

# Faxon bill gives C'ville voters new option

By Kevin Brown  
staff writer

If Clarenceville voters want to dissolve the school district, that action could be made easier thanks to an amendment to the state education aid bill.

But new schools superintendent Jerry Monticello said he plans to join opponents of dissolving the district to going door-to-door to collect petition signatures in support of Clarenceville.

Two weeks ago, Sen. Jack Faxon, D-Farmington Hills, won approval for a measure by which the state would pay off Clarenceville's \$1.2 million building debt over a two-year period.

The measure was added to the state education bill approved by the House and Senate, Faxon said, adding "it's on the governor's desk."

"What any amendment would do is provide another option," Faxon said, should a majority of voters approve dissolution of the 152-year old school district.

THOSE WHO support dissolving the school district plan a petition drive to put the issue before district voters in November.

The group needs to collect petition signatures totaling 25 percent of the number of voters who cast ballots in the last state election to put the issue on the November ballot.

Clarenceville includes part of

## New schools superintendent Jerry Monticello said he plans to join opponents of dissolving the district in going door-to-door to collect petition signatures in support of Clarenceville.

northeast Livonia, part of southeast Farmington Hills and part of northwest Redford.

While Faxon has said he generally supports consolidation of school districts, saying this would save money among other benefits, he's not necessarily advocating that Clarenceville

dissolve.

That's up to district voters, he said.

FAXON SAID that because the state would pay off the district's debt if voters approve dissolving the district, it would clear one obstacle to dissolving Clarenceville.

The district's attorney has said that according to the state, school boards in each affected district must agree to a consolidation, then win approval from the state board of education. Then, voters in those districts must approve the action in a special election.

But Clarenceville could be dissolved if district voters support such a move, said Susan Gonzales, who heads the group seeking to dissolve the district.

"The neighboring districts must pick up the children," she said, as the state mandates they must be educated.

Wilson "Butch" Bowden, president of Informed Residents for Clarenceville, said his group has begun a peti-

tion drive to show support for keeping the district as is.

Since starting the petition drive July 28, "We have over 500 signatures so far, and we just started," Gonzales said. "I feel we have a lot of support."

SUPPORTERS of maintaining the district elite school improvements in recent years and a close relationship between parents and administrators in a smaller district.

Backers of the movement to dissolve the district point to more modern facilities and greater spending per pupil in the neighboring Farmington and Livonia school districts. Millage rates in those districts are lower than in Clarenceville, they added.



RANDY BORST/staff photographer

## Quiet moment

Kim Rodak (left) and Carrie Earle, ages 12 and 13, share a quiet moment together on the swings during the Sum-Fun Round-Up picnic for youngsters ages 12-15 teen July 24 at Farmington Hills' Heritage Park July 24. Both are students at East Middle School in

Farmington Hills. The picnic was hosted by the cities of Farmington and Farmington Hills, the Community Center of Farmington Farmington Hills, the Farmington Area YMCA and Oakland Community College.

## 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**  
City council chambers  
23500 Liberty  
8 p.m. Monday, Aug. 7

The agenda includes:  
• Request from the Equitable Group for additional outside seating at Sweet Cravings in the Downtown Farmington Center.

• Letter from Alexander Nagy, of Moore Drive, regarding waiver of the driveway approach ordinance.  
• Letter from Huron River Hunting and Fishing Club regarding permission to erect a tent for an annual dinner Aug. 20.

• Resolutions from Hazel Park regarding House Bills 4869 and 4887; Crime Victims Rights Fund and residence for police and fire employees.  
• Letter from the Michigan Municipal League regarding the election of worker's compensation trustees.

• Letter from the Uptown Farmington Business Association regarding city participation in the pole banner program.  
• Report from the Downtown Development Authority director about a promotions event.

• Ratification of a three-year contract with AFSCME Local 1456.  
• Tree removal of a Dutch elm at 33725 State.  
• Purchase of water meters and parts.  
• Bids for a city complex sign.  
• Building Department quarterly report, April-June.

**Farmington Board of Education**  
Scholman Administrative Center  
32500 Shawneese  
Tuesday, Aug. 8

At 6:15 p.m., the board will vote to go into closed session to discuss a workers compensation matter.

At 6:45 p.m., the board's policy and board operations committee will meet.

The regular board meeting will begin at 7:30 p.m. The agenda includes:

• Extending the deputy superintendent's contract;

• Appointing an acting superintendent;

• Selecting a name for the new westside elementary school;

• Setting tuition rates for 1989-90;

• Hearing the district's vandalism and theft report for 1988-89;

• Considering attendance boundaries for the new westside elementary school.

**Farmington Hills Planning Commission**  
City council chambers  
31555 11 Mile  
7:30 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 10

The agenda includes 10 site plans. It also includes four zoning requests:

• Southwest corner of Mulfordton and Highview, Farmington Heights subdivision, RA-4, one-family residential, to OS-1, office service. Proponent, Huntley Homes; owner, Robert Johnson;

• East side of Haggerty, north of Nine Mile, OS-4, office research, to IHO, industrial research office. Proponent, C. Michael Kojala; owner, Jack Hamburger;

• 29500 Nine Mile, north side of Nine Mile, between Albion and Tulane, RA-4, one-family residential, to P-1, vehicle parking. Proponent/owner, Thomas Mannino;

• Southeast corner of 13 Mile and Halsted, RA-1, multiple-family residential, to RC-2, multiple-family residential. Proponent, Allan Adelson; owner, archdiocese of Detroit.

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## Hills-based bank received award

Farmington Hills-based Michigan National Bank recently received a first place award from the Equal Employment Opportunity Committee of the American Federation of Television and Radio Artists for its television commercial "Doing What It Takes."

The National American Scene Awards are given annually to recognize television, radio and industrial productions that most intelligently and progressively portray underrepresented or misrepresented groups in a positive, balanced and realistic depiction. Michigan National Bank was the winner in the

al took overall honors from five categories.

The 30-second and 60-second commercials depict people and customers engaged in banking activities.

## clarification

Unlicensed heavy equipment operators picked a construction site on Nine Mile, west of Farmington Road, in Farmington July 26, not Farmington Hills, as reported in the July 31 Observer.

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