

Clarenceville teachers extend contract

By Dan Vecchioni
staff writer

While the contract between the Clarenceville School District and its 103 teachers expired four weeks ago, it has been business as usual in the district which takes in portions of Livonia, Redford Township and Farmington Hills.

Following a pattern set over the past several years, the Clarenceville teachers quickly approved an extension of their old contract and reported to their assignments as negotiators were left with the task of working out a new agreement.

"We do not have a history of problems (with new contracts), and we're

not expecting any again this year," said Robert Wolf, president of the Clarenceville Education Association, which represents the teachers.

"There are issues on the table, and we're still trying to settle. And traditionally we have settled without problems. We assume we will continue that policy this year," he added.

Wolf said that over the last several years the teachers have found themselves in similar situations, working under the terms of an expired contract while a new agreement was being discussed.

ONE OF THE key reasons for not pressing for an early settlement this year, he said, was the importance of

the "fourth Friday" count, the student enrollment figure used to determine state aid to school districts.

"We're hoping for the same thing Mr.

Salzar is, that Mr. Blanchard can give us help," Wolf said, referring to the district's assistant superintendent for business, Edward Salzar, who last

month said Gov. James Blanchard's new state aid bill could mean several hundred thousand dollars extra for Clarenceville.

"We have lost some (in salary and benefits) over the years," he said. "Last year we took a pay freeze. We're looking for a pay raise this time and, depending on if the economy seems to be doing for a longer contract." The last couple teacher contracts have been for

one-year periods, he said.

Wolf said he expected a new agreement to be reached two or three weeks after the fourth Friday count.

District Supt. David McDowell said the situation was "not unusual." He said no problems have been encountered and negotiators are expected to meet again on Oct. 18. A new contract, once settled, would be retroactive to the date the old contract expired, he added.

Reach-out to shut-ins

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obituaries

SOPHIA De HAINAUT

Mrs. De Hainaut, 88, of Howell formerly of East Detroit, died Sept. 8 in Livingston Care Center. Born in Hamtramck, Mrs. De Hainaut was a homemaker.

Survivors include her husband, Discre; five step-grandchildren; and five stepgreat-grandchildren.

Services were Sept. 11 at the Thayer-Rock Funeral Home, Farmington, with the Rev. Lawrence Ventiline officiating. Burial was in Evergreen Cemetery, Detroit.

MAUDE MORRIS

Mrs. Morris, 83, of Farmington died Sept. 8 in Botsford Hospital, Farmington Hills.

Born in Estelle County, Ky., Mrs. Morris was a homemaker.

Survivors include her husband, G. Dale; a son, Donald; daughters, Jean Freidell and Mary Duren;

five grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

Services were Sept. 10 at the Thayer-Rock Funeral Home, Farmington, with the Rev. David Baynes officiating. Burial was in Parkview Memorial Cemetery, Livonia.

ANNA SEMENUK

Mrs. Semenuk, 76, of Detroit, formerly of Farmington, died Sept. 11 in Botsford Hospital, Farmington Hills.

Born in West Virginia, Mrs. Semenuk was a homemaker.

Survivors include her husband, Andrew; a son, Henry; daughters, Mary Pierson and Nina Bohack; 10 grandchildren; and one great-grandchild.

Services were Sept. 14 at the Heene-Sundquist Funeral Home, Farmington, with the Rev. Edward Belczak officiating. Burial was in Mt. Hope Cemetery, Livonia.

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