

Board, residents debate program

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real backing," he added, explaining that the district employs seven psychologists or about one for every 2,000 students.

Although the senior highs will be encouraged to identify gifted students, Lewis expects the program to feed into the high schools. "The senior highs provide avenues for the intellectually gifted to express themselves," he said.

Responding to a question from Farmington Hills resident Judith Feiler, Lewis explained that those students in this year's academically able program who fail to qualify for the gifted program will be accommodated by the individual building staffs.

"The school has to continue to upgrade its progress to accommodate these kids," he said. "The only difference would be that he wouldn't be assigned to the program coordinator of the project."

Farmington Education Association (FEA) Executive Director Rick Ringstrom and President Ken Barry criticized the program's evolution and "rigid" guidelines.

"People who have piloted these programs have not really been included in formulating this program," Barry told the board, recommending that a committee with staff and experienced personnel be appointed to consider the matter.

An extensive study of the program would have delayed implementation, Supt. Lewis Schulman explained, adding that the program is a framework within which the staff can express their talents.

"It cannot be all things to all people, but it does say the unusual child should have some specific attention," Schulman responded. "It doesn't mean the others are neglected."

"We intend to embrace it. If it doesn't work, we will get off it," he

added. School board candidates Richard Wallace and Peter Sanders also expressed concern about adopting the program.

"I have been very much in favor of an academically able program, however, I have the feeling there is more than total agreement by the staff and those on the firing lines," Wallace told the board.

"What would be lost by holding this in pilot stage?" he asked. Sanders claimed the evaluations did

not warrant further funding of the program.

"You cannot evaluate a program if you do not question whether it's goals were accomplished," he said. "You are talking about spending in excess of \$300 per student for the entire district. Funding for textbooks and in-service training might accomplish some of the same goals of the program," Sanders added. He said most of the functions of the pilot programs should be incorporated in every classroom.

Board members who favor the program cited offering the program to the entire district, the relatively low cost of implementation, and the district's need for a program of this type.

"That we are saying is let's get back to the idea of the gifted," President Anne Struble said. "This is intended to allow the staff to build without state funding. It's our attempt to produce a program that is sensible without causing unusual burdens and anxieties."

Everts say goodbye to Farmington

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wedding pictures in Detroit. His introduction to cameras came earlier in 1929. He was a metallurgical photographer.

"We took picture of metals under a microscope. We had a glass plate back then that could magnify it to 400 times. The pictures were used to identify the constituency of steel and to tell if it was heat treated," he recalled.

He relied on his job as a designer for UniRoyal to supply his regular paycheck. That came after a stint with a rubber manufacturer which ended when he was laid off.

While he was unemployed, he lived with his family in Fenton, where his two younger sisters attended school.

THROUGH ONE OF HIS sisters he met Fran. They were married in 1940 and have two daughters, Yolande and Charlene.

Eventually, Fran took up photography after watching her husband running out on assignments, leaving her at home.

Photography has enabled them to meet many of the residents in town and to serve the community.

"You can help people. If you're taking pictures of children at school, and you don't have one special child to photograph, you can ask the teacher which one needs some extra attention," Fran said.

"Later they'll come up to her in the grocery store or on the street," Ralph added. "Years later, they'll come up. One of them had her child with her."

Ralph retired from UniRoyal about 10 years ago, and from the family business last year. Now Fran carries on the Everts's service.

They've given their time to the community in other ways. Ralph is a member of the board of directors of the Farmington Chamber of Commerce. After seven and one half years on the board, he is leaving it in June.

He was a member of the Elks, Kiwanis, Rotary and the Springland Restrictions Committee, their subdivision's first development group. Last year, Farmington Hills police recognized his contribution to the department through his photographic skills.

FRAN WAS a member of the Farmington Players and is active in the Sopranoists, a group that invites owners of small businesses to join.

Now, the Everts can devote their time to visiting their six grandchildren, fishing, cross country skiing and skating. In Farmington, residents will gather for the city's annual events with the realization that a part of the festivities forever have changed.

OU to open animal lab

Oakland University is establishing a clinical research laboratory on campus with equipment transferred from the Frank E. Fitzsimmons Experimental Surgery complex in Pontiac's Clinton Valley Center.

Establishment of the laboratory and creation of a temporary site for it were approved June 2 by the Oakland University Board of Trustees.

The laboratory is used for animal experimentation. It will be housed in a renovated campus farm building on Lonedale Road.

The board also approved a fundraising program for a new, permanent building to house the laboratory and possibly an auditorium and administrative offices on the southwest corner of campus.

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