

LONGACRE

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to the mansion off Farmington Road.

Okonski told officers the majority of the board voted Tuesday to remove Twynea from her position and that he wanted her removed from the building.

Twynea, on the other hand, said that the board's vote was illegitimate and that other officials with Longacre want her to stay put.

Police advised the pair to contact their respective attorneys and the locks remained untouched.

Despite the confusion of control, Twynea said scheduled functions at the Longacre will continue.

The historic mansion and grounds were decided to be the city of Farmington Hills by the children of original owner Luman Goodenough to run as an autonomous, self-supporting community center.

In recent years, paid membership has fallen drastically and funding to keep the facility self-sufficient has been a struggle.

The big question today seems to be who is running the Longacre.

Okonski said the board has been unhappy with Twynea's performance as director and program manager. He said the board has the right to terminate her since it hired her to oversee the facility.

Over the past several months, the board and Miss Twynea have disagreed on operating policies, Okonski said. "She took actions to directly or indirectly eliminate classes.... Several parents complained about her treatment to them."

Twynea counters that Okonski has been taking confidential documents from the house for his own keeping and been making executive director decisions without her consent concerning financial procedures.

She said he is also failing to bring back documents for the board and the bookkeeper to review.

In reaction, the director said she recently changed the locks

at Longacre to keep records from being secretly taken away by Okonski, based on her attorney's suggestion.

She said the board's role is a fun-raising body by the house's bylaws and that hers is to run the facility's daily operations.

Another bombshell was dropped at the board's June 27 meeting.

Brian Golden, a member of the Longacre House and president of the Farmington Historical Society, informed the board that it has been operating in an "ad hoc" form and that bylaws have been ignored over the last several years.

"I asked that the board adjourn the meeting and disband as a group," he said.

Okonski said Golden's accusation was an attempted "bloodless coup." Okonski intends to investigate the accusation with the help of his attorney.

Golden contends as a member he wants those in charge to follow the rules of the house's bylaws and that can only be done if the board is elected by paying members of Longacre.

"All but one person has been self-appointed to the board," Golden said.

In the meantime, the board will meet at 7 p.m. Tuesday, June 10.

Members have agreed to have an unbiased member of the Detroit Executive Service Corp. attend and mediate the meeting and come up with a plan.

According to the Longacre House Board of Directors, Chairwoman May Arvo, the remaining board members includes her, Okonski, his wife, Susan Sloan, Marge Sayles, Tom Delchert and Joni Hubred, community editor of the Farmington Observer.

Those who voted to oust Twynea on Tuesday were Okonski, Sloan, Arvo and Sayles.

Arvo said she agreed to remove Twynea because she was no longer taking direction from the board.

"She really thinks this is her house and she can run it any way she wants," Arvo said. "She has to answer to the board," she added. "We hired her and we have the right to let her go."

BUSINESS NEWS

Jimmy John's

The Motor City is gearing up for five additional Jimmy John's Gourmet Sandwich Shops after the company signed a multi-unit development agreement with its current franchisee, Cliff Lunney.

Elgin, Ill.-based Jimmy John's has announced that Lunney, of CWL Investment LLC, has extended his original franchise agreement to open five more Jimmy John's in the Detroit market.

Lunney's plans call for the opening of two downtown locations and one each in West Bloomfield, Southfield and Farmington Hills. The company is currently in the site selection process.

The first downtown store, which will be located on the

first floor of the newly completed Compuware World Headquarters building in Detroit, is slated to open in late July.

Lunney is no stranger to Jimmy John's. He currently operates three stores as part of the original seven-store agreement that he signed in 2001, and the other four stores are currently under development. He expects all 12 of his locations to be in operation by 2005.

Each of the stores is open seven days a week, delivers to the surrounding area, offers business and corporate catering and accepts most major credit cards.

Jimmy John's sandwich shop was founded in 1983 by 19-year-old Jimmy John Liautaud

in a converted garage in Charleston, Ill. Since its founding, Jimmy John's has grown to more than 185 corporate and franchised locations in more than 20 states and two countries.

Jimmy John's currently offers 24 varieties of sandwiches, chips, pickles, and homemade cookies. For more information, visit www.jimmyjohns.com

Marx Layne named

Marx Layne & Company today announced that it has been named public relations firm of record for Von Maur, based in Davenport, Iowa, for the opening of its three new stores.

Scheduled to open in fall 2003, the retailer will be

expanding into the Livonia and Ann Arbor and Louisville, Ky. markets. The announcement was made by agency partners Frederick Marx, Michael Layne and Don Tanner.

Von Maur is a family-owned, specialty department store featuring fashion apparel, accessories and footwear for women, men and children. Individualized service provided by knowledgeable sales associates and a residential ambience store environment are among Von Maur's points of distinction.

Established 130 years ago in Davenport, Von Maur currently operates 18 locations throughout the Midwest in Iowa, Illinois, Indiana, Nebraska, Minnesota and Kansas.

ARTIST

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artwork to win a gold medal from the prestigious nationwide American Watercolor Society in 1980.

"We're extremely happy to have it here," said Bob Sbarge, president of the museum known nationwide as the premiere institution for classic automobiles of the 1920s and '30s.

He said Hale's piece will be part of the museum's automotive gallery, which complements the dozens of classic automobiles on display.

Hale's works and organization efforts have been included in *Concours d'Elegance* shows at Meadowbrook Hall and others in the state, as well as Pebble Beach.

His chrome was donated in honor of his wife, the late Micki Hale.

"I decided I wanted others to be able to see it rather than have it in someone's private collection," Hale said.

Sbarge noted, "It's a very important piece considering it's the only gold medal winner of the American Watercolor Society to win the top honor to depict automotive art."

"There was a printed edi-



Tom Hale has donated artwork to a prestigious auto museum.

tion that has been highly regarded by art collectors all these years," he said.

Hale, who trained in industrial arts, worked for decades in the automotive industry, designing future vehicles.

He left the industry in 1985 to pursue his artwork full time.

His most popular pieces highlight the majestic colors and shapes captured in reflections of chrome and polished

body paint.

Today, Hale finds himself in demand as a designer for the poster artwork for several *Concours d'Elegance* shows and some commissioned works as well.

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