

Leading the band: Fifth-grader Safet Cunmuljaj conducts with the held of his new music teacher in a Lanigan Elementary School class-



Take note: Lanigan has a new music man

BY LARRY O'CONNOR STAFF WRITER

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aum Shulman takes
music from his heart
and places it into those
of his students.

With little prodding, children
rise to their feet and correspond
in perfect chorus to an African
song while the teacher plays an
electric piano. The music
instructor pauses between lecture and verse to ask how many
of the assembled in the portable
classroom at Lanigan Elementary School are happy.

Hands shoot up faster than
dandelions after a summer
shower.

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"I hope you enjoy learning music with me all year," said Shulman, 34, a Russian native who recently became a U.S. citi-zen and a Farmington music

He is one of 60 new teachers hired by the district, which has seen a rapid turnover rate through retirements recently.

Along with his passion for music, Shulman shares a bit of his lite with students.

He tells then hew he started attending the School for Gifted Children in St. Petersburg at 3 years of age. He mentions his doctorate in music, studying at host of universities studening containing to the carned his teaching certificate after coming to the U.S. in 1989.

There's not enough time, or perhaps understanding, to elaborate on his background to the children.

He plays the bassoon and was a member of the Leningrad Symphony. When he left Russia, he was joined by his parents, who

lived near Chernobyl — the site of a nuclear disaster in 1985.

"I didn't have a choice," said Shulman, who has been joined by other family members. . . I thought it was important that my parents lived more years. Material goods are pensitiul here in the U.S. Shulman mentions how the musical instruments on the shelves at Lanigan would be a scarce commodity in Russian classrooms.

Other than that, differences are negligible.

Music transcends borders. Apparently, so does the kindness

and enthusiasm of children.
"The children have been very nice to me," he said.

piano. The subject of solos also comes

up.
"I'd like to invite all of you children to make a solo," Shul-"I'd like to invite all of you children to make a solo," Shulman said.

Along with computer technology that will allow them to become acquainted with musical

keyboards, Shulman said they'll also use Carl Orff instruments such as the tambourine, triangle and symbols. Shulman shuttles between O.E. Dunckel Middle School and. Longacre Elementary as well as Lanigan. He previously served as music director at the Brook-field Academy. field Academy.
As class concludes, students

Jacobson's

Bond-issue sign thefts charged in Farmington Hills subdivision

The Farmington Hills subdivision where Shelley Chaness lives is one-square mile, the smallest portion of the Walled Lake Consolidated School District.

solidated School District.

But Country Ridge subdivision is pretty hot turf in the continuing battle between supporters and opponents of the district's \$114 bond issue election, slated for Saturday, Sopt. 28.

According to Chaneas, of Claracas, of Walled Lake Schools, approximately 50 signs promoting approval of the bond issue were yanked between Sunday and Monday morning from lawns throughout her subdivision.

A complaint was filed Monday

Walled Lake Schools

Department.
Also, she said large "Save Our Schools" signs were stolen Saturday from the subdivision's main entrance on 14 Mile Rond. The sub is bordered by Halsted on the east, Hoggerty on the west, and 13 Mile Rond on the south.
"It's laughable," Channess said Monday afternoon. "These are the measures our opponents are taking, it just shows how desperate they are."
Channess said she thinks the

approximately 00 signs promoting approval of the bond issue were yanked between Sunday and Monday morning from lawns throughout her subdivision.

A complaint was filed Monday with the Farmington Hills Police

"By removing the lawn signs (opponents think) it's going to prevent us from voting or change our vote," Chaness said. "But if anything, it's giving us added incentive to get it passed."

Currently, their elementary school children are being bused several miles to Mendow Lake Elementary School, located in Birmingham, even though Maple Elementary School is only a mile away.

"Of any (part of) this school district, this square mile has the most to gain by this passing," Chaness said. "Our children are

Grand River corridor gets attention

BY WILLIAM COUTANT STATT WRITER

BY WILLAM COUTANT
STATE WHITE

Efforts to improve the Grand
River corridor are getting some
attention around the state.

The Grand River Corridor
Study Group will receive one of
three awards for planning given
jointly by the Michigan chapter
of the American Planning Association and the Michigan Society
of Planning Officials.

"A lot of work went into that
project," said John Anhut, who
chairs the group.

Anhut, who owned the Bots
ford Inn on Grand River for 42
years, has worked for the past
five years on plans to robuild,
landscape and rejuvenate the
area in the southeast part of the
city.

area in the southeast part of succity.

Farmington Hills Community
Development Coordinator Rick
Lampi said the project was
unusual because it came about

unusual because it came about so quickly.

"We planned this in 1994:95 and then just got started," he raid. "A lot of times plans just stay on the shelf. But this was



Comidor booster: "This was put together and worked on right away," says John Anhut.

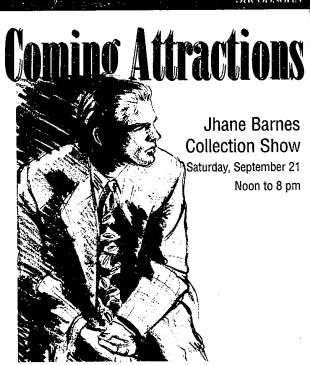
put together and then worked on right away."

The redevelopment scheme attracted about \$600,000 in combined state and federal grant money and city funds.

The city has replaced curb, improved landscaping, bought and cleared property along the corridor from Eight Mile to Middlebelt and west, has added new lighting and gotten old utility poles removed.

Lampi said plans for improvements west of the West River Shopping center (Target store) to Farmington are planned. In addition, several businesses have gotten into the act by either improving facades and landscaping or expanding.

Enterprise Rent-A-Car, Pop Boys, Blakeney's and Vladimir's have all been involved and McDonald's Corp. is considering a new restaurant on the corridor.



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(THE WHOLE WORLD'S A STAGE, PLAY A ROLE.)