

Eagle Elementary principal flies north to new post

By TIM SMITH
STAFF WRITER

Veteran Eagle Elementary School Principal Susan Johnson wasn't looking for a job, when the telephone rang late this summer at her summer cottage in Central Lake, Mich.

But a new job came to her when Mark Eckhardt, superintendent of the Charlevoix-Emmet Intermediate School District came calling for Johnson's administrative services.

Next came the most difficult career choice Johnson ever had to make. She could either stay at Eagle or fly north to a new life.

"I really thought I'd be at Eagle until the end of my career," said Johnson, packing for the move to Central Lake early last week. "I love it here. It's a great place."

Eckhardt, a friend of Sue and

William Johnson, was persuasive. He detailed an evolving job, which would entail working with 40 schools in 11 districts.

"For every reason I thought I shouldn't go, he had a counter reason for why I should go," she explained.

Finally, Johnson decided the offer was too good to pass up. She accepted the newly formed position, where she will collaborate with principals and teachers "to make good things happen for kids."

Johnson, Eagle principal since December 1989 and an educator for more than 28 years, is scheduled to begin the new job Monday.

"I'm excited about it," Johnson continued. "But it's a yo-yo of emotion. That school (Eagle) is so good."

Meanwhile, Farmington

'This decision is not made lightly because I will be leaving Eagle at a time when it is the most vibrant... Eagle's strength is the very reason why I now have the courage to continue to grow.'

Susan Johnson
—Former Eagle principal

administrators are searching for Johnson's permanent successor. Filling in on an interim basis until then is former Gill Elementary School Principal Mike Duff, who was talked out of retirement to help out at Eagle. Duff emphasized that he is not interested in the permanent job.

"I'm pinch hitting right now for a few more weeks, until they find someone," Duff said. "It keeps me active with the kids and people."

After Johnson reached her decision, she penned separate heartfelt letters to the staff and parents who comprise the "Eagle Family."

In both letters, she wrote that "This decision is not made lightly because I will be leaving Eagle at a time when it is the most vibrant... Eagle's strength is the very reason why I now have the courage to continue to grow."

To staff members, Johnson noted that "From a personal and

professional point-of-view, it is important to me that you carry on with the positive momentum — that the new person filling this position will feel the pulse and the love — and will become a valued member of this staff. I thank you for your loyalty and friendship and for all that we have accomplished. I have never felt that there wasn't anything that we couldn't handle as a staff. I have no doubt that we will rise to the occasion and handle this as well."



Going north: Susan Johnson, former Eagle Elementary principal, took a new position at the Charlevoix-Emmet Intermediate School District.

love that it is time for me to move on. It is important that you know that this is not a position that I sought. It is not something I do lightly or without agonizing thought... I will have the opportunity to continue my calling with kids' only now on a different although larger scale."

And to the parents: "It is no easy task to tell a community of parents, students and staff that I

CHAMBER NOTES

The following are events and activities provided by the Farmington-Farmington Hills Chamber of Commerce. Some events are open to the public, others are open to members. For more information, call the chamber, 248-474-3440.

Candidate night

The public is invited to attend the Farmington-Farmington Hills Chamber of Commerce-sponsored Meet the Candidates Night 5-7

ST. AGATHA
25th Anniversary Celebrating Events at St. Agatha Parish
Saturday, Oct. 10th
Sunday, Oct. 11th

1 pm in church: Closing Liturgy
3 pm Western Golf & Country Club
6:30 pm Reception at the Club

Call 313-531-0371 for both events
Reservations required for 1 ticket for each day
Get your FREE Football Game Ticket at 1 pm

p.m. Thursday, Oct. 8 at the On the Tee restaurant at Sun Marine Golf Course, 2634 Haledale Road.

The event is \$25 per person, which includes hors d'oeuvres. A cash bar will be available.

Guests will meet invited guests, Sen. Bill Bullard, state Rep. Andrew Raczkowski, Oakland County Commissioner David Moffitt, U.S. Rep. Joe Knollenberg and candidate for the Oakland County Commission Terry Sever, a Farmington Hills City Council member.

These candidates were endorsed by the chamber's Governmental Affairs Committee and then invited

to the event.

Morning connection

Chamber members are invited to attend the October Chamber Morning Connection 8-9 a.m. Thursday, Oct. 1, at the Providence Medical Center-Farmington Hills, 30055 Northwestern Highway at Inkster.

There is no charge for the breakfast and networking opportunity for chamber members. Admission for non-members is \$5.

Give-aways, tours and free blood pressure and cholesterol checks will be available for all guests.

NOTICE
LAST DAY TO REGISTER
MONDAY, OCTOBER 5, 1998
FOR
GENERAL ELECTION
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 1998

TO THE QUALIFIED ELECTORS:
CITY OF FARMINGTON HILLS
COUNTY OF OAKLAND, STATE OF MICHIGAN
PRECINCTS 1-27
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT I WILL BE AT MY OFFICE
31525 ELEVEN MILE ROAD, FARMINGTON HILLS, MICHIGAN
MONDAY, OCTOBER 5, 1998 - LAST DAY
8:30 a.m. until 4:30 p.m.

For the purpose of RECEIVING APPLICATIONS FOR REGISTRATION of the qualified electors in said city, BY LAW, Electors who wish to vote in the General Election must be registered to vote no later than Monday, October 5, 1998. To register, visit any Secretary of State branch office, the county clerk's office or local clerk's office, or register by mail by calling the city re-register.

KATHRYN A. DORNAN
City Clerk

Published: September 24 and 27, 1998

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...celebrate the change of seasons...
...celebrate the change of seasons...

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The Farmington Observer

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SPOTLIGHT ON

Orthodontics
by Josephine Finazzo, D.M.D.

TOO MUCH LIP

For the most part, children who lick or pull their lips experience few, if any, dental effects. Their chapped lips can easily be remedied with an application of lip moisturizer. Those who suck or bite their lips, however, may make their existing malocclusions (bad bites) worse if the habit is undertaken with sufficient intensity, frequency and duration. Typically, children with lip habits insert their lower lips under and behind their upper incisors. This exerts pressure on the upper and lower front teeth that results in malocclusion. This type of malocclusion features upper front teeth that protrude noticeably in front of the lower ones. Once the habit is broken,

treatment with braces can remedy the malocclusion.

One of the questions a patient will ask is: How long does treatment usually last? Every case is unique, so answers are hard and fast. Some conditions can be corrected easily. Others, such as cases in which teeth need to be pulled and gaps closed, can take slightly longer. A good rule of thumb for most cases is 18 to 24 months. For further information or to schedule a free initial appointment, call THE ORTHODONTIC GROUP, 19223 Merriman (442-8888). We offer a computer imaging system that helps patients visualize what the end result of orthodontic treatment may look like.

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