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GIFTED update. Trustee Janice Rinkick has requested an update be given to the school board about prospective changes to Farmington's secondary gifted education program. Proposed administrative changes to the program were tabled several weeks ago, when trustees said it was the first they had heard of the major changes. "I can't give an accurate assessment of that at all," said superintendent Graham Lewis, who promised an update at the next school board meeting this Tuesday.

WITH school out and summer at hand, Farmington Hills police remind motorists to beware of youngsters riding bicycles in the street in subdivisions without sidewalks. Driving slowly through subs is important because children often ride between cars into the street and aren't seen until the last moment, police said.

Memory lane

- National Bank of Detroit announced a series of events to mark the opening of a new office on Farmington Road at Alta Loma in the downtown Farmington business district.
 - Steps recommended by the public safety department to correct problems being experienced in getting out onto Grand River from Mayfield were outlined to the city council.
 - Development continues in Thompson-Brown Co.'s planned 111-lot Woodbrook subdivision along 14 Mile in Farmington Township.
- Farmington Enterprise, June 18, 1984



DOUGLAS E. SUSALL/AT&T photographer

Final hurrah

Graduates from the Class of '89 were jubilant last week as they said goodbye to school and friends and passed through the door to adulthood. Farmington High grad Jacqueline Daly cheers on a fellow classmate Tuesday night during the school's 100th graduation ceremony. For more photos of the centennial celebration, turn to page 3A

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Co-signing draws more fire in Hills

By Joanne Mallazewski staff writer

Tempers are still steaming over Farmington Hills officials' co-signing of golf pro Al Marmion's \$250,000 bank loan to renovate the clubhouse and add a restaurant at the city-owned San Marino Golf Course.

"Why should the citizens of Farmington Hills assume the risk?" asked Forestbrook Drive resident Stella Menton. "As a taxpayer, I regret the city council signing a \$250,000 loan for Mr. Marmion."

Menton later asked the city council to reconsider the 20-year tri-party agreement between the city, San Marino golf pro Marmion and Farmington Hills-based Michigan National Bank.

City attorney Paul Bibeau said it's probably too late to rescind the agreement. The city could run the risk of legal damages because Marmion has continued the clubhouse expansion, based on the agreement.

Bibeau and councilman Paul Sowerby, however, are expected to review some of the provisions in the agreement. Sowerby, an attorney, maintains some provisions are unclear.

"I DON'T think there's any question, if there's doubt or confusion, maybe we ought to (review the agreement)," Bibeau said. Marmion is renovating the clubhouse and adding a 2,500-square-foot restaurant at the nine-hole golf course on Halsted, north of 11 Mile. Menton's comments put the agreement again under fire from council members Aldo Vagnozzi and Jean Fox, who opposed the agreement, and Sowerby, who unsuccessfully attempted to have the issue adjourned

'I don't think this is the kind of business the city should be in. We are not a bank. I would hope we're not put in this position again.'

— Jean Fox council member

in late May until his return from out-of-town.

"I was personally offended it wasn't adjourned," Sowerby said. "I'm livid about the whole thing."

SOME OF his colleagues felt the same way.

"I don't think this is the kind of business the city should be in. We are not a bank. I would hope we're not put in this position again," Fox said.

Those who opposed the agreement argued that it was given to the council at the 11th hour, providing little time to consider the issue. "We were told we had to approve it that night and I don't want to be put in that position again," Vagnozzi said.

THE AGREEMENT calls for the city to take over, or pay off, the balance of the \$250,000 loan from Michigan National if the golf pro dies, becomes disabled or in any way defaults.

But interpretations differ over whether the city must pay off the bank and Marmion if there is a default.

"Mr. Marmion has a right to be made whole," Sowerby said, referring to the agreement.

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After-hour school costs studied

By Casey Hans staff writer

A committee will study how the public uses Farmington school facilities, after it was estimated the district spends some \$80,000 each year for non-school groups to use its buildings.

"Everytime an outside group comes in, we are paying overtime one way or another," said school/community relations director Pamela O'Malley, who oversees adult and community education.

The money is spent on maintenance employees' overtime and building utilities for programs which occur after school and in the evenings.

'We have a demand for space. I can't get a gym to offer another community education class. There are just too many demands out there.'

— Pamela O'Malley community relations director

The group will study how best to address the community's needs so it will not cost the district an excessive amount of money. "We have a change in our community," O'Malley explained. "We have

a demand for space. I can't get a gym to offer another community education class. There are just too many demands out there."

REQUESTS FOR extracurricular activities are currently handled

through the district's maintenance department, which, many times, ends up supervising the use of buildings after hours.

"It's a lot of work. We've been coping with it," she added.

"It's a lot of wear and tear not only on our buildings, but our people."

The study will begin this fall, lasting through the 1989-90 school year. Community groups which commonly use the schools after hours, such as churches, civic groups and homeowner associations, will be given consideration during the study. It is

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Pamela O'Malley

Montecillo named to head C'ville

By Kevin Brown staff writer

Jerry Montecillo "just lights up when you mention kids," said Clarenceville Board of Education president Richard Wood.

This quality shown by the superintendent of the Taylor Public Schools, coupled with a demonstrated ability to handle adversity and a sense of humor, moved trustees to name Montecillo the new superintendent of the Clarenceville schools.

THE BOARD'S action Thursday began a superintendent search that ended in April. That search was sparked by Superintendent Michael Shbler's announcement that, after five years in that post, he would leave the district June 30 to become superintendent of

the Rockford Public Schools, near Grand Rapids.

Montecillo could not be reached for comment Friday on his selection. The board conducted half-hour interviews of three finalists Thursday before making its choice.

The trustees, along with teachers and parents attending the interview sessions, said all three finalists were strong candidates.

Finalist Norine Blake, assistant superintendent for the Avondale School District, won strong support from trustees Gary Gasser and Vernice Dunkle. "She's ready to be a superintendent, the people she works with say she's ready," said Dunkle.

STILL, BOTH trustees said they were torn between Montecillo and Blake.



Jerry Montecillo

As the other five trustees said they preferred Montecillo — Wood expressed some support for candidate Leonard Shaffley, superintendent of the Lakewick Community Schools — the board unanimously voted to offer a contract to Montecillo.

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Builder works to save trees

By Joanne Mallazewski staff writer

Farmington Hills developer Norb Boes believes in saving trees. The massive blue spruce evergreens that will herald the entrance to the new Farmington Hills Country Club Corporate Park are no accident.

"There were a lot of fine trees on the property. We wanted to save the trees," said Boes of N. Allen Associates Inc., developers and general contractors.

"Too beautiful to be lost, Boes decided the blue spruces in the 14-acre site in the new corporate park on the southeast corner of Haggerty and 13 Mile, would be saved and moved.

owner of Evergreen Landscaping, Union Lake, to move the spruces as well as 22 other trees that would have otherwise been in the way of the planned Discovery Center, a high-tech office center by N. Allen Associates. Bloomfield Hills-based Rojajan Companies is working in conjunction with N. Allen on the new project.

"We started with watering the spruces where they were in the winter," Bordinat said. "We then pruned the ball (root area) for the spring move. Only the roots on the ball were moved."

IT TOOK about four days to dig up the trees by hand and prepare them for the move, with the help of

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SUBURBAN LIFE'S MONTHLY ALBUM

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