Farmington Observer

District ponders fate of school properties

ings.

Although the Task Force on Surplus Facilities was approved, trustees questioned the selection of task force members. Trustees Mervyn Ross raised the question of possible conflict of interest in appointing real estate dealers to the task force.

Ross was the sole dissenting vote in implementing the task force.

School Business Manager William Prisk will chair the committee, consisting of Mrs. Dorothy Hileman.

22980 Manning, a representative of Farmington Realty Co.; James Stevens, 35884 Camden CL. a representative of Real Estate One; and Harry Stultz, a licensed architect and manager of buildings and grounds for Farmington Public Schools. Prisk said he selected the task foremethers on the criteria of acquaintence and their expertise in looking at property.

property.
"Does the appointment of realty company representatives hold any potential conflict of interest?" asked Ross.

SUPT. LEWIS SCHULMAN said the ask force would not have the final de-ision on school closings and would

certainly draw on the expertise of others in the community. Therefore a conflict doesn't exist, he said.

"We want professionals, and it's almost imperative we go to people like these on this list, "said Trustee Helen Prutow.

Trustee Michael Shpiece questioned future funding of the task force, and was assured by Prisk that the force would come back to the board for approval of any money necessary for appraisals.

praisals.
"Is the disposition of these proper-ties educationally best for the school district or financially beneficial for the community?" asked Ross.

force would only look into one area of information. commercial value, and all recommendations would have to be weighed with other considerations. Both Eagle and Fairivew elementary schools, previously discussed for the commentary schools, previously discussed for the task of the task of the commentary schools. The district has 123 69 acres of undeveloped propert for possible sale consideration. While the district will retain some of its undeveloped property, it wants to sell other parts to raise money to repair existing buildings.

ty, it wants to sell other parts to raise money to repair existing buildings, said Prisk.

"There are 20 acres in section one, in northern Farmington Hills, that I would like to dispose of at a fair price to the district," he said.

Originally Warner Junior High was scheduled to be built on the 20-acre parcel, but because of unlevel ground, the site proved useless to the district, he explained.

Administrators will consider selling 13.69 acres in the eastern section of the district also.

the district also.
"Most of that section is built up.
They're pressured for land in that
area. With declining enrollments, it is
surplus land for us." Prisk said.
Prisk believes the school district
will retain vacant lands in the westem sections of the district.

appointment of the Task Force

cant lands.

The Task Force on Declining Enrollment recommended the closing of Eagle or Fairview elementary school in view of the district's declining enrollment.

rollment.

Eagle, on Fourteen Mile in Farmington Hills, is near commercially zoned property in West Bloomfield.

Fairview is in Olde Franklin Towne subdivision, west of Middle Belt and north of Northwestern Highway.

The school board will consider the findings of the property task force when they decide which school will be closed in 1978.

Community mourns

Attorney Terry Brennan dies

Farmington Hills and West Bloomfield Township paid their last respects to attorney Joseph Terrence (Terry) Brenan Thursday morning at Juneral services at St. Coleman's Catholic Church. 3250 Middle Belt.

Brenana. 50. was attorney for Farmington Hills since 1938. He helped to pilot the township Intrough the proceed the township is nice 1958. He helped to pilot the township is since 1958. Brenana served the township is at the attorney for its planning commission and the parks commission.

Brenana died Monday morning his park attorney for its planning commission and the parks commission.

Brenana died Monday morning His ment and Brenana died Monday morning His will of 25 years, Patricia, was at his bedside when he died.

Since 1958. He was the senior partner in the firm of Brenana and Bibeau.

HIS PARTNER Paul Bibeau poid

Bibeau. HIS PARTNER Paul Bibeau poid tribute to Brennan's 'basic honesty, and integrity.'
"Throughout the years, that has been his great forte.' Bibeau said. "He was continually making efforts to make the area a better place to work. He helped the city through the trying times we had during the formation of the charter and in the electical process in seeing Farmington Hills into cityhood." Brennan was considered expert in zoning and municipal law. Farmington Hills City Manager George Majoros praised Brennan's proficiency in cases concerning zoning.

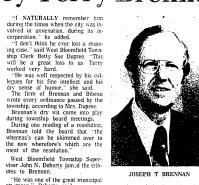
ing.

"He was an excellent legal technician and really a friend to most of the people he dealt with." Majoros said.

iu. "We're going to miss him very "We're going to miss him very much. I feel a deep personal loss. I regarded him as a personal friend and advisor and not just solely as an attorney." he said.

Farmington Hills City Clerk Floyd Cairns echeed Majoros' sentiment.
"Terry was a good zoning attorney. He was a good all-around municipal

attorney. He had a good feeling for that." Cairns said.



JOSEPH T BRENNAN

a graduate of the University of De-troit Law School. His undergraduate years were spent at the University of

HE WAS a member of the Oakland County Bar Association, the National Institute of Nunciforal Law Offiers, the Michigan Association of Municipal Law Municipal League and the American Arbitration Association. He served on the board of directors for the Metropolitan National Bank of Farmington and the First State Bank of Charlevits. An avid boater, Brennan was on the board of directors for the Detroit Boating Club and was a member of the Description of the Charlevits. An avid boater, Brennan was on the board of directors for the Detroit Boating Club and was a member of the Description of the Club. In addition to his wingle Brennan is a processing the Charlevits of the Charl HE WAS a member of the Oakland

BRENNAN'S body was donated to

Dramatizing the grouchy antics of Mr. G. first-grader Neal Blatt enjoys hamming it up at Fairview Elementary. (Staff photos by Har-ry Mauthe)

Grouchy Mr. G

sparks learning

Cops split on death penalty as crime fighters' weapon

"He was one of the great municipal atterneys." Doherty said.

Brennan was admitted to the Michigan Bar Association in 1955. He was

Although Michigan State Police re-cently voted to support capital punish-ment. Farmington and Farmington Hills policemen are split on the death

Hills policemen are split on the death penalty.

"I'd have to weigh it very carefully before I made that decision." said Farmington Pt.I Peta Amato, who believes a referendum on capital punisheves a referendum on capital punishers and the penalty of the penalty

He acknowledged that his answer might not satisfy fellow officers. Like Public Safety Director Dan Byrnes. Amato believes swift and sure sentencing would deter crime and improve police morale. "A police officer makes an arrest, goes brough the courts, and sees a good conviction go down the tubes into a productionery sentence. How allowed the production of the wall?" Byrnes admitted he has reconsidered his opposition to the death penalty.

aity.

"FOR YEARS I was opposed to captal punishment because I had always
believed that it's the final determination of the state o

Club Circuit Community Calendar Editorials

emphasizing that courts neglect the practical aspects of law enforcement.

"We can't build a case against white collar crime with." wiretapping, as an example, and the vast majority of criminals are repeat offerenders who have no respect for our criminal justice system." he said.

When cases drag on winnesses believes with the said of the said with the said of the

LT. JOHN POLDER of the Farm-ngton Hills police is absolutely in

ington Hills police is absolutely in favor of capital punishment and be-lieves it's an important deterrent to

crime.

"There should be a maximum on violent crime, not a minimum." he said. "A judge should have to ride six months behind the wheel of a police car to get a good look at what police

How do you get today's televisionoriented children interested in learnsing about letters and reading by
missing the today's fire withing by
making the today fire withing by
making the today fire withing the
read coloral and fun following the
successful Sessme Street formula.
That's what the Alpha series does,
according to Nancy Simanek, first
grade teacher at Fairview Elementary School and a Farmington teacher
for 11 years.
"I'm grouchy, my gooey gum is getting stuck all over the place," sings
Mr. Go nthe record player. While the
children dance and sing along with
Mr. Go nthe record series, they learn
what sounds he makes and his functivation of the series of the single series
"The letter people are practically
"The letter people are practically
read to the children," says Ms. Simanek, "Children seem to respond farbetter to this program than to any
other type."
"Alpha One: Breaking the Code" introduces the letters of the niphabet aspersonalities with a special and unforgetfable characteristic from which
they get their sound.
Mr. M has a nunching mouth, Mr.
N has a noisy nose, and Mr. F has
funny feet. The letter people put these
sounds together to make words.

FAIRVIEW IS is in the fifth year of
the Albaba organs.

FAIRVIEW IS is in the fifth year of the Alpha program. "It's a strong phonics program that incorporates many facets of language arts." Ms. Simanek said.
"The idea is to hinge something together. We have umsual rules in the English language, and these are helpful hints for children in remembering."

Miss E. for example, is the strongest letter in the alphabet and exercise is her thing. Miss E agrees to be at

the end of the word so the sister at the beginning, such as Miss Aor Miss O, can say her name.

The vowels are all ladies. When the program first came out, women's liberation groups took offerse at some of the nasty habits of Misses A. E. I. O and U.

"They're a lot nicer now, but Miss O is still obstinate." Ms. Simanek said.

O is still obstante." Ms. Simanes said. Iogic of the letter people seems to impress the children who are fascinated with their special characteristics. Jason Escoher § aforme characteristics, Jason Escoher § aforme characteristics, and the special characteristics, and the special characteristics, and the special characteristics and problem immediately responding with a long "assess" when he was asked what sound Mr. S made Some educators aren't as enthusias.

sponding with a long "ssssss" when he was asked what sound Mr. S made. Some educators aren't as enthusiastic about the program as Ms. Simanek, but she believes it's a great program for the primary grades.

"It lends itself well to acting out and dramatizing, and every first grade teacher has to be a ham." she can be a land. Simanek was the alpha program. Ms. Simanek west the Alpha program. Ms. Simanek west the Alpha program. Ms. Simanek west the Alpha program of the propose of the color of the teacher and sometimes go out in the hall in groups of three or four to read by themselves. She avoids reading groups for two reasons. "Children always know if they're in lower group on matter what name you give it. and reading individually cach child has his own success rate-if he is behind everyone else, he doesn't know the sworks for thost Children he enter first grade with already established reading prollency;

Crime expert offers death penalty options

Darkinat County productor intro-pose Small believes the best deter-rents to crime are effective and to the police of a control of the control "Too-thirds of the criminal justice system has no effect on crime—it's a result of individual people and social conditions they live under. I don't want people to think that sentencing today is hunky-dory, but I don't want them to overreact either," he said.

Smith opposes capital punishment for ethical reasons and because he doesn't believe the death penalty functions as a deterrent in most capital offenses.

"Most killings involve family members and usually they occur with little forethought. The state shouldn't have a right to take a life. There are just too many errors in our system."

Smith, who is chief of field services in Oakland County, believes courts and prison systems need reform, but he hopes the public takes a long look at the alternatives.

"THERE AREN'T simple answers complex problems. We've been too lenient in the past few years, but I think the pendulum is swinging a little

"Maybe we'll come out with a happy medium." he said, but he isn't optimistic about the prospection.

"The outery is taking the discretion." The outery is taking the discretion. The outery is taking the discretion. The outery is taking the discretion of the property of the outer is taking the discretion. The outer is taking the discretion of the property of the outer o

Both face the same type of maximum sentence.

"We've given discretion to the judges because he looks at the offense and the offender."

Most people aren't aware of the kind of presentencing investigation conducted by the probation department, Smith said. After conviction, a probation officer prepares a detailed study of the person convicted of the of-

inside "WANTED:

Someone who cares . . ." SOMEONE WIND CAPES...
It's easy to find that special person
you're looking for -through the
pages of The Observer & Eccentric
classified section. Your neighbor.
Mrs. Lehew knows: she ran this ad
and received 17 calls in one day.
She had no touble finding a keeper for her pet.

WANTED: Someone who cares about cats, to board one for 12 weeks. She is 3 years oil, in excellent health, apayed and declawed. Serupulouly clean mixtly a house cat. A good companion, but not a playmatic. Comes equipped with ample food. Please caf.

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