

Feuer from page 13A

Because there are "limited controls" on judges, a lazy judge can remain indolent for an entire career, Feuer said.

"With a backlog of cases and a growing community, you better have a judge who takes this job seriously and will work," Feuer said. "The simple way is to decide cases quickly. I don't want that in a judge. I want a judge who will do the thinking and stay after five. There are any number of judges who are known not to appear in court on time. There are any number of judges that have perfected their golf game while in office."

"The greatest campaign failure is to think that the people you know are the people in the community, that the way you live is the way people live, Feuer said.

Likewise, judges need to be responsive to the time constraints of their constituency and not cater to attorneys' convenience, he said. "I'm not an advisor to these officials," Feuer said. "I don't have a role after they are elected."

Ran for office

Feuer, too, was once a political candidate. In a Michigan Senate race a decade ago, Feuer came in third after Jack Faxon and Dana Wilson.

He's been a consultant to Judge

Brian MacKenzie of Walled Lake and Judge Robert Ziolkowski of the Detroit Records Court, as well as to politicians in New York State.

Feuer was also a consultant to Gov. James J. Blanchard's Public Investment Coordination Task Force. He's a former executive director of Common Cause of Michigan, executive director of the Americans for Democratic Action/ Michigan Chapter and former deputy director of the Michigan Youth Corps.

His services don't come cheap. More than \$100,000 was spent on the Parker election campaign, he said.

"If your budget is \$300, you can't afford me," Feuer said.

"It (the Parker/McDonald match) was a very hot race," he said, "a very hard fought race. It was assured by any number of political experts that Jack was unbeatable. That was universal. "If you're looking for intimidation, that was electoral intimidation. But, he (Jack) never established why he ought to be a judge, why he ought to serve in this particular job. The distance between a county commissioner, a council member and a judge is miles."

Campaign tactics

Feuer seized the moment through campaign literature and

giveaways like suckers with Parker's name emblazoned on them and handed out during the Farmington Founders Festival in July.

Some 100 workers handed out small, sealed packages with Parker's name imprinted on Halloween. All Parker's campaign literature was on recycled paper, printed at a union printer.

"I'm very fastidious," Feuer said. He quickly pointed out typographical errors on McDonald's campaign literature.

Feuer, a Cornell University graduate, grew up in northwest Detroit, the child of refugees from Hitler's Germany. He graduated from Oak Park High School.

His mother, Regina, 77, is a part-time social worker with Jewish Family Services. His late father, Arthur, was a physician.

Feuer still remembers the emphases and importance his parents placed on proper word usage and translation, to the point of argument.

"I knew in childhood that politics settled a number of questions, including life and death," Feuer said.

"The fact that I was ever born here had to do with politics. The level of demand here (as a consultant) is preposterous, not life threatening, but health threatening."

Gridlock from page 13A

with Maple becoming a four-lane boulevard and additional upgrading for 14 Mile and Farmington roads.

All his group really wants, Harris emphasized, is for officials for the township and Road Commission for Oakland County — the agency responsible for the roads — to abide by their own plans.

Developers agree

Ironically, developers with financial interests in developing

Section 34 are not necessarily at odds with Harris's group; not yet, anyway.

"We would like to see the roads improved, too," said Herman Frankel, owner of the group developing Village Square and the Sibley Condominium Complex. "We don't disagree with the residents."

"But we see this as a community-wide problem," he said. "Congestion isn't the creation of

the people who will come into the community and buy these units."

Frankel notes that he personally has already demonstrated a concern about area roads and the need to upgrade them. "I personally helped finance the paving of Farmington Road," he said, "I paid for the engineering studies and part of the actual paving. That was a major contribution."

A spokesman for the Select Group voiced similar sentiments.



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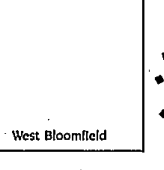
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