

# State board of education beckons Jo Saltzman

Beginning the middle of this month, the Republican Party will be demanding a list of time from Florence (Jo) Saltzman.

"I went down to the basement and rummaged through some old boxes and found my 1974 October schedule. Morning, noon and night," said Mrs. Saltzman, whom the GOP nominated Saturday to run for the State Board of Education.

Mrs. Saltzman, Franklin Village resident and former president of the Birmingham Board of Education, is making her second run on the state ticket.

"Those posts go with the top of the tick et. Last election was a Waterloo year," said Mrs. Saltzman, who with running mate James O'Dell of Livonia was defeated in 1974 by about a quarter-million votes.

**THIS YEAR**, after a lot of hesitation, she decided to run again. Her fellow candidate will be Clarence Dukes, president of the Ann Arbor Board of Education. With Michigan's Gerald R. Ford heading the ticket, Michigan Republicans are more confident about November than they were in '74.

Norman O. Stockmeier Sr., current member of the state board and "Uncle Norm" to Republicans in Westland and the metropolitan area, nominated Mrs. Saltzman at the convention. Stockmeier said the job requires "time, integrity and credibility," and praised Mrs. Saltzman as "a team player."

She and Dukes were nominated without opposition.

"ART WAS MY campaign manager," she said, referring to her husband, who is chairman of the 19th Congressional District GOP organization.

We made an effort to reach a lot of statewide groups that weren't politically



FLORENCE (JO) SALTZMAN

based—the library association, university professors, the AALW (American Association of University Women). A map on our board of education contacted all the school boards in the state.

"I attended a lot of regional meetings of administrators and got the endorsement of the school administrators," she said, adding that she also had support from the Republican Education Caucus and from some regional groups in the Michigan Education Association.

"I got very stimulated by a campaign and every meeting people I was dazed by the numbers of strangers who took me into their homes during the campaign."

"Art had been Michigan director of the Economic Opportunity Program, and he had generated good will there."

**AS THE GOP** state convention drew on in the Grand Rapids Civic Center auditorium, Mrs. Saltzman chatted merrily about her impressions of the state board of education seat and the campaign it would take to win it.

"People don't know the powers and dates of the state board of education which, according to the constitution, are 'leadership and general supervision' of K-12 education and general planning and coordinating for higher education, with advice to the legislature on funding," she said.

"I found a lot of interest in the newspapers outside," said Mrs. Saltzman, who herself was a reporter and copy editor for a weekly and daily papers in Syracuse, N.Y.

A farmer from the Mackinac area was in favor of returning to the 19th century McGuffey Readers until Mrs. Saltzman fired back an obscure quotation from McGuffey which the farmer didn't recognize. She chuckled. "A lot of people take positions without knowing about them."

**WHAT DIFFERENCE** is there between Republicans and Democrats running for the State Board of Education?

"Gee, that's a hard one. My impression is that once you're on the board, a lot of partisan issues disappear."

Both Democratic candidates last time were knowledgeable about the field of education. Barbara Roberts, who had in MEA affiliation, did raise a lot of concern about the danger of a strong special interest on the board, even though she herself might be a person of integrity.

"As a Republican, I would tend to be more fiscally responsible. I have a strong commitment to local control. And I think it is important for the legislature to mandate programs with no intention of funding them."

MRS. SALTZMAN has mixed feelings about whether state board members should be elected or appointed and on whether it should be through a partisan or non-partisan process.

"The League of Women Voters felt the current system (partisan elections) was the least effective at representing citizens but they couldn't come to a consensus about what was better."

In the nominating and electing process the people can have great input. But they don't exercise it."

The non-partisan idea has appeal, but she notes that political parties play an important role. "The parties can do the kind of screening of candidates that the voters can't do."



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## Deaf get aid at MC

Two federal grants totaling \$112,571 will help Madonna College expand its services for deaf and hearing-impaired students this fall.

According to Sister Mary Danatha, president of Madonna College, the funded programs will provide post-secondary educational opportunities to the younger deaf college student and offer self-improvement and recreational opportunities to deaf senior citizens.

One of the grants comes from the Fund for the Improvement of Postsecondary Education, administered by the federal Department of Health, Education, and Welfare (HEW). The \$65,742 grant in the first year of a three-year project enables the college to recruit 50 deaf and hearing-impaired students and assimilate them into regular college programs. The college will provide interpreters and note-takers for the courses.

A \$46,829 grant from the HEW Title I Community Service and Continuing Education Program will be used to provide free courses for 100 senior citizens.

The courses, which began Sept. 13, will run for 18 weeks and will be offered in three locations—Madonna College, St. John Deaf Center in Warren, and Detroit Hearing and Speech Center. Other courses will be offered beginning Jan. 10 and April 4.

This "Back to School Program for the Deaf Elderly," which is being offered through the cooperation of the Madonna program in Interpreter-Communication and the department of gerontology, requires that each participant take a course in leadership skills. Also available to students 55 years of age and older will be courses in nutrition for senior citizens, legal aid, fixed income living, and creative writing.

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### Karate scheduled for fall classes

The ancient art of Korean Karate will be taught in classes offered by the Southfield Parks and Recreation Department beginning Oct. 2.

Saturdays from 1:30 to 3 p.m. will be meeting days for the club. The Karate Club permits interested people to join at the beginning of any month. Instruction ranges from beginner through black belt.

The fee is \$15 per month for teens and adults. Persons who sign up will be permitted to train at Kim's Karate Club for extra workouts. You may sign up before the first session.

Instructor for the classes is Earl Smolich, a second degree black belt holder who is affiliated with the American Moo Duck Gwonn Association. Emphasis is on peace of mind and body through physical strength and discipline. For further information call parks and recreation at 354-1802.

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