

Headlee visit short but happy

By Bob Sklar and
Joanne Maliszewski
staff writers

His first visit home was short. But Richard Headlee, recovering in Salt Lake City following a heart transplant Oct. 8, was just happy to be in his own home and bed in Farmington Hills.

Headlee, president and chief executive officer of Farmington Hills-based Alexander Hamilton Life Insurance Co. of America, is expected to return here in another two to three weeks, said Vernon Lunn, company senior vice president.

Headlee hopes to move back home by spring. "He misses the people. He's a real people person," Lunn said.

Headlee, 57, returned to Farmington Hills to participate in the briefing of employees on 1987 company results and to meet with company officers about 1988 strategies.

The last few months have been tough for the former Michigan gubernatorial candidate, who in addition to a new heart, underwent gall bladder surgery Nov. 21. Several weeks of treatment for hepatitis followed.

His return was a pleasant experience for employees

who haven't seen him since Labor Day weekend. "He got a standing ovation. It was very emotional," Lunn said, about the employee meetings.

DESPITE RETURNING home, Headlee had to be on guard. Still on anti-rejection medicines following his heart transplant, he was forced to wear white gloves while around others. "He asked people not to shake his hand," Lunn said.

Originally, Headlee had scheduled a news briefing for Friday before returning to his temporary condominium near Latter-day Saints Hospital in Salt Lake City on Saturday.

But he later announced the news conference will have to wait until his next visit. The company plane will have available Friday morning, and he didn't want a press briefing to conflict with the late-morning funeral of former Michigan Supreme Court Chief Justice G. Mennen Williams.

During last week's employee meeting, Headlee said, "I appreciate you and the good people of Michigan for your kind expressions of concern for both me and my family."

Last year was the best in the history of Alexander Hamilton, Headlee told the gathering Wednesday in the

company's corporate headquarters on 12 Mile Road. Growth like that experienced by Alexander Hamilton Life came through the combined efforts of our outstanding agents and employees. . . people who care."

THE COMPANY'S premium sales for the last week of 1987 equalled that for all of 1972, the year Headlee was elected president and Young executive vice president — a year company was unprofitable.

In reporting other company results for 1987, Headlee and chief operating officer Robert Young said full-time employees totaled 652, up from 126 in 1972. Employee salaries totaled \$18.6 million.

The company has a national sales network of 7,400 agents and nearly \$18 billion in life insurance in force. Assets for 1987 totaled \$2 billion.

The company paid \$17 million, \$32 million in claims and \$95 million in interest to policy holders last year.

Headlee learned last summer that he suffered from progressive cardiomyopathy, possibly the result of a childhood virus that weakened the muscle. He waited five weeks until a suitable heart donor could be found.

Thanks to anti-rejection drugs, the survival rate for heart transplant recipients of the UTAH-Cardiac program, which includes Latter-day Saints Hospital, is 95 percent after one year, 93 percent after two.



Richard Headlee greets employees Wednesday with a high wave of his left hand.

on the agenda

Below are highlights from the agendas of government meetings this week. All meetings are open to the public.

Farmington Hills City Council
City Council Chambers
31555 11 Mile
7:30 p.m. Monday, Feb. 8

Council will receive an annual report from the Economic Development Corporation and will hold a public hearing on the proposed paving of Drake Road, from I-595 to 11 Mile.

Council also will consider an application for an adult foster care home at 39029 Lancaster and a vacation request for a portion of the Purdue right-of-way adjacent to Lois 61 and 62 of Waddell-Wilcoo Rymal Company's park subdivision.

Other items before council are listed in a consent agenda. The items include:

- Setting Federal Community Development Block Grant program public hearing for March 21.
- Establishing March 14 as a hearing date for Tuck Road paving, Grand River to Nine Mile.

• Approval of a resolution authorizing a payback for Drake Road's sanitary sewer lead, from 13 to 14 Mile roads.

• Approval for authorizing a payback for Stonewood Corp. sanitary sewer.

• Purchase of computer equipment for the city clerk and finance department.

• Approval of a closed session to discuss pending litigation.

Farmington Planning Commission
City Council Chambers
23600 Liberty
8 p.m. Monday, Feb. 8

Two site plan approvals are slated for consideration by planning commissioners this evening. A self-storage facility on Nine Mile between Farmington and Gull roads is proposed, and an outside storage facility for ACO Inc., 32580 Grand River is also to be considered.

Also on the agenda is an ordinance amendment regarding parking requirements for financial institutions, and a public hearing notification for changes to the city's master plan.

Downtown Development Authority
Farmington City Hall
23600 Liberty
8 a.m. Friday, Feb. 12

The DDA board will hold a special meeting Friday to award general contracting bids for the first phase of the rejuvenation project downtown. Other general business will also be discussed.

Farmington Community Library
32737 12 Mile
5 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 11

Trustees will review the proposed 1988-89 budget. Library director Beverly Papal will include a grant proposal for 20 PBS series in videocassettes and a proposed policy for ready reference use of online databases.

Trustees will formally accept a Friends of the Library gift of 300 microfilm cartridges and hardware. An update will be provided on legislation affecting libraries.

Fate of Boys Republic uncertain

Continued from Page 1

Residents of subdivisions surrounding Highmeadow School have said they do not want the Boys Republic students there because it is surrounded by houses.

Boys Republic director Phyllis Griffin said the boys are sometimes hard to control, adding that she empathizes with the feelings of fear by members of the Farmington community.

Ankele said she would seek an alternative facility "not buried deep within a neighborhood, but on main roads."

"I value the safety of any community," Griffin said. "I want them (residents) to know we are sensitive to their feelings."

BECAUSE OF its proximity to the Boys Republic campus, on Nine Mile between Middlebelt and Inkster, Griffin said she would prefer the boys continue their schooling at Shiawassee. "It represents the best location," she added.

The school district's preference, to have the boys schooled on the Boys Republic campus, may not be possible.

Griffin said the facility has "nothing to offer now" in the way of rental buildings. "I'm not convinced they (the district) have exhausted all the possibilities available to them."

School officials met once with Boys Republic personnel in December to discuss educational alternatives, including moving the boys back to the Boys Republic campus.

The issue has not been raised again, Griffin said, but a Boys Republic representative attended some recent school meetings where the issue was discussed.

"We're willing to try and work

with Farmington (schools) as best we can," she added.

Farmington schools are required by law to educate the students at Boys Republic, who are residents of the school district. Several of the youths attend the district's high schools and the county's SVOVEC, or Southwestern Oakland Vocational Education Center in Walled Lake.

School officials have said the majority of students would not be mainstreamed into general education programs.

Schools seek tax renewal Tuesday

A special school election will be held Tuesday, asking Farmington-area voters to renew 5.75 operating mills for 10 years.

One parent, Carol Loe, said she is pleased with the school board's response to attendance boundary concerns voiced last week and is asking parents to support tomorrow's millage renewal vote.

Loe said she and other parents originally threatened to block the renewal effort if the school board did not give their support to the group's "no boundary change" plea. A board consensus last week showed trustees supported the group's stance, although an official vote on the matter is not scheduled until March 1.

"We came away feeling very, very relieved," said Loe after Tuesday's school board meeting, where superintendent Graham Lewis proposed the district build a new elementary, called for no boundary changes for any schools, and suggested alternative programs be offered to help evenly distribute student populations.

Another resident from the Old

Homestead subdivision said Friday residents will be on the phone all day today, urging their neighbors to go out and vote in support of the millage.

"It would be a shame if it was defeated," she added.

THE MILLAGE renewal represents about \$8 million, or 12 percent of the district's \$66 million operating budget. One mill is worth almost \$1.5 million. The election will not ask for new millage.

A ballot clause will ask that the Headlee Tax Limitation Amendment not be applied to the first year of the 5.75 mills. It would apply in the nine years following.

Four of the mills were originally approved by voters in 1978 and 1.75 was approved in 1979. Both millages expire this year.

Polls will be open from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. at all four of the school district precincts. Voters registered as of Jan. 11 can cast ballots; there are approximately 58,000 people registered in the Farmington school district.

Men, if you're about to turn 18, it's time to register with Selective Service at any U.S. Post Office.

It's quick. It's easy. And it's the law.



First Impressions Nursery and Day Schools invites you and your preschooler to a Valentine Happening. Dale Allmayer (Executive Chef of Duglass Duglass Restaurant) will be cooking with the children on Wednesday, February 10th at 10:00 a.m.

All invited at no charge, for reservations please call:

First Impressions
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