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# Statistics pondered by school district

(Continued from page 1A)  
master plan approval and Detroit bus- ing also play an important part in increasing enrollments and drawing new residents to the Farmington area.  
"There are several methods of forecasting enrollments, but none of them are really accurate to the degree of predicting true enrollment figures," Robinson says.  
"Each community has its own characteristics and shows wide variance when compared to one another," he continues.  
To cope with the downward cycle in enrollments and the present slump in residential and industrial growth, Robinson recommended that the district maintain those school facilities which aren't needed and have an extended life expectancy.  
"THE DISTRICT should maintain those buildings that aren't operating profitably and only the school's business manager can tell you which ones aren't," Robinson explains.  
"Then the district should build additional schools where required to meet potential growth. If the district feels some schools won't be needed any longer, then they should sell them at the best possible price," Robinson recommended.  
By doing this, the district will be better equipped to handle the rebound in enrollment because of births and area growth in the future.  
"What the district has to do is decide where it will need new schools and how many," he continues. "There are several areas of the district where growth definitely will occur by 1980."  
He also says that the district should prepare plans for a generation of new enroll-

ments that will begin in three or four years.  
To meet future growth, the district should prepare a report defining the best use of school property for projected school sites.  
Robinson says this report should include an economic feasibility report for best land use by the user and seller.  
Robinson says revealing information concerning potential school sites is confidential because of the real estate factors involved with inflated prices of land.  
There are four district members, two from Farmington and two from Farmington Hills, the supplying communities.  
The positions of president and vice president rotate between residents of the two communities.  
In 1975 the two libraries had a circulation increase of 8,000 and there is a projected increase of 8,000 again this year.  
This means the libraries will be circulating 400,000 items in 1976.  
The use of meeting rooms also has increased and it is estimated that more than 400 group meetings will be held at the two branches this year.  
Programs and attendance also are on the rise. Projection indicates the library will provide more than 800 programs for 19,000 participants.

## Library board elects president

Mrs. Donald (Sally) Gaines, 26185 116-Valley Drive, Farmington Hills, was elected president of the Farmington Community Library board last week.  
Mrs. Gaines, a 40-year-old member for 24 years, says she is looking forward to her year as president.  
"I think it will be an interesting year. With the construction phase just completed and a dramatic upswing in circulation, this may become a 'filling down' period for the libraries," she says.  
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YEAR	TOTAL	CHANGE #	CHANGE %
1975	600*	- 24	- 4.00
1974	624	+ 26	+ 4.16
1973	598	- 33	- 5.51
1972	631	-140	-22.18
1971	771	- 24	- 3.11
1970	795	+248	+31.19
1969	547	+ 41	+ 7.49
1968	506	-198	-39.13
1967	704	- 11	- 1.56
1966	715	+103	+14.40
1965	597		

Comparison of the birth rate in the Farmington community shows the number of births per year has been fluctuating since at least 1965. The 1975 total of 600 births was estimated and reflects a four per cent drop over year ago levels. The change in number column shows the increase or decrease in births from one year to the next. The percentage change column reflects the overall change in births per year.

## Hors d'oeuvres expertise shared

Nell Benedict's special slant to hors d'oeuvres preparation is to teach the hostess to plan ahead and thus be free to mingle with her party guests. Ms. Benedict will explain how this is done at a Farmington Community Center demonstration on Friday, April 30, "Hors d'Oeuvres Around the World."  
There will be tasty tidbits of international favorites to sample during the program which begins at 9:30 a.m.  
Ms. Benedict has been affiliated with the Garden Bleu in London, France's Chef Professor Lecourt and other such devotees of haute cuisine.



NELL BENEDICT

## Getting back in grind is tough

By JIM LEWIS  
Just because you are over 50 does not mean you are finished learning, or through going to school.  
I have been asked, "How does it feel to go back to school after 36 years?" and "Why would anybody want to do this?" Well, Why not?  
School is not only for the young generation. Learning is for all of us, all day long. You must learn until the day you die.  
Last September I decided to take a course in English at St. Joseph College because I am trying to improve my speaking and writing. I've seen a counselor and he helped me to make up my mind I was scared to death.  
What would the young kids think of this grandmother of seven, and how would I compete with 18-year-olds fresh from high school, still with the knowledge of grammar in their minds, knowing verbs, adverbs and pronouns, things I never heard of before.  
IT'S TRUE, you don't go around worrying about it if you are using a sample or

## Sittnick chosen for youth band

Pete Sittnick, a Farmington High School saxophonist, has been selected to play with the Michigan Youth Honors Band.  
He was chosen from more than 3,000 student musicians from all over the state who competed in the State Solo and Ensemble Music Festival.  
To be eligible for the honors band, students must receive a 1 rating in state solo and ensemble competition and have shown expertise by their scores.  
Members of the honors band will participate in a May 22 concert at Central Michigan University.  
Sittnick is a Farmington senior and plays tenor saxophone.

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