

business briefs

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CPA PROGRAM
Ely Tama, a CPA from Farmington Hills, attended a program offered by the Michigan State Society of CPAs.

The course, tax planning for shareholders of closely held corporations, is prepared by the Continuing Professional Education Division of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants to further the knowledge of CPAs in the continually changing field of taxes.

Tama is a shareholder with Tama and Dukdas, P.C., of Farmington Hills and is also a member of the Michigan Association of Certified Public Accountants and the Florida Institute of Certified Public Accountants.

BAR PRESIDENT
Kaye Yee was elected president of

the Asian-American Bar Association, Farmington Hills.

The bar association is comprised of lawyers who practice their profession in Michigan and have a special interest in the Asian community.

Kaye Yee has been a member of the bar since 1984 and has served as vice president.

He is a graduate of Michigan State University and earned a juris doctorate from Wayne State University. He practices in Farmington Hills.

NEW LOCATION

Phoenix Group, a Farmington Hills company that provides marketing and sales automation services, has completed its move to a new 15,000-square-foot office suite at the Westhills Office Complex, 34115 12 Mile.

With the move, Phoenix nearly doubled its office space and consolidated its operations from two sites to a single facility.

Phoenix Group is a full-service marketing company that offers business-to-business telemarketing, creative services, research, database management and systems design and administrative services.

Flanagan at helm of schools

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"We need to not stop the momentum... on those things worth continuing," he said. "But I need to make sure the communication flow is open. I want a consensus of the board and administration."

"Things aren't on hold," he added. "I've been pretty much instructed to keep things going. We're going to do well. I am positive. I feel the board and the administration are on target for wanting a fair contract. That's in my mind a lot right now."

In fact, on the top of Flanagan's priority list is getting contracts with units representing the district's teachers, secretaries and paraprofessionals, cafeteria, maintenance and custodial employees, and administrators. The only contract currently settled is one with school bus drivers, which was ratified last month.

Flanagan said he hopes to have contracts negotiated within the next two months, before school begins.

BUT ALSO foremost on his mind is the new elementary school, being built on 11 Mile, east of Halsted, on the district's west side. Not only must the construction be monitored, but plans made for a 1990 opening, which will likely entail some atten-

Flanagan facts

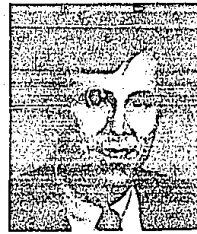
Biographical information about Michael Flanagan, acting superintendent for Farmington Public Schools.

• Age: 39
• Experience: 15 years in education. Named assistant business manager in Farmington in 1973, appointed assistant superintendent in Huron Valley schools in 1977, returned to Farmington in 1985 as assistant superintendent for finance and was named deputy superintendent for Farmington in 1988. Took over June 21 as acting superintendent after the resigna-

tion of Graham Lewis.

• Formal education: bachelor degree in economics and finance from the University of Notre Dame, master's degree in educational leadership from Eastern Michigan.

• Top priorities in the coming year: to negotiate equitable contracts with school unions, to keep a handle on the construction and deadlines for the new elementary school, and to continue the evaluation process for Highmeadow Common Campus — a pilot elementary program.



Michael Flanagan stepping up

dance and boundary changes.

He is also watching carefully the evaluation of the program at Highmeadow Common Campus, where the first year of a two-year pilot elementary program has just been completed. School officials have said they will consider some of the aspects of the school for application throughout the district if they are effective.

"In my 15 years, I can't think of so much packed into one year," Flanagan said. "We've had a full agenda, right from the beginning."

Flanagan said he felt comfortable stepping into the role, due to his involvement in the district's day-to-day operations before the change.

"I'm acclimated now — I was pretty much the next day," he said. "It was so clear to me that, as of the

next day, we still had a district to run and I had an important responsibility."

Flanagan said he had received many calls from the community and school superintendents expressing confidence in him in his acting role. Residents need to know, he said, "that there's some well-thought-out leadership. I'm going to be the best superintendent I can for a year."

on the agenda

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

Farmington City Council
Council chambers
23600 Liberty
The regular meeting of the city council, normally held on the first Monday of the month, is canceled.

Downtown Development Authority
Meeting Room A
Farmington City Hall
23600 Liberty
8 a.m. Wed., July 5

The DDA board will consider taking a position on a request from Walter Sundquist for a zoning variance on an addition to his downtown funeral home.

Also on the agenda:
• A decision about what the DDA will put in the bicentennial time capsule, to be buried at the end of the Farmington/Farmington Founders Festival Sunday, July 16.

• A report from Farmington Mayor Richard Tupper from his recent visit to the National League of Cities.

• A review of mock-up of the first downtown newsletter.

All-night grad parties rated success

All-night graduation parties at area high schools were a big success, according to organizers.

Parents from all four area-high schools, Farmington High, North Farmington, Harrison and Mercy now schedule the parties annually, starting their planning during the winter months in preparation for the May and June festivities.

Started years ago as a way for graduates to get together and have fun without drinking and driving from private parties, the get-togethers have developed into community events. Local businesses and restaurants donate food and prizes for all the parties, which now include gambling tables with

fun money, recording studies, caricature artists, moonwalks, disc jockeys, and balloon send-offs at dawn.

NORTH FARMINGTON parents were the first to organize such a party in this area more than a dozen years ago. This year's party on June 14 had a "Bon Voyage" theme.

"It went beautifully — it couldn't have been more perfect," said North Farmington parent and organizer Sharon Riddin. She said 92 percent of the 349 graduates came to the party, the best attendance ever.

"It's a wonderful thing for the

kids. I wish they had it when we graduated," she added. This is the first year the party will be highlighted in the school's yearbook supplement which comes out this summer.

Parents called Farmington's "Parade of Stars" party June 13, "a huge success." Barb Senbolt and Jan Flowers led the parent group there.

Mercy's third annual "Beach Party" was held June 2. "I would say our party was pretty spectacular," said co-organizer Nancy Kuzma. A total of 190 of the 204-member graduating class attended, where the casino tables, auction and palm reader were popular

events.

"We were so pleased with area merchants and their response" (in donating merchandise and food), she added, echoing comments from parents at other schools.

ORGANIZERS SAID at the June 15 party at Harrison High School more than 80 percent of the graduating class attended.

"Enough money was raised so that some cash prizes were given out at the end of the night," said Harrison parent and co-organizer Marky Slitter. She said any leftover money would be put into a fund for next year's parents, giving them a head start on planning.

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