

# Concrete

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Andy Nickelloff, president of the homeowner association representing Park Hill residents, said it was important to preserve residential areas.

"We ought to be preserving and protecting residential areas rather than turning them into parking lots," Nickelloff said.

Several other residents echoed Nickelloff's concerns but also mentioned concerns with noise, headlights, decreased property values and preserving an established, close-knit neighborhood.

Glen Fleishacker, chairman of the Farmington Hills Planning Commission, said the parking lot wouldn't fit in with the master plan, which lists the property as residential.

"It doesn't meet the spirit of zoning," Fleishacker said. "We have no need for 466 parking spaces."

Longtime resident Ethel Denison kept her message to the council short and simple.

"I've been there 50 years. Let's keep it like it is."

**'We ought to be preserving and protecting residential areas rather than turning them into parking lots.'**

**Andy Nickelloff**  
—Homeowners association president

very little by council before they voted against it.

"I have to say this is the most unreasonable request I've seen," Councilman Terry Sever said. "I hope no council in the future ever has to consider this again."

Mayor Aldo Vagnozzi said he agreed with residents about the neighborhood's serenity. "Park Hill (street) is kind of an oasis," Vagnozzi said. "I have a tough time staying awake when I walk down the street. We should do whatever we can to preserve it."



Hello again: School district secretary Sandra Millman, school board members Linda Enberg and Bobbi Feldman, and administrator Judy White grill hot dogs for returning staff at an annual back-to-school picnic.

## Welcome back Annual picnic heralds opening day

By TIM SMITH  
STAFF WRITER

A couple weeks ago, when Farmington schools Superintendent Bob Maxfield invited Janet Underhill to the district's annual back to school picnic at Shilohwasee Park, she wasn't sure if she'd attend.

Underhill, who works in the kitchen at East Middle School, told Maxfield she thought she'd be uncomfortable — particularly if other "non-professional" employees weren't going. Underhill apparently thought she'd have nothing to talk about with teachers and administrators.

"Guess what, she's here," said Maxfield, toward the end of Thursday's sun-drenched chowdown.

Underhill, between bites of her hot dog, said she was glad she made the trip to the park. The lunch was great. But the main thing was being welcomed by Maxfield and other staffers, knowing her role is important.

"I am happy to be a little part of students' lives," Underhill said. "... I love to make sure things shine in the kitchen."

With administrators and school board members working the grills, staff members enjoyed confectations and conversation, as well as the usual picnic fare. There were hot dogs, chips, veggies, cookies and ice cream.

And, before the first dogs were served, Harrison High School's band and flag corps provided entertainment for the picnic-goers. Of course, the task of getting ready for Monday's start of school wasn't lost in a stream of mustard. Employees made commutes from their buildings for the picnic, and then returned to their respective work stations for the latter half of the day.

"It's a confirmation that we are really a family," said school board President Cathy Webb. "And that we're all about doing one thing — educating kids to the best of our ability. Everyone's on the same page."

Speech pathologist Emily Drozdowski and Harrison High School counselor Ann Blanny both said they were having a great time, particularly getting to meet people from other schools that they normally don't have the chance to.

"It's very important," Blanny said. "This shows all levels getting together."

Debbie Wilson, beginning a new job as fifth-grade teacher at Wooddale Elementary School, concurred that the picnic brings everybody together, sparks possible new professional relationships and is an excuse to have fun.

"It's real important in a family, in a culture, in an organization, to have a sense of celebrating," Wilson said. "And it's (about) building relationships. From these relationships come the cross-school sharing. We really need this sense of teamwork in our jobs."

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**Orthodontics**  
by Josephine Finazzo, D.M.D.  
**GOOD TO THE BONE**  
self-esteem and oral health.  
While patients may focus their attention upon the position and appearance of the teeth, orthodontists also take the underlying bone into account. As the teeth erupt and take their proper positions in the dental arch, the growth and development of the jaw keep pace. If the teeth fail to assume their correct positions, it can adversely affect the developmental mechanism of the jaws. In an effort to avert malocclusion (bad bite) and an unspeaking profile, the orthodontist may introduce treatment with the goal of effecting better positioning of the teeth and improved development of the jaw. The resultant improvement in both appearance and function can be a significant factor in boosting a child's self-esteem and oral health.  
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