

Brady from page A1

risk for police who are transporting criminals through hallways and corridors.

However, he said, security at the new 47th District court building under construction at 11 Mile and Orchard Lake Roads will be much different than at the current 10 Mile Road building.

He has several suggestions for streamlining procedures as the docket becomes more crowded. Not only does the 47th District serve the largest city in Oakland County - Farmington Hills - but civil cases have jumped since the limit for filing in district court was raised to \$25,000.

Brady would like to see electronic filing of small claims and general civil cases and payment of fines via internet.

Also, he said, "If I have a number of pre-trials set up, there's no reason why I have to see both attorneys in chambers. There's no reason why we can't do some of that over the telephone."

He'd like to start court a little earlier, to encourage attorneys to deal with their 47th District cases first. Witnesses and police officers complain about the waiting time. Starting court earlier could be a way to help alleviate that problem, he said.



Jim Brady

Brady wants the court to be more user-friendly, more able for people to navigate their way through the intimidating and confused. He suggests either a guide or some kind of posting that tells people where to go.

"I've sat there for 16 years and I've seen people come in who are shaking like a leaf," Brady said. "They can't even get the words out of their mouth when they come in for a simple traffic ticket. It shouldn't be that way."

Brady sat on the board of Longacre House and did pro bono work there, was a Farmington Families In Action board member and treasurer, was an Optimist Club board member and worked on its golf outing, is a member of the Exchange Club and coaches youth sports.

Brady and his wife, Dianne, moved to Farmington Hills in 1981; they have three teenagers aged 14, 16 and 18.

Brickner from page A1

Brickner believes most lawsuits aren't complicated legal problems, they're just disputes over the facts. He has experience in mediation and is consulted by other attorneys about issues of law and the state bar association often refers questions about running a solo practice to him.

While the other six candidates for Harris' spot have a niche, Brickner said, "The one thing I have over all of them is that I'm good at everything. Look at what they've done in the community, what they've done in their practice, and what they've done in their profession."

As a council member, Brickner helped write the Hills cell tower ordinance, which is considered one of the toughest in the nation. He describes himself as a very active in the bar association, having chaired and served on several committees and published 60 articles for bar association newsletters and magazines, as well as chapters in reference books, since 1988.

"I do it because I like to do it," he said. "If you have knowledge and you can share it to make life easier for somebody else, why not share it? Helping people is part of this profession."

Because he is a solo practitioner and has only himself to rely on for income, Brickner hasn't done a great deal of pro bono work. However, he said, he often takes cases with clients who need help, knowing they may not be able to pay him.



Barry Brickner

As a judge, I'd want people to know that I will treat them with respect. I do have a record of being friendly and approachable. You can't solve problems if people are afraid to talk to you. I have the ability to listen and understand."

Among the ideas Brickner has for streamlining the 47th District Court:

- Having judges enter court decisions directly into computers, rather than having clerks type them
- Judicial facilitation of cases, which is a form of mediation
- Using volunteers to key in traffic ticket information
- Electronic filings for civil cases

Blizman from page A1

Blizman has been a private practice attorney since 1981, having earned a degree in history and master's degree in social work from Wayne State and his juris doctorate from Detroit College of Law. The decision to go to law school meant working and going to night school for four years.

He spent his early years working in the social service field, including five years with the Maxey Boys Training School in Whitmore Lake and four years with the Child Welfare Licensing Division in Detroit.

He has dealt in all aspects of law, both civil and criminal. "I had experience with landlord/tenant, domestic relations," he said. "I'm prepared to be a judge in that court."

He said the people he's met being an attorney is what he finds most interesting about law.

Once the new courthouse is ready to open late this year, he said, it will likely solve many of the space and prisoner security issues plaguing the current courthouse.

"We have a good court administrator," he said.

Due to the fact caseloads for the court continue to rise for the county's largest city and that it only has two judges, he said it's difficult to see how



Paul Blizman

A way to prevent repeat offenders from crowding the court docket, he said, is getting the probation department more involved as well as utilizing the resources of agencies such as Mothers Against Drunk Driving.

"I think that may make a difference," he said.

His community involvement includes time serving on the American Planning Association, Chamber Music Society of Detroit, Exchange Club of Farmington/Farmington Hills, Farmington Area Philharmonic Board, Farmington/Farmington Hills Optimist Club, Farmington Hills Energy Committee, Farmington Hills Ethics Committee, Farmington Hills Historic District Commission and the Michigan Society of Planning Officials.

He is married to Leah and they have one daughter.

MILITARY NEWS

AIR FORCE GRADS

Airmen Jason Borman and James Smith have graduated from basic military training at Lackland Air Force Base in San Antonio, Texas.

Borman is a graduate of Harrison High School and the nephew of William Borman of Farmington Hills. Smith is also a graduate of Harrison High School and the son of James and Rebecca Smith of Farmington Hills.

GUARDING OUR COUNTRY

Army National Guard Spec. James Frasure has been mobilized and deployed to a forward operating location to support the mission of Operation Noble Eagle.

Operation Noble Eagle is the official name given to the U.S. military operations associated with the homeland defense and support of federal, state, and local civil agencies in the United States. U.S. military reserve component members have been activated to help guard, protect and defend America from within, her borders, shores and skies.

Frasure's wife, Marie, is the daughter of D.W. Hoskins of Farmington Hills.

Jaycees to honor military, airline personnel in candlelight vigil

The Farmington Area Jaycees with other community organizations will be hosting a candlelight vigil on Sept. 11.

The community is invited to take part in this event, which will be held at Farmington High School football field on Sept. 11, from 7:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

The Jaycees invite all recently graduated, active and reserve military personnel to take part in the opening parade. All airline flight attendants and pilots are also invited to take part in the opening ceremonies, to honor them for the duties they perform each day to make the nation safer.

Following the parade onto the field, the Elks Club of Farmington Hills will do a flag ceremony. The closing ceremonies will include a candlelight vigil where every community member in attendance will be able to light a candle and walk around the track.

Jaycees is a not-for-profit volunteer organization that serves the Farmington area by coordinating and running community oriented activities. For more information call, Stephanie Besson at 248-788-0665 or 248-354-1121 ext. 128; or visit www.fajc.org

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