

Interviewing for council job set to begin

By JoAnne Maliszewski
staff writer

Farmington Hills City Council members Aldo Vagnozzi and Jean Fox will interview candidates to replace 14-year councilwoman Jan Dolan, elected in November to the state House.

The council agreed Nov. 14 not to collectively interview the six candidates for the opening before or during the appointment process, scheduled for 7:30 p.m. Monday, Dec. 12.

Chamber's luncheon is Dec. 15

You can learn about gifts for the holidays from your Christmas list at the Farmington/Farmington Hills Chamber of Commerce annual holiday luncheon Thursday, Dec. 15.

Dave Haywood, owner of Michigan's largest gift store, will be the guest speaker at the noon event at the Clarion Hotel, on 12 Mile, just west of Orchard Lake Road in Farmington Hills.

Cost is \$10 per person. Call the chamber for reservations, 474-3440.

But Vagnozzi announced he would interview interested applicants before Dec. 12. Tuesday morning, he said along with councilwoman Jean Fox, he will interview candidates on a voluntary basis. Interviews were scheduled for Wednesday night and again for Saturday, Dec. 10.

Dolan's replacement will serve the remaining year of her four-year term. Dolan will continue serving through the council's last meeting of the year, scheduled for Monday, Dec. 19.

Those expressing an interest in the council seat are Economic Development Corporation member Bob Beauchamp; Board of Zoning Appeals member Richard Corey; planning commissioners Jonathan Grant, Larry Lichtman and Philip Arnold; and Council of Homeowners Associations of Farmington Hills vice chairman Marty Krohn.

"I hope to prepare a report on each one of them," Vagnozzi said. The interviews, he said, are open to any council member who wants to attend.

During the Dec. 12 appointment process, the council will have the list of applicants. Nominations, which will not require a second, will be made and a new member selected by public council vote.



Bruce Lantto
fine credentials

Thayer-Rock expands staff

Bob Rock, owner of Thayer-Rock Funeral Home, Farmington, has added Bruce Lantto to his staff of funeral service professionals.

"As a licensed funeral director for over 16 years, Bruce brings with him fine credentials and tremendous experience in dealing with families that have been touched by a death as well as those who wisely choose to plan ahead, before the need arises," Rock said.

After graduating from Schoolcraft College and Wayne State University, School of Mortuary Science in 1978, Lantto has shown a commitment to his community as well as to his profession.

He serves on the boards of the Livonia Chamber of Commerce and Livonia Rotary Club, St. Robert Bellarmine Church and the SMB Civic Association. He has also been involved with the Livonia Family "V" Monaghan Knights of Columbus and the Michigan Thanksgiving Parade Foundation.

"Because he is committed to helping others," Rock said, "Bruce was recognized this year by Schoolcraft College with their Distinguished Service Alumni Award

and also by the Livonia Chamber of Commerce when they named him their Small Business Person of the Year.

"In 1987, he was named as one of the Outstanding Young Men of America. We welcome Bruce to our staff and we are sure that he will be a very positive asset to the Farmington area communities we have served since 1933."

Lantto will be responsible for arranging and directing funerals at the time of death as well as funeral planning before the need arises. "Having dealt with more than 2,000 families, his experience in counseling, setting up trusts and, most recently, providing life insurance as a way to pre-fund funerals, will allow Thayer-Rock Funeral Home to offer even more service to our communities," Rock said.

Bruce is number six in a family of nine children and a native of Livonia. He lives in Livonia with his wife, Jan, and their two children.

Thayer-Rock Funeral Home is at 33603 Grand River.

Safety makes holiday lighting brighter

Since Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer doesn't make his rounds until Christmas Eve, you'll probably depend on electric lighting to brighten your home during the holiday season.

Decorative lighting — when used correctly — is a safe and inexpensive option, said Joan Bradley, Detroit Edison lighting specialist.

Bradley advises holiday decorators to examine every light string carefully for clipped or damaged sockets and for frayed wires.

"Any such items should be thrown out," she said. "Also, throw out any lights that do not have the Underwriters Laboratories (UL) seal. The seal indicates the lights meet specific safety standards."

Bradley said holiday lighting can be pennywise as well as safetywise. "Most strings of lights have an operating cost of between a half-cent and five cents per string for four hours of use," she said. "Twinkle-type lights use even less electricity, because they are off half the time."

Bradley offers the following safety suggestions:

INDOOR LIGHTING:

- Use no more than three sets of standard lights on each indoor extension cord.
- Never use lights on a metal tree. Instead, a lighted revolving color wheel or low-wattage colored floodlights may be used to illuminate the tree.
- Keep lights away from carpeting, furniture, curtains and drapes. Some standard lights produce enough heat to scorch or damage items they touch.
- Use only flame-resistant ornaments and other decorations, including artificial snow, on and around the tree.

• Don't put the tree near an active fireplace.

• Keep all electrical connections off the ground and hang sockets downward to prevent water from seeping into them.

• Fasten extension cords or light sets to wood or hardboard surfaces with insulated staples; never use nails or tacks because they may pierce the wires and cause shock or shorts.

• Don't run outdoor lighting cords through door or window openings where they can be damaged.

OUTDOOR LIGHTING:

- Use only weather-resistant equipment and lights manufactured for outdoor use.
- Use only outdoor extension cords with molded plugs and sockets. Keep cords out of the way to prevent tripping accidents.

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