

Anderson new GOP club chief



Patrick Anderson moving up and retiring state Rep. Wilbur "Sandy" Brotherton were honored for their service to the club.

Patrick Anderson, director of economics at Alexander Hamilton Life Insurance Co. of America in Farmington Hills, is the new president of the Farmington Area Republican Club.

The Farmington Hills resident was elected at the club's annual meeting Jan. 13 at the Boisford Inn. Keynote speaker John Engler, state Senate majority leader and a potential gubernatorial candidate, called education "a top priority for the Republican Party in the Michigan Legislature."

The Mount Pleasant Republican also addressed other issues, including school finance reform, legislative reapportionment and the elec-

toral prospects of the Michigan GOP in 1990.

After his selection as president, Anderson said one of his goals for 1989 is to involve more citizens in school elections and activities. "We must start taking care of our basic responsibility: our children," he said.

Other new club officers are Julie Hovanecian of Farmington Hills, vice president; Kathleen Moffitt of Farmington Hills, treasurer; and Janet Larson of Farmington Hills, corresponding secretary.

Julie Pulgini was elected recording secretary and Chris Sitchel was elected program chairman. Both are from Farmington Hills.

Outgoing club president Jean Fox

Joint welcome Chambers greet Japanese visitors

Six area chambers of commerce have joined with local governments in their communities to welcome newcomers from Japan.

The chambers of Farmington/Farmington Hills, Livonia, Plymouth, Canton, Northville and Novi and government leaders from these cities and townships are making special efforts to welcome community and corporate newcomers from Japan.

strate the spirit of cooperation that is a hallmark of American culture, said Linda Lynch of Uniglobe Travel in Farmington Hills.

"It's wonderful to work with nearby chambers, and to meet new American as well as overseas friends," said Lynch, a Farmington/Farmington Hills Chamber of Commerce board of directors member. "We hope this event makes all of us

more attractive to economic expansion."

Mayor Terry Sever represented Farmington Hills. Mayor Richard Tupper and city manager Robert Deadman represented Farmington. Executive director Jody Soronen, board president Jonathan Grant and several directors, including Linda Lynch, represented the Farmington/Farmington Hills Chamber of Commerce.

One welcoming event held Thursday was a "Shimnokal Mixer," a combination of the traditional Japanese Shimnokal to greet the new year and the familiar American business mixer.

The chambers hope through this mixer and similar efforts to demon-

Staff develops plans for new park

The new Pioneer Park may not be the only youth sports field at the 13 Mile/Farmington Road intersection.

The Farmington Hills City Council has authorized the special services staff to develop plans and specifications for bids to build a sports park on 29 city-owned acres at the southeast corner of 13 Mile and Farmington Road.

Special services director Dan Potter estimated the project would cost about \$50,000. At least two soccer fields and a gravel parking lot are planned.

Parks and recreation commissioners suggested the project in light of the continuing lack of fields for a growing number of participating youths. About 400 kids play in the Farmington Soccer Club during two playing seasons annually, commissioner Jerry Ellis said.

Pioneer Park, immediately north of the northwest corner of 13 Mile and Farmington Road, was built with the help of a state grant. Though the park was completed last year, youths have not been able to

use the park because of last summer's drought, which caused problems with the fields, Potter said. Pioneer Park has both soccer and softball fields. Parks commissioners also have suggested the construction of restrooms and concessions at the park.

CITY STAFF will review the city-owned acreage on the southeast corner to determine if perhaps a third soccer field can be built, Potter said. The park would be ready by spring

1990 at the latest, he added.

"If it can be and Mother Nature cooperates, it's possible to play there in the fall. Realistically, it would probably be the following spring," Potter said.

City officials continue to negotiate for land in the city's south end for a youth sports park. The city has received a matching grant to buy the estimated 14 acres. Though two soccer fields and a baseball field are planned, no final decision has been made.

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