

Farmington candidates face the issues

Janice Rolnick

Education to incumbent Farmington School Board Trustee Janice Rolnick is a lifelong endeavor.

It has been for her, and she wants to make sure it is for the general population. That is why she is seeking a second term on the Farmington board.

"I want to stay in education. There are so few things we have a say in, that we have control. But education is one of them," she said, reflecting on her duties as a trustee.

Rolnick, who labels herself as a consumer advocate, has been a school teacher both on the elementary and college levels. She has a bachelor's degree from Wayne State University in elementary education and has done graduate course work in psychology.

"We have to maintain the universality of education," she said. "We must maintain the freedom of public education."

To do that, she would like to see further involvement from those taxpayers in the district who are without children in the district. Presently, 70 percent of the taxpaying families fall into that category.

She sees computer education as one area where the district can assist

adults in furthering and maintaining their careers.

SHE ENVISIONS a district where adults will come to learn how to cope with their finances in a changing society, as well as senior citizens coming into schools to share their expertise.

Education for the gifted is another area in which she believes the district should increase its emphasis.

"They (the students) need instruction just as much if not more so than the rest of the school population," she said.

Over the past few years, with teacher layoffs, the program has been "floundering," and the statistics on the number of gifted students dropping out of school have increased, she said.

In sticking with her theme of universality, Rolnick would like to see the sciences, humanities and foreign language programs strengthened.

"We need a stronger foreign-language program because of the global market. We must deal with other cultures," she said.

And its another culture, Japan, she looks toward in gauging how education



Janice Rolnick

should be. In that country, she said, students come first in the educational process.

"I can relate to the idea that students are our most important resource. But I see it slipping at every level," she said of educational emphasis in this country, referring to the number of state and federal cuts to education.

"I'M CONCERNED about education keeping up. Of all the places not to cut it is in the educational arena."

Jean Moran

Jean Moran is a volunteer who wants more Farmington District School residents to do just that — volunteer.

Making her first bid for public office, the Furman University graduate has placed a heavy emphasis on formation of task forces at each school building to bring educators and taxpayers closer together.

"The community is interested in getting involved," she said, noting that she has met with numerous residents to poll them on their education concerns.

"The board has said it wants more community involvement. And it has formed task forces of a limited amount of citizens. But they haven't had a real long-range plan," she said.

Moran believes she has a "success story" which will sell her task-force idea to the community and other trustees, if she is elected.

A Florida native, she said that state has mandated that just such advisory councils be instituted.

"I feel the same thing can work here," she said.

She readily admits that her success story will take a least five years to take hold in the Farmington District.

But she believes it will work if given a chance.

AS A TRUSTEE, Moran would like to play an active role in overseeing education in Farmington.

"The board and administration must have a good working relationship," she said.

"They must be able to exchange ideas without attacking personalities. Both sides should say where they stand. I don't want to get into the day-to-day operation, but I want to keep an eye on things," she said.

A firm believer in the open-meeting concept, she believes Michigan should follow the lead of California when it comes to contract negotiations.

In that state, both sides must publish what they are negotiating for in order to let the public make a judgment.

Like the other candidates, Moran would like to see more emphasis put on the gifted educational program.

"A lot of money has been spent on the program, and parents really aren't happy with it," she said.

Because of teacher layoffs, the staff



Jean Moran

members most interested in teaching the gifted programs have been cut from the staff, she said.

Before coming to the Farmington area, Moran was a public school teacher and co-chaired a school board committee to pass bond issues. She was president of her homeowners association, a PTA mother vice president and a book sale chairman.

Jack Inch

"Take your strength and run with it." That's the motto by which Jack Inch subscribes to when dealing with students and their educational experience.

Inch, who is seeking another four-year term on the Farmington School Board, has used that formula for many years in dealing with students. He, too, is an educator, having taught in the Detroit Public School system and presently being employed as a professor of economics at Oakland Community College.

"We must make the students realize that they have been given an opportunity for a good education," says Inch, who has served as both the board's vice president and president during his first four-year stint.

He would like to see adjustments made in the gifted education program placing emphasis on students' strong points, rather than shortcomings.

"People are not men and women of all seasons," he told a gathering at a recent candidates' night.

"I would like to see a program where a student gets in programs because he

is good at the skill," he said, noting that up to now students are excluded from developing in some areas because of weaknesses in others.

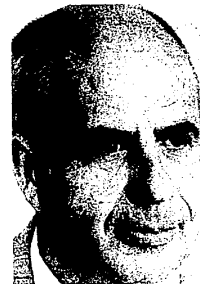
While citing a number of accomplishments the board has made over the while he has been a member, Inch said his proudest accomplishment has been the middle-school transition.

"I BELIEVE the middle-school program went in with less crisis. I had the background in it. I have taught. I was able to foresee difficulties that might happen," he said.

After years of declining enrollment, the district has been forced to close a number of school buildings and turn to the middle-school program.

Previously it worked with a junior-high system, with students bunched in the sixth, seventh, eighth and ninth grades. Now, ninth-graders are in high-school buildings.

Among other actions the board has taken which he feels are positive are instituting tighter control of parking lots, transforming the curriculum so it



Jack Inch

is more relevant to today's society and raising of the graduation requirements.

Although expressing satisfaction with increased graduation requirements, Inch would have liked to see them be even more comprehensive, he said.

Computer education is an area which he believes needs increased emphasis.

Richard Corey

"Where are all the citizens?"

That's the question being asked by Farmington School Board candidate Richard Corey who is campaigning on the concept that too many cooks spoil the stew.

In this case, the cooks are educators and the stew is the Farmington education system.

Director of the Golden Dental Plan, Corey has noted throughout his campaign that his opponents all have taught school at one time or another.

"Teacher unions today control the system," says Corey. "They've got the system locked up."

He would like to see more business expertise come to the board and he believes he can provide that leadership.

"We've got to get the citizenry riled up. The two people on the board are rubber stamps," he says, referring to Jack Inch and Janice Rolnick.

"I'd like to encourage the public to participate more. Right now the board runs like a closed corporation," he says.

Corey also has advocated that school

board employees agree to contract concessions, noting that 65 percent of the district's budget goes to salaries.

He also would like to see an increase in the vocational education program.

"STUDENTS WHO GO to college aren't prepared to do a thing. They're not preparing people to be self-sufficient," he says.

Because of this belief, Corey also is running for the Oakland Oakland Community College Board. According to several legal sources, including the state's attorneys general office, Corey can run and serve simultaneously on both bodies.

"We must coordinate education between colleges and public schools," he says.

Under the present set up, funds are wasted because of a lack of coordination between the two educational systems. Courses sometimes overlap. At other times courses go without being offered to students.

He would like to act as a liaison between the Farmington School District and OCC.

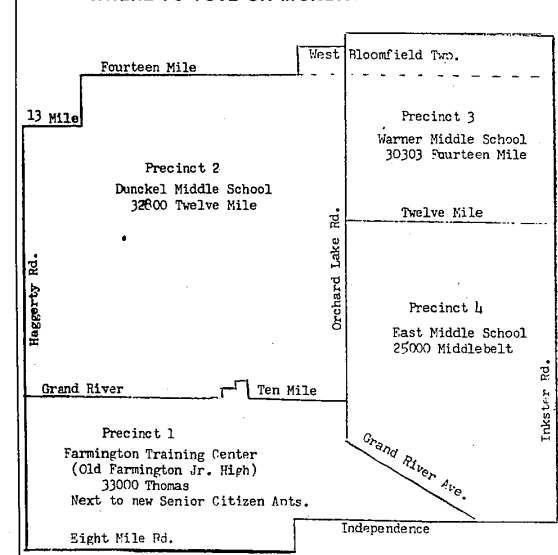


Richard Corey

A graduate of Wayne State University, with a bachelor's degree in business administration, he also holds a law degree from the University of Detroit.

Although he is against closing additional school buildings, he would like to study the possibility of consolidating properties and disposing of "unnecessary" ones.

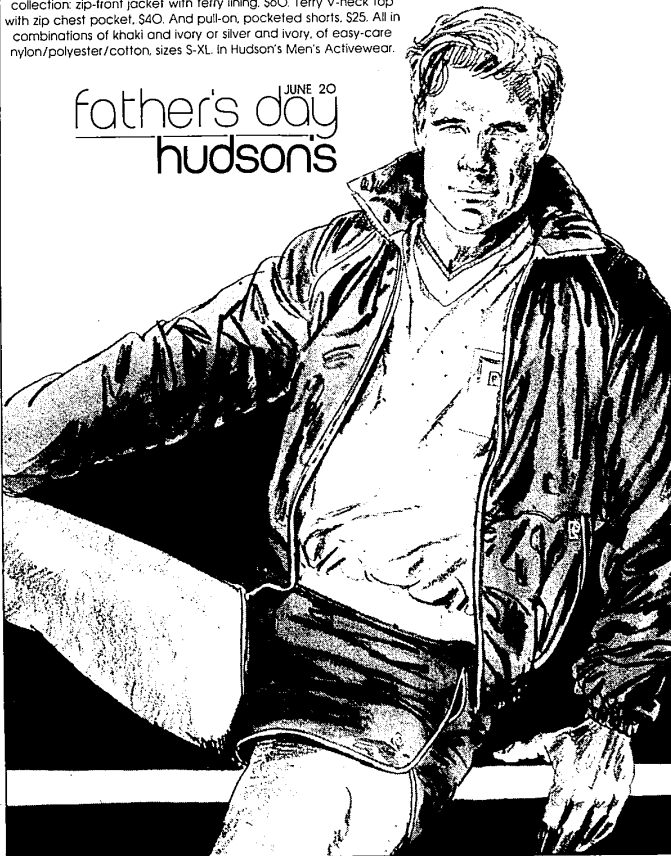
FARMINGTON SCHOOL DISTRICT WHERE TO VOTE ON MONDAY



Pierre Cardin on a hot summer day

He makes it look so simple to look so cool and collected. Sporty separates that your active Dad will love to live in. Shown from the collection: zip-front jacket with terry lining, \$60. Terry V-neck top with zip chest pocket, \$40. And pull-on, pockeeted shorts, \$25. All in combinations of khaki and ivory or silver and ivory, of easy-care nylon/polyester/cotton, sizes S-XL in Hudson's Men's Activewear.

father's day
JUNE 20
HUDSON'S



Beekeeper saves the day

By Judith Berne
staff writer

Brian Thomson proved to be something of a Pied Piper in T-shirt and jeans to police, shoppers and Orchard Mall personnel faced with relocating a swarm of up to 3,000 bees Monday.

The 17-year-old youth lured away the swarm which landed on the back windshield and hood of a white Ford Fairmont parked at the West Bloomfield mall.

Thomson lured the swarm by locating the queen bee and setting it into a large catch box.

"He pushed them (the bees) around with his hands until he found the queen," described Jon Schechter, Cranbrook naturalist who was called to the scene by West Bloomfield Police.

"He put a few other bees in there with her. With the aid of a bee brush and a special smoke screen which kept the swarm calm, in about 10 minutes, they had all marched into the catch box," Schechter said.

THOMSON, a Lahser High School junior from Bloomfield Hills, is an experienced bee keeper, according to Schechter, who solicited his help.

He has several hives at Cranbrook's Nature Sanctuary in Orchard Lake.

"I could have done it, but it would have been a lot messier," Schechter laughed.

The two Cranbrook employees (Thomson works after school at Cranbrook Gardens) got a police motorcycle escort to Orchard Mall, where they found an EMS unit and two police squad cars in place.

The bees were actually very calm and not likely to sting, Schechter said. However, he praised police and fire officials for their readiness.

The bees had probably left a beehive, and were looking for a new location, the naturalist surmised.

They may have been resting while they sent out scouts, he said.

Once caught, Schechter assumed responsibility for the swarm, driving them back to Cranbrook and presenting them to Kathy Griffen, wife of the Cranbrook Science Institute's building superintendent.