

Youth Employment Bureau Proposed To Serve 9,000



AT EXCHANGE -- Two well-known Republicans renewed acquaintances Wednesday at the Farmington Exchange Club. Congressman Jack McDonald (right) flew in from Washington, D.C. to be guest speaker for the Exchangeites and Delos Hamlin, Oakland County commissioner, was in Farmington after flying up the previous week from Florida. (Ever photo)

A study has been concluded proposing a Farmington youth employment bureau with a full time director to begin operation May 1972. That target date is dependent upon agreements being reached with governmental units who will be asked to finance the operation anticipated to cost \$20,000 for the first year. The impetus will be to serve the 9,000 youth, 14-21 years old, in Farmington who are eligible for part-time or full time employment.

ferred with officials from the Office of Economic Opportunity, Michigan Employment Security Commission, State Department of Vocational Education, Michigan State Advisory Council for Vocational Education, Macomb Community College and the director of grants and federal aid for Oakland County. "The committee on youth employment believes that legitimate work experience provides youth an opportunity to develop their sense of responsibility and self-discipline and is, therefore, a deterrent to juvenile delinquency and neglect," said Baumunk. "It is believed that a job can be a catalytic influence which can result in helping youth mature."

YOUTH WHO could benefit include: Continued on Page 2A

Vagnozzi Innocent

Aldo Vagnozzi, Farmington School trustee, was found innocent of an assault and battery charge Friday afternoon by Plymouth District Judge Dunbar Davis.

When the five-hour trial concluded, Judge Davis said he was unconvinced beyond reasonable doubt that Vagnozzi had any intent to do physical harm to the complainant, Mrs. Donald (Mary) Kenney, wife of the leader of an abortive attempt to recall Vagnozzi and three other school trustees. Davis announced his verdict of innocent at about 4 p.m. Friday in Plymouth.

Hikes Agreeable

Farmington teachers have voted overwhelmingly to ratify their new pay contract, and officials hope an agreement with administrators will be reached over the weekend. The two actions, reported inside, are paving the way for the school board's secret budget meeting Monday night.

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Secrets Leaked

The Jaycees are being tight-lipped about their 25th annual show coming up in March. But there's been a leak in the organization, and the leaks are reported in an inside exclusive.

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Handmaidens

That's the title of a very special Girl Scout badge earned by a troop in Farmington. You can learn more about it in the Church section.

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DO YOU WANT TO BEAT THE MID-WINTER BLAHS?

READ

FOCUS:
Suburbia

In today's Observer!

Schools Survey Waht's Unknown

By MARTHA MAHAN

Farmington parents are more concerned about curriculum than school finances, an informal survey indicates.

In contrast, — educational spending — which Farmington parents ranked third in interest — was listed as top problem by parents in a study made nationwide.

THE FARMINGTON survey was made during the November parent-teacher conferences in elementary schools.

Parents were asked to stop by the school office to answer a two-point questionnaire. They were not required to complete the form in the office nor were they asked to sign their names.

The study, a casual sampling of opinion without attempt at scientific survey, was made in an effort to discover, in limited fashion, what kinds of things parents

want to know about their schools and how much information they feel they now are receiving. Results indicated about one-third of elementary school parents feel they are receiving "enough" information. Another 30 per cent said they felt they knew "very little" about their schools and 52 per cent said only "some, a little."

Listed in order after curriculum as things parents want to know more about are: general information on what the schools are doing with children; finances; programs; transportation (by which was meant possible cross-district busing to achieve racial integration); board actions and policies; school operation; sex education and drug education.

The national survey showed parents concerned with finances, integration, discipline, lack of school rooms and facilities, and drug use in descending importance. Only 30 per cent of 1,895 of a potential 5,293 parents of elementary school pupils answered the questionnaire. No attempt was made to determine the percentage of response from only those parents participating in the conference.

"Future plans, educational objectives, system and school policy, extra-curricular activities."

SOME COMMENTS from parents included: "We should stop saying how great our school system is and start telling parents what programs we are missing that other districts have."

"Would like to know what, if anything, is being done in the way of curriculum and extra-curricular innovations going on in other schools."

"Provisions available for brighter children in lower elementary grades."

"The philosophy of the Farmington Board of Education—specifically, the policy guidelines that govern curriculum and what freedoms individual school has within these guidelines."

FORMAL requests will be made to the governmental units once the proposed budget is firm and explorations completed on availability of state and federal grants.

Dr. Roderick J. Smith, superintendent of schools, says that if the district is unable to budget money for the project it would consider providing some personnel, office equipment and space.

Baumunk says there are in excess of 6,000 youth ages 14-17 in Farmington and an estimated 3,000 in the 18-20-year-old bracket.

Although occupational education programs are operated in all three high schools, Baumunk stresses, the present staff only serves about 250 students. Baumunk was assisted in the original research by Richard Caton and Robert Leikovich. They visited youth employment bureaus in Livonia, Southfield and Madison Heights and con-

Frank Kelley Will Speak To Chamber

Michigan Attorney General Frank Kelley will be the keynote speaker at the annual meeting of the Farmington Chamber of Commerce on Wednesday, Jan. 26.

The annual meeting will also feature announcement of the chamber's "citizen of the year" award and election of six members to the board of directors.

THE MEETING will be held in the Botsford Inn with social hour at 6:30 p.m. and dinner served at 7:30 p.m. Tickets for the steak dinner are \$7.50 per person and may be obtained up until Jan. 21 from the chamber office in the Masonic Temple at Grand River and Farmington Rds.



FRANK KELLEY

The "citizen of the year" award was initiated last year by the chamber, and first winner was Ronald Holland, football coach at North Farmington High School.

Nominations have been made for the 1972 recipient and considered by the judges, and the citizen picked will be announced and honored Jan. 26.

JOHN ANHUT, chamber president, says he is pleased Kelley has agreed to appear at the chamber's annual meeting.

"The last nine years have seen more dramatic changes in Michigan and its state government than the previous 80 years, and during this period our attorney general has been in the very center of action." Kelley received his law degree from University of

Detroit in 1951 and practiced corporation law for three years in Detroit and general law for seven years in Alpena where he held several public positions.

He was appointed state attorney general in 1962 by Gov. John Swainson and was elected to the job his first term around and re-elected three times since.

His efforts have been acknowledged by the 50 attorney generals of the U.S. who elected him president of the National Association of Attorney Generals, the first official from Michigan to be so honored.

Kelley is believed to be running for a race against Republican Robert Griffin in an attempt to capture the U.S. Senate seat for Michigan Democrats.

Issues Confronting The Township

An ordinance aimed at eventually eliminating free-standing signs in Farmington Township has been sent to the planning commission for study of provisions added by the township board of trustees.

Referral of the sign ordinance was made at Monday night's meeting of the trustees, who also defeated a proposed site plan ordinance which has been debated for some six months.

THE SIGN ordinance, which has been debated for several weeks by the township board, is being firm up into a final draft by Township Attorney Joseph T. Brennan.

Brennan has been in the position of having to retool the ordinance from week to week according to suggestions made by trustees while debating the issues.

board appears in near agreement on the major provisions, and the revised draft is in the hands of planning trustees bracing to debate the fee schedule for enforcing the ordinance.

MONDAY NIGHT, the board was given the latest revision from Brennan which contained provisions for removing non-conforming signs.

The change provides that after two years all signs must either conform to the ordinance or be removed.

Merchants who would face a hardship by removal of the sign will have the right to file an appeal with the zoning board of appeals.

Brennan said that under this arrangement, the township will avoid having to devise amortization schedules for removal of all non-conforming signs and will have to

amortize only when an appeal is made.

TRUSTEE Fred Lichtman contended that fees should be set high enough to finance inspections to insure the ordinance is enforced.

Brennan explained the principal purpose of the ordinance was to get rid of free-standing signs now located in front-yards of businesses.

Supervisor Earl Teeplees asked whether the ordinance would allow civic clubs to locate free-standing signs advertising where their clubs met.

Under the ordinance, Brennan answered, civic club signs could be located only in industrial areas.

ANOTHER ordinance which has taken weeks of the board's time is a proposed site plan review ordinance. For six months, trustees have been debating the proper

limitations of government in dictating site plans of builders.

Monday night, the board voted 5-2 to deny an ordinance drafted by Brennan and then voted unanimously to instruct Clerk Floyd Cairns to suggest an approach acceptable to him.

Lichtman objected to the draft because it left too much to discretion and established other criteria which already existed in zoning ordinances.

The section requiring relocation of buildings to create a harmonious relationship with existing buildings was too broad a statement of powers, Lichtman argued.

He also questioned whether proper function of review for the planning commission because the location of these were presently detailed in zoning ordinances and could be enforced by inspectors.

"This leaves an opening for the planning commission to resist any requirements which the ordinances do not require."

THE PRESENT site plan ordinance is inconsistent, Brennan stated, and the revision is designed to give flexibility to a commission because each parcel is unique and sometimes require judgments which are inapplicable to all cases.

The section requiring Trustee David Stader agreed with Lichtman that planners lack the right to dictate what persons should do with their property. The revised ordinance, Stader added, simply gives guidelines on what items should be considered.

Treasurer Thomas Nolan, a planning commission member, argued that months of delay will result if all site plans must go to the planning commission before

building permits are issued. The delay will slow new construction in the township, he cautioned.

Cairns said that originally the board had only asked that all site plans go to the engineers for review on drainage and sewage. "We didn't want to go through the planning commission and planning consultants with every plan. It would take at least two months to get a building permit."

Brennan said it was legally impossible to delegate to an engineer, working on a retaining basis, the authority to approve site plans.

Engineers can recommend changes in site plans, he added, but approval of site plans can be delegated by the township board only to a township commission or department.

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