

Schools say thanks to local employers

The Farmington Public Schools special education department will host a thank-you banquet for employers who have worked with or hired handicapped students at 6:30 p.m. May 21 at Viadmir, 28125 Grand River.

Guest speaker will be William F. McLaughlin, director of the Michigan Department of Commerce.

A member of numerous state boards and commissions, McLaughlin was named to the Presidential Scholars Commission in 1976 by President Gerald Ford.

He will speak about the employer's role in hiring the handicapped.

In the 10 years since the program began in the Farmington Public Schools, dozens of trainable students have found permanent employment in local nursing homes, hotels, restaurants and industrial shops.



WILLIAM F. MCLAUGHLIN

Sales tax boost proposed

(Continued from Page 1A)

If approved the Siljander amendment would:

- Exempt all property tax on homes valued up to \$50,000 for senior citizens, blind and disabled persons. This exemption would increase with the rate of inflation.

- Increase tax breaks for renters. Presently, a renter can receive an income tax credit against a certain ratio of the rent paid, that the state considers as property tax.

Under Siljander, renters would have an increase of renters' credit and by increasing the 17 percent ratio figure to 20 percent as a minimum. The legislature could increase it if they wished.

- Limit state income tax burden by mandating that personal exemptions rise with the rate of inflation.

If a residential property went up 50 percent and the inflation rate were 20 percent, the 30 percent difference between the inflation rate and the assessment increases would have to be reflected in a rollback of mills.

- Guarantee lottery revenues for education.

- Limit the number of school millage elections to two a year. If the first two elections fail, the amendment would allow the residents of a district to petition and request the school board to place a third, fourth or fifth election before voters.

- Result in a cut in state spending. The effect, says Siljander, would be a net loss to the state budget of at least \$300 million in 1979 dollars. Savings would come from balancing Michigan social service payment payouts to what Indiana, Ohio, Wisconsin

and Illinois are paying in ADC, ADCU and general assistance and because the amendment wouldn't be adopted until 1981-82 the estimated 8 percent increase would be absorbed. In short, the state would be forced to live with a smaller increase.

- Provide direct state reimbursement to local units of government.

- Require a two-thirds vote of the legislature to increase taxes or create a new tax. Siljander points out that two thirds of the legislature historically hasn't agreed on anything of significance and therefore, he maintains, that guarantees the state legislature wouldn't be raising taxes.

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Troy, Somerset Mall, Big Beaver at Coolidge

Farmington Observer

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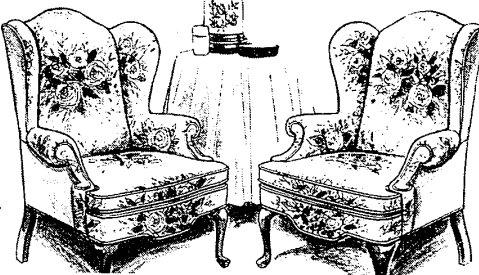
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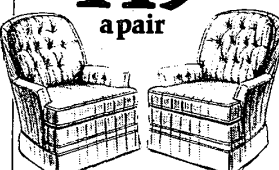
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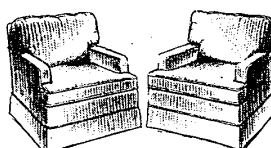
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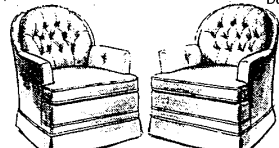


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