

# Hills gets 5 new officers

Five new Farmington Hills police officers graduated from the Oakland Police Academy on Nov. 17 after 12 weeks of training.

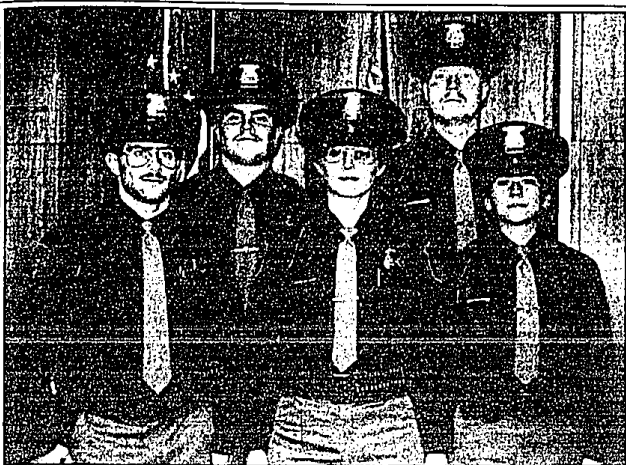
The new officers are Michael Caramitaro, 21, James Knittel, 21, Lawrence Luttrell, 22, Pamela Rathgeb, 26, and Madeleine Zimmer, 24.

The five new officers bring the department's strength to 95 sworn officers.

"The additional officers will enable the department to provide an even greater concentration of personnel in the neighborhoods," Police Chief William Dwyer said.

The new officers started their law enforcement careers in the police cadet program.

They now will begin the second phase of their 18-month training program.



Farmington Hills' newest police officers are (from left) Michael Caramitaro, James Knittel, Pamela Rathgeb, Lawrence Luttrell and Madeleine Zimmer.

# Board president urges trustees to pick Flanagan

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of teaching experience. "It is a detail we can not ignore," she said.

With Flanagan's experience and qualifications, some school officials argued that North Central would overlook his lack of classroom experience.

If Flanagan is named to the job, the district would be issued a citation, acknowledging it deviated from North Central standards.

But if Flanagan fulfills his pledge to meet the two-year classroom teaching standard, "and makes progress" while superintendent, Farmington Public Schools will not lose accreditation, Stoelton said.

North Central is "not a nitpicking organization, trying to pull out little things here and there. They are there to help develop the quality of education that Farmington is noted for," said Don Cowan, North Farmington High School principal.

"I believe they (North Central) would consider us at this time because there is no doubt that in the last four months, the quality of education has prospered because of the quality and morale of the staff and the community," Cowan added.

The school board referred the question of Flanagan's lack of classroom experience to its attorney, J. Kingsley Cotton, so he can respond to it by Dec. 5.

AT FIRST, Flanagan, known for an open management style and an ability to talk in layman's terms, said he didn't intend to become a candidate for the job.

"I'm overwhelmed by the support I have received from the board, the community and the staff," he said

Tuesday. "That has made a big difference to me. With their support, I think it would be great to keep the ball rolling."

"As an educator, I am dead serious about this next decade," Flanagan said. "I have some real concerns about kids on a national level, too. My main concern is keeping them in school and keeping them away from drugs."

If Flanagan is named superintendent, he plans to continue efforts to unify the staff and to recognize teachers for outstanding achievement.

He also plans to promote community support for school issues. Together with the school board, "there is no stopping what we can do," he said.

"I THOUGHT it was interesting that during the superintendent search, they (the consultants) stated that they wanted a clone of Michael Flanagan, when we had Michael Flanagan in our own back yard," said Kathleen Web, a Farmington teacher and mother of two elementary school children.

Flanagan "has a lot of vision, extreme attention to detail, a real handle on financial matters and is an honest man," Web added.

Flanagan doesn't have a doctorate, which the school board listed among preferred credentials Nov. 6.

Screening candidates for the job was scheduled to begin March 3 with selection in April. The new school chief was to assume duties July 1.

When Lewis resigned in June, he was earning \$100,000 annually plus benefits. In September, Flanagan's salary was increased to \$93,720 for the 1989-90 school year.

# Uncertainty over library costly at polls

Continued from Page 1

branch) away. They just thought we were real naive in our dealings," Lanigan said.

Farmington Hills Mayor Terry Sever agreed.

"I felt the cities should have scrapped the idea (of having it decided for a public use, such as senior citizen center). The cities should probably have made a decision; made a statement on it."

LIBRARY DIRECTOR Beverly Papp is expected to re-analyze the bond proposal and operating tax amounts.

Meetings are expected with the city councils to discuss the sale of the existing library before trustees firm up decisions.

Officials are questioning the proposed site on the north side of 12 Mile, just east of Hatfield. Some voters, trustees said, felt the site was not centrally located.

Some library officials want to look at commercially zoned property. But real estate representatives cautioned the property would be more expensive than land residentially zoned.

LIBRARY OFFICIALS are certain that building a main library is a

better option than expanding the existing facility or expanding on acreage just west of the library.

"This is not a good building to add onto," Yaworski said. "It (adjacent land) adds problems because that land has its problems."

Trustees determined that a special election April 10 would give the proposed ballot questions a better chance at success because of the lack of competition from other ballot issues. A special election would cost an estimated \$25,000, Papp said.

"I feel if we could have our own election, it would certainly clear the water up," Lanigan said.

The August primary will have an Oakland County request for one-eighth mill for county library services, particularly the library for the blind. The new 80,000-square-foot building would not include a library for the blind.

Trustees are concerned about voters' perception of the library spending \$25,000 on a special election.

But trustees will explain the need for the special election, they said. Increasing construction costs, land costs and purchase option costs play a role in the need for a new election as soon as possible, trustee Ernest Sauter said.

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