

Couple rallies for Lithuanian independence

Continued from Page 1

"My parents' homeland is a country I feel a great kinship to and a great love for," Paul said. "We have participated in protests since our early teens."

After Bush's Dearborn visit, Paul's flag was taken and flown in a Washington protest. Paul saw his flag on international news. "That

was kind of exciting. It's been around already."

The family is heartened by U.S. Rep. William Broomfield's sponsorship of a congressional bill supporting Lithuania's independence. They are encouraged by the media's coverage of the Lithuanian independence struggle and editorials supporting it.

"The time for empires has really

past, England was the last," said Danquole, an artist and member of the Farmington Artists Club. "The time has come for the USSR to relinquish its status."

THE JORQUITES were out in force in Detroit's Kennedy Square more than two weeks ago when Soviet tanks rolled in Vilnius.

"We are so very concerned. We get letters from Lithuania. They are

concerned. What if someone does something wrong? There is so much shooting power. I hope they are not foolish enough to resolve this with fire power," Danquole said.

When Lithuania declared independence March 11, letters from Jorquites' homeland were full of hope and joy.

"Now, they don't write much. I think they are again afraid to ex-

press themselves," Danquole said.

The Jorquites estimate there are about 1,000-1,500 active participants in the Detroit area for the Lithuanian cause. Many of the supporters are sons and daughters of parents who escaped Lithuania when the Soviets took control of the Baltic states.

"I feel we are very lucky. We have participated in America. But at the same time, we have participated in Lithuania. We have tried to bring up our kids in the two cultures. We feel a moral obligation to be there for Lithuania if it needs us," Danquole said.

PAUL ECHOES his mother's feel-

ings. "It's been a wonderful childhood. I feel really lucky. We got to experience a lot of different things," said Paul, who with his sister attended Lithuanian school on Saturdays for 12 years.

Their experiences and knowledge of another culture from their parents have made them more in tune with world and political events.

"I have a different perspective. The American way is not the only way. If we are a world power, we should understand what the other nations in the world are about," Paul said.

Peltz property eyed for new main library

Continued from Page 1

City officials are negotiating to buy the MDOT property for approximately \$800,000.

"I would think, depending on how the city handles the MDOT property, that there should be sufficient room to handle parks and recreation and the library," Plummer said.

But some council members would disagree. In March, councilman Ben Marks said he "voted to buy that property for recreation, not a library, (but for) active recreation."

Councilman Terry Sever, who led the \$620,000 Peltz purchase last year, said that recreation was mentioned throughout minutes of closed meetings when purchase was discussed.

BEFORE BUYING the Peltz acreage, Sever said he met with resi-

dents in Quaker Valley, just south of the Peltz and MDOT properties, and told them the land would be targeted for recreational uses, such as a golf course.

But Quaker Valley residents in March formed a committee to monitor development on the Peltz and MDOT land. Committee chairman Kurt Yockey was unavailable for comment.

In a Feb. 9 letter to Sever, Quaker Valley resident James Anish documented conversations and the meeting with Sever before the Peltz land was bought.

Residents at the meeting said that they would prefer leaving the land vacant or as a second choice making it a passive park, according to the letter.

Anish wrote that residents asked to be involved in any development of

the property, as was done when Heritage Park, on Farmington Road between 10 and 11 Mile, was developed.

The Peltz/MDOT site is important because of its central location. Library officials say that a major reason for the defeat last November of a \$145 million bond proposal for a new library on the west side of 12 Mile, just east of Halsted, was because the proposed location was not centrally located.

VOTERS ALSO defeated a maxi-

mum 1.5-mill operating tax request in November.

Library officials hope to whittle original estimated costs for a new library. "The land is the key. If we can zero in on a site, we can do detailed planning on driving down costs," Plummer said.

As requested by the city council in March, library trustees "would be pleased to consider compatibility of land uses, which may include shared driveway and shared parking facilities with other city functions," Plummer said.

Employees charged in sex assault on girl

A 32-year-old man is charged with sexually assaulting a nearly 3-year-old Ann Arbor girl he was driving from a Farmington Hills day care center to her mother's workplace in Novi, police said.

The Ann Arbor man has worked periodically for the victim's mother the past two years, police said.

Police allege the man was assaulted in the suspect's car after he parked in a lot near Grand River and Halsted between 10 and 11 p.m. April 4, shortly after picking her up at the day care center, Farmington Hills detective Duane Fox said.

Martin Carl Atchinson stood mute to one count of criminal sexual conduct—first degree/second or subse-

quent offense at his arraignment Saturday before Magistrate James Brady of Farmington.

Brady entered an innocent plea in the suspect's behalf and authorized a court-appointed defense attorney.

ATCHINSON was remanded to the Oakland County Jail in lieu of \$100,000 cash bond pending a preliminary exam in 47th District Court. He faces from five years up to life in prison if convicted.

Atchinson was arrested April 5. The next day, the Oakland County prosecutor recommended a felony warrant based on a physical exam of the girl at St. Joseph Mercy Hospital in Ann Arbor.

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