

County school chief awaits challenges

Story: KATHY PARRISH
Photos: DAVID FRANK

which provides services to 28 county districts.

Other final candidates for the \$23,000-a-year job were West Bloomfield Supt. Jerry J. Herman; Waterford Supt. John Pagen; Novi Supt. Gerald B. Kratz; Walled Lake Supt. Don P. Sheldon; and Jackson Supt. Richard Escott, formerly superintendent of Rochester Schools.

Each candidate underwent a two-hour public interview based on questions given to them ahead of time. The sessions were held Jan. 21, 23 and 24.

Board member Dorothy Beardmore, who led the search committee, said the five-person board was "really impressed with the thought Dr. Keane put into the interview."

SHE SAID Oakland Schools, also known as the Oakland & Intermediate School District, needs an educator who is curriculum oriented, but who also knows special education,

vocational education and data processing. And she thinks the job will grow even more complex.

"We're faced with the same problem as local school districts," explained the Avon Township resident. "Money is pinched. And money is not always the answer. We need to find new ways."

Finding new ways to provide quality education has been Keane's interest since his first teaching assignment — a New York City junior high "heavily impacted with poverty."

"I read 'Blackboard Jungle,'" said the Columbia University graduate, who considered teaching college but opted for high school, because "it seemed a happy place to be."

"Actually, I did okay in that junior high. But I wanted to teach high school."

While teaching high school English on the Long Island "Gold Coast," Keane became involved in

teachers' union activities and was encouraged to go into administration.

He "loved" classroom teaching and wasn't interested, "but took a couple education classes" to see if he would like it. And in 1969, he wound up with a doctorate in curriculum and administration from Columbia.

IN THE DOZEN years since, the man who "never intended to be an administrator" has moved steadily up the ladder.

He was director of secondary curriculum for Berkeley Schools from 1966 to 1969, assistant superintendent for curriculum in Woodbridge, N.J., from 1969-71, and returned to Berkeley as superintendent in 1971.

The South Oakland district has been a real challenge for Keane at the manhood through a time of steadily declining enrollment and resources.

Kindergarten through 12th grade enrollment dropped from a peak 8,969 in 1966 to 5,200 this year.

With funds dwindling, the district fought back by designing programs which would draw state and federal funds. Since 1972 Berkeley schools have pulled in \$9.5 million — \$3.8 million through competitive grants.

"When I first came here, the only grants we received were those like Head Start and Title I where you sent in a piece of paper," recalls Keane. "Now we succeed in competition for grants. I don't think any district our size has done as well."

Most of the grant money is for curriculum development and teacher improvement.

"WE CAN RESPOND to the individual needs of any student," Keane says proudly. "And our teachers are as well tuned up as any for the 1980s."

He also takes pride in the 1973



"I'm worried that children in the next generation will not get the quality of education that children did in the last three decades."

passage of a bond issue to build a gym, pool and football field — a proposal turned down five times before.

One favorite program encourages (Continued on Page 6A)

On Farmington rink

Kids and dogs find ice is nice

There may not be more than a wisp of snow, but finally the weather is ripe for a good solid ice surface at the frozen pond near the foot of the hill on Farmington Road and Shiawassee.

Here's the scenario motorists have viewed driving past the pond for the last icy but sunny week.

Heavily bundled toddlers slip and slide, sans skates, and glide on sleds all morning long.

By mid-afternoon, they're replaced by the after-school skating bunch, a rugged and stalwart crew displaying various stages of ice skating expertise.

When the sun goes down, young hockey players armed with sticks and pucks take over the bigger half of the ice surface for a few makeshift games while a few die-hard skaters spin circles in a less crowded part of the pond.

Ah, winter.



Lorie thought Thursday afternoon was a good time for both her and her pal, Candy, to get some exercise on the ice pond at Farmington Road and Shiawassee.

Photos by Randy Borst



Lorie Lauer of Farmington Hills laces up under the supervision of her dog, Candy.

THE INSIDE * ANGLE

By LOUISE OKRUTSKY

REMEMBER GEORGE

WASHINGTON? He's having a birthday Feb. 18. To celebrate, the federal government will do what it does every year — close the post office, Farmington's postmaster Kenneth B. Harris says (there won't be regular residential or business mail delivery on that day. Special delivery, express mail and locked box service will be provided. Limited caller service will be available only for customers who regularly pick up their mail. The service window will be open from 8 to 10 a.m. There won't be any financial transactions. Mail will be picked up from all residential collection boxes as late in the day as possible to meet first class mail service standards. All business collection boxes with the large 5-00 decal will be picked up after 5 p.m. (Happy birthday, George.)

AREA DEMOCRATS

will meet at 8 p.m. Feb. 13 in the Farmington Hills Community Library, 12 Mile between Orchard Lake and Farmington Roads to learn about the party's presidential selection plan. The meeting, sponsored by the Farmington Democratic Club will feature a presentation by a field representative from the Michigan Democratic Party organization. The meeting is open to the public. Michigan's delegates of the 1980 Democratic national convention will be elected at the April 26 congressional district caucuses and in later meetings. Farmington's area, the 17th congressional district will send five delegates and three alternates.

LOCAL SECRETARIES

who want to sharpen their skills can attend a workshop sponsored by six metropolitan chapters of the National Secretaries Association International from 8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m., March 15 at Oakland Community College's Orchard Ridge campus, 27055 Orchard Lake Road, Farmington Hills. Speakers will concentrate on such topics as stress management, management and organization development and home listening skills. The cost for the workshop is \$12.50 and includes coffee, Danish and lunch. Checks should be made payable to Greater International Metropolitan Area Council and mailed to Betty Conway, 20281 Fleetwood, Harper Woods, 48225. Registration deadline is March 1. For further information call May Aird at 556-2012.

THOSE OPTIMISTS

at Farmington Hills Parks and Recreation are sponsoring a downhill or cross country ski trip to Schuss Mountain for teens and adults. The trip includes two nights at Schuss Mountain Ski Resort, two breakfasts, one dinner, two all-area lift tickets, evening entertainment and round trip transportation. Bus will leave Farmington Hills at about 5 p.m. March 14 and

return 10 p.m. March 16 for the teens. The adult trip leaves 5 p.m. March 7 and returns about 10 p.m. March 9. There is a \$75 per person charge for teens and a \$98 charge for adults. A \$25 deposit is required upon registration. The balance is due 21 days before the trip date.

HERE'S AN Angles salute of snowflakes for all skiers in the area who've only been dreaming of a white winter: *

MOTOR VEHICLE owners must register their vehicle by March 31 if it will be legally driven on public highways, the Secretary of State's office is reminding us again. This year the Department of State is phasing in a new system of vehicle registration based on birthdate. Under this system, plates and tabs will expire each year on the vehicle owner's birthday. To make the transition to the new system, the 1980 registration will be valid until the owner's next birthday. From then on, the plate or plate tabs will expire each year on the owner's birthday. Some individual owners mistakenly assume they can wait until their birthday in 1980 to buy plates. This is a BIG MISTAKE, FOLKS. All owners must purchase their 1980 license tabs by the March 31 deadline. If you forget, a friendly policeman will remind you on April 1. (no foolin')

THE OAKLAND COUNTY HEALTH

division will offer a free immunization clinic from 9 a.m. to noon Feb. 14 at 80415 Shiawassee at Tuck in Farmington. Immunizations for measles, German measles, mumps, polio, diphtheria, tetanus and whooping cough are available. A parent or legal guardian must accompany a child under 18 and bring any previous records of immunizations.

TOY TRAIN

collectors, railroad fans and model railroaders from five states will gather to display, trade and sell model railroad equipment and memorabilia from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Feb. 17 at Ann Arbor's Pioneer High School, Stadium Blvd. at South Main. The show is hosted by the Ann Arbor Model Railroad Club. Operating train layouts, movies and demonstrations of model building techniques will run continuously. There will be a flea market and a live auction. The show is in its ninth year. More than half-million dollars worth of model railroad equipment and memorabilia is expected to be displayed on more than 3,500 square feet of tables. Admission is \$1 with free parking on the high school grounds.

DR. DOROTHY

Edwards a professor of communications at Detroit Bible College, Farmington Hills has just returned from the 37th annual National Religious Broadcasters Convention in Washington, D.C. She was a workshop convenor for five sessions. She was a guest at breakfast in the White House and met First Lady, Rosalynn Carter.

Sheer romance: love-struck lingerie tied with red ribbons and bows

On Valentine's Day, surprise your sweetie with an extra special gift from the heart. GLYDON'S dainty white gowns touched with red hearts, ribbons, and bows. Choose a baby doll with matching bikini panties of nylon, \$23. Or a long gown with a leg revealing front slit, \$27. Both of sheer, sensuous nylon tricot. Sizes S-M-L. In New Reflections Intimate Apparel.

hudson's
valentine's day is february 14th