

Trustee: Can always improve

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For example, she is pleased with the number of women promoted to higher level administrative positions, but dislikes the district's method of computerized high school registration, because it does not let students select individual teachers. She likes current superintendent, Michael Flanagan, but wants more parental involvement in the district. Part of Rolnick's unfinished business is gifted education, currently under scrutiny in the district and one of her pet areas while on the board. She believes all students have individual gifts and needs, and should be recognized for those and taught with that in mind.

She advocates magnet-type programs not only at the high school level, but down into middle schools and elementary schools as well.

GIFTED EDUCATION has been a hot topic, since everyone carries their own opinions, and Rolnick has

kept hers in the limelight. "I made some enemies; I know some parents got made at me," she explained. "But I hate it when people look at their own back yard, and not the whole district and all the students. Let's make the curriculum fit them — not them to fit the curriculum."

Despite her strong feelings about education, and her 12 years of devotion to it in Farmington, Rolnick said she now plans to "leave my ties" to the district and allow new voices to take stands on the issues, including gifted education.

ANOTHER REASON for her retirement is her 7-year-old business, Credential Check, on Northwestern Highway in Farmington Hills, which is growing quickly and will require even more of her time.

"I am ready to end this part of my life, because my business is taking so much time," she said. "It's been a struggle. You can do so much and do

it well, up until a point."

But in her company, education remains key. As a company that checks resume references for prospective employers, she has several school districts as customers. And the business came into being after she and her partner, a member of the West Bloomfield Board of Education, compared notes as the two districts searched for new superintendents years ago.

MUCH OF Rolnick's "get involved" philosophy began after she and husband Michael started their family, settled in Farmington Hills, and she was at home with her pre-school children.

Concerned about carbon monoxide emissions into her Corvair and the impact on her family, she had the car tested and discovered a terrible problem. Contacting Ralph Nader in Washington, she became a witness in court for a class action lawsuit against General Motors, representing some 600,000 Corvair owners.

That led her to other concerns, including research about pesticides and preservatives in food. That not only changed her family's eating habits, but led her to teach a college-level class on consumer awareness at Oakland Community College and Oakland University.

By the time her children entered kindergarten and elementary school, she was ready for a new challenge, so ran for the Farmington Board of Education. She brought a concern for children, consumer-oriented background, and five years of elementary teaching experience with Detroit Public Schools.

"I always had a lot of things going on," she said. "Whatever you've done (her children) we've basically found a niche."

After her retirement from the board, Rolnick plans to pick up other causes. She is interested in ecological issues and gun control, she said, and would like to use her organizational skills to help those groups.

LI. Jonathan Rich (left) of the Salvation Army and Cheryl Carter of Neighborhood House expect cupboard to be bare or close to bare at the food pantry within 1½-2 weeks.

Pantry needs food

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"We have less this summer than in other summers. We are anticipating there will be a shortfall," Rich said.

THE SALVATION Army food pantry serves residents in Farmington, Farmington Hills, Southfield, Livonia and Novi. Neighborhood House specifically serves Farmington and Farmington Hills residents.

Sixty-percent of the food pantry's caseload is Farmington and Farmington Hills residents.

Residents in need of food can make an appointment with Neighborhood House director Cheryl Carter, 477-1155. The program is based on need.

Though families may have an adequate income, extenuating circumstances and emergencies can easily put a family in need, she said.

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Hills resident wins award

James Paul of Farmington Hills has been presented the highest award given by the Automotive Market Research Council for dedication and outstanding service to the council's aftermarket committee.

Paul is Ford Motor Co. voting member of the AMRC and has been a council member since 1975. He has been chairman of the aftermarket committee for the past four years.

In this capacity, he directs 11 committee members in the annual development and presentation of AMRC's five-year forecast of vehicles in operation, annual passenger car miles driven and retail size of 13 aftermarket parts product lines. A special subject presentation relating to the parts aftermarket is also presented.

The AMRC is a non-profit organization composed of 100 automotive-related firms that provides members with research data.

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includes a picture of a Pistons World Championship ring.

Wilson believes the shirt combines both Pistons sports team furor and loyalty as well as the current rap musical trend.

The Hammer shirt lists a 1990s Krystal Ltd. copyright, licensed to the Athletic Supporter Ltd.

Kids were among the first to pick up on the shirt, which rivals the popularity of the Pistons Bad Boys shirts. The new shirts are available at stores like K Mart, J.C. Penney,

Dunham's and others, Wilson said.

Wilson, a Farmington Hills resident, is business partner with brothers Bill and Sandy Berris, West Bloomfield and Farmington Hills residents, respectively.

The men moved from their former store in Livonia four years ago. They were in the Livonia location seven years.

THE STORE'S name often causes folks to do a double-take and chuckle. Getting it into the phone book

about a decade ago resulted in store owners taking Michigan Bell to court because the phone company thought the name was in poor taste and even obscene, Wilson said.

"You have to remember, this was almost 10 years ago. It was different then," Wilson said.

The T-Shirt company won both the lawsuit and unexpected name recognition because the legal battle was picked up by national media like UPI and the Wall Street Journal, Wilson said. People would come up to Wilson

and say, "The Athletic Supporter, huh, I think I read about it somewhere."

Today, the silk-screen manufacturer continues to be quoted in news stories.

And last year, even Pistons Star Isiah Thomas stopped by for a visit. He was an instant heartthrob among young female workers, who enjoyed getting their pictures taken with him, Wilson said.

"That was the best morale booster," Wilson said. "He was gracious and personable — a nice man."

Win scores with T-shirt company

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Towns lay groundwork for curbside recycling

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Farmington city manager.

"We're not going to be picking the recyclables out of the garbage," Deadman said. "At the MRF, the plastics and paper will be baled, the glass will be crushed."

The recycling program will not include commercial, office, apartment complex and industrial users. "We're

not able to handle waste from commercial and industrial yet (for recycling). Eventually, we will when we get up and operational," Deadman said.

Other garbage, the refuse that is

not recyclable or reusable, will be sent to Oakland County's landfill or incinerator, when they are operational. Yaw waste will be composted by the county.

Until the authority's MFR and the

county's facilities are ready, individual contractors, such as the one Farmington and Farmington Hills will award a bid to in July, will be responsible for disposing of their own facilities.

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