-

ter the district runs advertisements in two national education magazines on Jan. 12 and Jan. 20.

According to Saliz, candidates for the job must have at least an educational specialist degree. Beyond that, board members are expected to outline other requirements for the job.

The position's salary will "depend on the individual" selected, Saliz said, adding it likely will be in the area of \$50,000 a year.

When asked for his opinion of the type of replacement selected by the board, based on its current make-up, Saliz said, "I have a pretty good feel for the board. They seem to be satisfied with the direction that David McDowell has taken. I think the board would be happy with someone made from the same mold as McDowell, though a little younger with some new ideas and spirit."

Locally, there haven't been any formal signs of interest in the position, Saliz said.

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"TERRIFIC RESPONSE!"

M. Tuck was pleased with the results of the *Observer & Eccentric* **AUTOMATIC TRANSPORTATION** ad placed to sell her car. After placing an ad in another paper for over a month with no response, she called the *Observer & Eccentric* and "sold the car the first day."

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