

# School District Surplus May Be Used For Books

Continued from Page 1A  
 was projected revenue for the 1970-71 budget. And so the "actual" surplus amounts to \$400,000 when only \$200,000 was expected.

**THE SIZE OF** the surplus came as a surprise to Trustee Gary Lichtman.

"Somehow I have been laboring under a misconception," Lichtman said, noting the previous estimates of a \$200,000 surplus.

Lichtman said the balance, not counting the \$275,000 because of new accounting procedure, is almost one mill in local property tax.

The board has yet to approve the 1970-71 operating budget. Trustees are waiting for negotiations to be completed with teachers before finalizing this year's budget.

"Before this board approves a budget, we as a board should look to see if there is some way we can reduce millage," comments Lichtman.

**THE YEAR-END** audit also shows the debt retirement fund, which pays off bonded debts, finished 1969-70 with a \$1.7 million surplus.

The school board had previously reduced the debt retirement tax rate one mill (\$1 per \$1,000 assessed valuation) — from seven to six mills.

Trustee Aldo Vagnozzi had argued that final figures from the previous year should be available before setting the tax rate.

At a recent meeting, the board established a levy of 21.5 mills for operation. Total levy for Farmington City and Township is 35.93 mills. Total levy for West Bloomfield Township part of the district is 35.73. The operational levies are the same as last year's.

"I would like to have had this information prior to the setting of the tax rate," said Vagnozzi who has championed public meetings on the tax rate and new budget.

In addition, Lichtman notes the district has set

its tax rate without knowing what its budget will be for 1970-71.

**BOARD PRESIDENT** John Washburn III explains the district is operating on a tentative (unapproved) budget and that a fixed budget is impractical before income and expenses are known.

Expenses are largely dependent on negotiations with teachers, Washburn adds.

Prisk disputes the claim that final figures from last year were unavailable before the tax rate was set. Prisk says his preliminary figures were very close to the actual results shown in the audit.

Washburn ended the discussion on the fund balance with a comment that a large fund balance probably won't be possible in the coming years.

"Maybe we shouldn't try to maintain a fund balance to begin the next year, maybe that's not proper, but that's the way the district operated in the past. The district can no longer do that," Washburn said.

**PRISK EXPLAINS** that the \$200,000 unanticipated surplus was derived basically from economy measures during the past year.

The district did not purchase many items which were budgeted, Prisk said. Some purchases were not made because of the time element and, in other cases, it was decided not to purchase them because the district's financial plight was weak and money would be needed next year.

The surplus was also derived by administrative decisions and close scrutiny by the board on all purchases so that savings were realized.

**SPENDING THE** surplus will probably be a harder decision to make than explaining how the extra funds arrived.

Actually, \$400,000 is not much when you compare it to the district's \$13 million operating budget. It does, however, closely approximate one mill in tax levy.

Cost of supplying free texts and supplies during the 1970-71 school year will be close to \$300,000. This is an added expense because of the State Supreme Court's decision demanding free books and supplies.

Also, the district has not finished negotiations with teachers. And the audit, public information by law, has been closely examined by the teachers union.

**IN SPITE OF** the \$400,000 actual surplus; it is still necessary for the district to borrow \$2 million to meet future payrolls.



**ON THE WANE**—August are dog days with vacations ending and preparations made for school's opening. Peppi shows what it's like for a dog on the wane by going down the slide in City Park. Peppi belongs to Beth Dombrowski of Farmington. (Evert photo)

## Expectant Parents May Study

The first in a series of eight classes for expectant parents offered by the Oakland County Health Dept. will begin Sept. 16.

The free classes, held weekly from 8:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m., will be offered at the South Oakland Health Center, 27725 Greenfield Rd. at 11 1/2 Mile Rd., Southfield. Registration may be made by calling the health department at 558-1400, extension 232.

The classes, taught by public health nurses, are co-sponsored by the Oakland County Medical Society and various adult education departments throughout the county.

Topics include the mental health of the family unit, growth and development of the baby before and immediately after birth; labor and delivery, and care and feeding of the infant.

Films and other audio-visual aids are used to illustrate some of the topics and each class is taken on a tour of a hospital.

## Assign Betson

Marine Eric Richard C. Betson Jr., son of Mr. and Mrs. Richard C. Betson of 2382 Bartfield, Farmington, has reported for duty at the Kaneohe Marine Corps Air Station in Oahu, Hawaii.

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## McDonald Joins County Prosecutor

**FARMINGTON**—A Farmington man has been appointed an assistant to Oakland County Prosecuting Attorney Thomas Plunkett.

John J. McDonald of 29681 Moran leaves a position of account executive of the Paper-leather Division of General Tire and Rubber to join Plunkett's staff. He becomes the county's 24th assistant prosecutor.

from the University of Detroit, his master's degree in social studies education from Wayne State University and his law degree from the Detroit College of Law.

McDonald and his wife Sharon have two children.

McDonald received his baccalaureate degree in education



JOHN J. McDONALD

**Hair 'n' Around**  
 by John Ryan

Tan golden and supple without dryness... by skipping soap-and-water after sunning; use cleansing cream or oil to "wash," and you'll avoid washing off Vitamin D and skin oils.

Habitual puffing creates "whistle" lines... but closing lips lightly and puffing air up beneath upper lip helps keep them from forming!

Sensational buttocks tightener: lie on back with thick pillow beneath buttocks, draw right knee to chest, pulling it hard, and raising head and shoulders. Ten times each knee.

In 100 B.C. in Egypt, men and women vied in perfuming themselves.

One celebrity's perfect lip line secret: base of fluid make-up around mouth, then powder, then lipstick applied with stiff brush.

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