

# Clarenceville schools open new headquarters

By MAURIE WALKER

Clarenceville School District officials and employees said goodbye Friday to their home of 14 years. They cleaned out their desks, packed

their personal belongings and moved to their new home about a mile away.

For 14 years, the board offices were at 28830 Eight Mile, east of Middlebelt, in Farmington Hills.

Starting today, the offices will be in

five vacant classrooms in Clarenceville Junior High School on Middlebelt Road, between Seven and Eight Mile roads.

The final board meeting in the Eight Mile Road building was held Thursday. The next board session will be Feb. 13 in the new location.

The history of the Farmington Hills building dates back to the early 1900s. It had been a school before it was used for administrative offices.

Within two weeks, the former board office will be occupied by Botsford Hospital non-medical personnel. The hospital will rent the space from the school district for six months. The board will pay all utilities, except telephone, will do the major maintenance, such as snowplowing, roof repairs and boiler maintenance.

The long-range future of the Eight Mile Road building is uncertain after Botsford's six month lease ends. The issue of renting or selling the school is scheduled to be discussed by the school board Feb. 13.

Decision to move the board offices to the junior high building was strictly economic, Supt. David McDowell said. "Cost of maintaining the old building is about \$25,000 a year," he said.

The junior high has had vacant classrooms for several years because of declining student enrollments.

Partitions for the superintendent's and other staff offices have been installed. The offices have been carpeted. Space has also been prepared for accounting and bookkeeping areas.

The telephone number for the school district offices will remain 474-8900.



Contrary to appearances, only the property and the building — not the school district itself — is up for sale.



The people involved have to find their own way, but their nameplates get a hand from Betty Milburn (left) and Ruth Bilbia, both school district employees.

## MESC names new manager

Ronald LaFountain of Farmington Hills has been named by the Michigan Employment Security Commission to manage its Livonia Job Service Office. He replaces George West who has retired.

As manager of the office at 28003 W. Eight Mile Road, LaFountain will supervise a staff of approximately 100 employees and administer MESC's job service and unemployment insurance programs to persons in the northwest metropolitan area.

Communities served by the Livonia office include parts of Detroit, Livonia, Redford Township, Northville, Novi, Wixom, and parts of Southfield and Bloomfield Township.

LaFountain, a 28-year MESC employee, joined the state agency as an

interviewer in Iron River. He later became an unemployment claims payment supervisor, research analyst and manager of MESC offices in South Haven, Lansing, westside Detroit, northwest Detroit, and most recently, Dearborn.

He has a bachelor of arts degree from the school of Journalism at Michigan State University. He has also taken post graduate management courses at the University of Michigan, Kent State University, and the University of Colorado.

LaFountain is a member of the Iron River Veterans of Foreign Wars post and assistant chairman on the advisory council to Dearborn's Comprehensive Employment and Training Act program.

## Robbers nabbed in B'fld holdup

Two Farmington men have been charged with the armed robbery of \$407 from the Big Boy Restaurant, 6675 S. Telegraph, Bloomfield Township, last week.

Bloomfield Township police said two men, one carrying a sawed-off shotgun, entered the restaurant about 10:50 p.m. Wednesday and demanded money from the cash register.

One of the robbers wore a white "Halloween-type" mask and the other a ski mask, police said.

A waitress near the cash register turned over an estimated \$407 to the gunmen, police said.

The restaurant was open at the time but no one was injured during the robbery, according to police.

Robert Lee Hargrove, 18, of Farmington, and Richard K. Crowell Jr., 22, of Farmington, were arraigned Thursday on armed robbery charges before 48th District Court Judge Carl Ingraham.

Police said the men were arrested after being stopped for speeding on Maple Road by Birmingham police shortly after the robbery. The men in the car matched the description of the robbers and township police were called, according to police.

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