



Paul Welday  
'reduce tax burden'

# Welday to seek 69th District House seat

Farmington Hills planning commissioner Paul Welday announced Monday he is a Republican candidate for the state House of Representatives in Michigan's 69th District.

The 69th District includes Farmington, Farmington Hills and Southfield Township.

Welday, 29, seeks the House seat currently held by W.V. "Sandy" Brotherton, R-Farmington. Brotherton announced earlier this year he would not seek re-election in 1988 after 16 years in the House.

Farmington Hills councilwoman and former mayor Jan Dolan, also a Republican, is the only other announced candidate for the \$39,831-a-year post.

In announcing his candidacy for the state House, his first bid for elective office, Welday said: "As a lifelong resident of Farmington and Farmington Hills, I know the people of this area want a representative who will work hard to reduce our tax burden, lower the cost of doing business in this state and be an advocate for getting back to the basics in education."

He said he would "bring leadership and common sense to Lansing as we prepare for the next decade and next century, and we are ready to run a strong, grassroots campaign to take our message right to the voters of this district."

WELDAY, A 25-year resident of the Farmington area and a Farmington High School graduate, is a former legislative assistant to Brotherton. He was honored by the state Legislature as the outstanding legislative intern in 1981. He is president of P.F. Welday & Associates, a political and public relations consulting firm in Farmington Hills.

Beside consulting with Brotherton in Lansing, Welday has worked on Capitol Hill for U.S. Rep. Jack Kemp, R-N.Y., as a staff member for Farmington Hills insurance executive Richard Heede

In his 1982 gubernatorial bid, as political and executive director of the Republican Committee of Oakland County and as campaign manager for Oakland County Executive Daniel Murphy in 1985.

In 1987, Welday served as deputy campaign director for the Jack Kemp for President campaign in Michigan. At the Michigan Republican State Convention, he was elected to represent Michigan as a delegate to the Republican National Convention in New Orleans.

He is an elected member of the Michigan Republican State Central Committee and serves as a member of the board of directors of the Oakland County "300 Club" and as Republican director for the 69th State Legislative District. He is immediate past president of the Farmington Area Republican Club.

The filing deadline for the Aug. 2 primary is May 31. The general election is Nov. 8.

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## election '88

The Citizens for Paul Welday Committee will hold a reception from 6-10 p.m. Friday, March 25, at Ginopolis Restaurant, 27615 Middlebelt, Farmington Hills.

Tickets are \$25 and may be ordered by calling 478-8462.

We lay is running for the Republican nomination for the 69th State House District seat now held by W.V. "Sandy" Brotherton, R-Farmington, who is not seeking re-election this year.

## Abernathy to seek board re-election

By Casey Hans  
staff writer

would challenge every kid to their potential."

First-term Farmington school trustee James Abernathy announced this week he would seek re-election in June.

"This is absolutely an exciting time for the Farmington school system," he said. "We have a chance to take a very good school system and make it even better."

Trustee Helen Prutow, completing her third four-year term, announced in late February she would seek re-election for many of the same reasons.

Four-year terms for both Prutow and Abernathy expire July 1; an election to fill the two seats has been scheduled for Monday, June 13.

Abernathy hesitated in his announcement, he said, because he was unsure if he would have enough time to devote to another term. But he felt educating Farmington students is important enough to make the time.

"I would commit myself to a genuine equality of educational opportunity at all levels throughout the district," he said about running for a second term. "I don't think it exists today, despite the best efforts."

He said he also wanted to "help others set up the situations that

TWO SEATS were open in 1984 when Abernathy was pitted against three newcomers and incumbent Prutow. He garnered the top number of votes. The architect professor at Lawrence Institute of Technology was also concerned with student challenges and equity during his last campaign.

"I feel that I offer a set of experiences and a point of view that would be helpful to still staying on the board," he added.

He said he would like to try and have a continued influence in the operation of the district and "honestly challenge the young, potential minds in our district."

"I'm pleased with what's happened over the past four years, but we have a long way to go."

Abernathy lives with his wife, JoAnne, in the city of Farmington. They have two children, one a graduate of Farmington schools and the other a senior at Farmington High.

OTHER BOARD members continuing in staggered, four-year terms are Janice Rolnick and R. Jack Inch, both in their third term; Susan Rensela in her second term; and John Cotton and Helen Ditzhazy, each serving their first term.

## Compliance checks under way for asbestos at school facilities

By Casey Hans  
staff writer

is why school children are such a concern.

Farmington school officials are beginning to comply with federal asbestos regulations that took effect in December, according to information from the district.

Parents and guardians of students attending Farmington Public Schools are receiving letters informing them about asbestos inspections scheduled for school-owned buildings this month.

Employees of the district were notified March 2, and some training of custodians and maintenance staff members will be required, according to Lynn Nutter, assistant superintendent for administrative operations.

Kemron Environmental Services was contracted to inspect buildings for Farmington Public Schools, according to Nutter.

Under the new federal regulations, all buildings must be checked.

Workers will wear special gear and respirators to protect them from overexposure while taking "thousands of samples," Nutter said.

"Your child may be curious at the sight and purpose of the respirator," Nutter said in memos to employees and parents. "Be assured there is no danger to staff or your child as a result of taking these samples. It's an identification process only."

The testing of occupied buildings will be done after school hours, he said.

ALTHOUGH ASBESTOS has not been permitted in buildings constructed since 1978, it was used in millions of structures built since the 1920s, including school buildings.

The fibers, if breathed, can cause lung cancer and other illness. The cancer may not show up for 40 years, and the danger increases with earlier exposure — which

School districts are required to take action under the federal Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act, which requires inspections and a management plan for dealing with any asbestos found.

The emergency response act was implemented in December by the Environmental Protection Agency. It gives schools across the country until this fall to check buildings for asbestos.

If asbestos is found, a management plan must be developed by this October and implemented by July 1989.

The act's mandate is a follow-up to the 1982 "Asbestos in School Rule," which the U.S. Congress decided had not been effective. AHERA is more specific, addressing all types of asbestos.

FARMINGTON HEADED the 1982 "asbestos rule" and encapsulated the asbestos discovered in buildings, making it solid and preventing it from becoming airborne. The substance was found in 18 of the district's 24 buildings in boiler rooms and around piping.

Despite its earlier actions, the district is required by law to do further inspections this year. The district can remove, encapsulate, enclose or repair any area in which asbestos is found, Nutter said.

The Farmington Public Schools management plan will be available to the public when it is completed, Nutter said.

"The Farmington Public School District is determined to meet these upgraded EPA standards of inspection to protect the health and safety of our students and staff," he added.

Under the act, reinspections for asbestos will be required at least every three years after a management plan is in effect.

The Associated Press contributed to this story.

## clarification

North Farmington High School sophomore Amy Hardman should have been included in the recent list of honor roll students given by the school. A computer error at the school inadvertently left her name off the list.

## Farmington Observer

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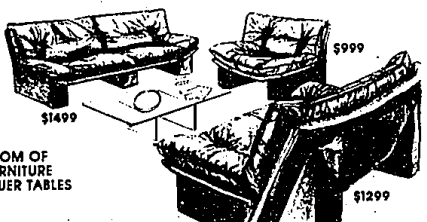
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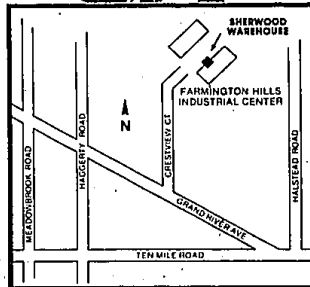


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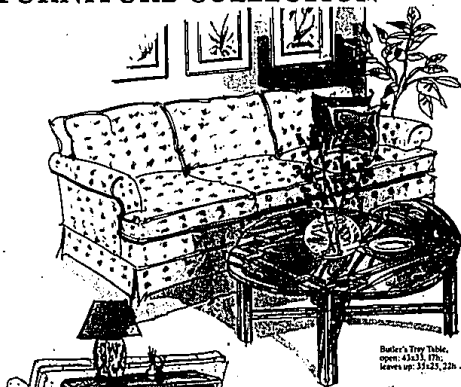
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