

# Obituaries

## CHARLES NEIL McINTYRE

Mr. McIntyre, 75, of Farmington, died on March 23 in Sinai Hospital, Detroit.

Survivors include: wife, Josephine; sons, Gilbert N. E. Richard; daughter, Mrs. Dorothy York; brother, Earl McIntyre; and three grandchildren. Services were conducted on March

26 at the Heeney Sundquist Funeral Home. Rev. Carl Schultz officiated. Burial was in Parkview Cemetery in Livonia.

## HOWARD C. LORD

Mr. Lord, 51, died on March 26 as a result of an industrial accident at the Ford Cement Co. in Novi.

He worked for 25 years at Ford in the maintenance department. Formerly a Farmington resident, Lord lived in Detroit.

Survivors include: wife, Dolores; daughter, Mrs. Debora Ingram; son, Michael; brothers, Merton, Gerald; mother, Mrs. Olive Lord and one grandchild.

Services were conducted at the Thayer-Rock Funeral Home in Farmington Hills on March 29. Pastor Joseph Everett of the Southfield Community Church officiated. Burial was in Oakland Hills Memorial Gardens of Novi.

## WALTER J. PATRICK

Mr. Patrick, 64, of Farmington Hills, died on March 29 in Providence Hospital, Southfield.

He was an area resident for 30 years and owned a trucking business. He was a member of Northville Lodge 186 F&AM.

Survivors include: wife, Bettie; sisters, Mrs. Amelia Liebenthal; Mrs. Elsie Kemp; Mrs. Viola Bernard and Mrs. Dorothy Picotte.

Services were conducted on April 2 at Thayer Rock Funeral Home in Farmington. Rev. Robert G. Cox, of St. Paul's United Presbyterian Church of Livonia officiated. Burial was in Acacia Park Cemetery.

Memorial donations can be sent to St. Paul's Church.

## MILDRED M. DENNIS

Mrs. Dennis, 59, of Farmington Hills, died on March 30 in Botsford General Hospital.

Born in Kentucky, she was an area resident for several years.

Survivors include: husband, Gerard; daughters, Mrs. Peggy Gooding, Mrs. Dale Hamlin; sons, Jac A. Michael; brother, Arthur Dale; and two grandchildren.

Services were conducted on April 2 at Thayer Rock Funeral Home by Rev. Richard L. Karr, of the Northwest Baptist Church officiating. Burial was in Parkview Memorial Gardens.

## CLARA T. PORTS

Mrs. Ports, 67, of Northville, died March 19.

She was a Farmington resident for 20 years. She was a housewife and a member of the VFW auxiliary.

Survivors include: daughters, Mrs. Joan Heflerich, Mrs. Diane Evert, Mrs. Betty Lou Stevens, Mrs. Judy Kearns, Mrs. Susan Werenburg, Mrs. Linda Hubbert, Barbara Ports; sons, Preston, John; sister, Mrs. Mary Lou Hobson and 12 grandchildren.

Services were conducted on March 22, in Thayer Rock Funeral Home, by Pastor Robert Dickema of Grace Baptist Church of Canton. Burial was in National Memorial Gardens.

## Library seeks taxing power

On May 8, voters in Farmington and Farmington Hills will face a special election to decide if the district library will become an independent authority with the power to levy taxes.

Voters will examine two proposals. The first will ask that the library be recognized as an independent authority. The second asks that the library's board of trustees be allowed to levy taxes to support the institution.

Both proposals have their roots in a 1978 state law which defined for the first time the status of a district library.

Until then, the state considered the district libraries to be part of the cities which sponsored them. But the libraries exact legal status remained foggy.

The omission in the original law passed 25 years ago can lead to complicated legal problems for the cities, according to Library Director G. Gordon Lewis.

Law suits directed at the library are presently filed against the city in which the branch operates because the law was unclear over the library's independent status.

Adopting the state law into city code would circumvent that confusion, according to Lewis.

CHANGES IN THE law would also help the library's employees.

Persons who are hired, fired or laid-off by the library have a foggy status with the Michigan Employment and Security Commission (MESC). The MESC doesn't recognize the library as an independent authority and views the two cities as responsible for library employees.

Taxes which support the system are now collected and appropriated by the two cities.

Under the proposed change, the library's board of trustees could levy taxes to support the institution's budget.

et. The tax would have a 1.5 mill ceiling.

Currently, the library is bridged at a rate of 1.1 mills.

If the tax went as high as its ceiling of 1.5 mills, it would mean a levy of \$1.50 for each \$1,000 in state assessed value for homeowners.

A large part of the money collected by the library would go towards increasing that its collection of books. The library presently operates at a budget of close to \$1 million a year and circulates about half a million books within a year. About 40,000 persons a month visit the library.

IF THOSE 40,000 each took two books from the library, the Twelve Mile branch would be bereft of almost everything except its reference books, Lewis admitted.

Together with reference books and periodicals, the library houses about 100,000 volumes. Lewis hopes to raise the Twelve Mile branch's collection to 130,000-140,000 volumes.

He estimates that a good library should have twice the number of books as the population of the community.

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