

Trustees -- Youth Challenges Experience

Frederick Lichtman
"The problems of township government are pretty much routine; they arise out of necessity," Frederick Lichtman, incumbent trustee said during a recent interview. Lichtman was elected to his present seat four years ago and is running for a second term in office.

He says he has a "legal and business background" (he is a lawyer and president of Tulsa Oil Co.) and maintains he is primarily concerned with efficient administration. As a trustee, he doesn't see his role primarily as an innovator of new ideas. He feels his main value has been as a critic, trying to "see things are done right."

"We get a lot of requests where the proponents didn't really know what they were going to do," he said, mentioning a recent youth employment project of which he was highly critical at a board meeting. "I do some good, carry as it sounds," he said. "I have no political ambitions. I feel if you've got business experience and can help your community, you should do it." He wants to see Farmington Township incorporated as a

city and is serving on the charter commission. Asked the "most important problem" by the League of Women Voters, he said, "A home rule city, administered by a professional city manager, is the only means we have to implement the future growth of our community."

He is publicly unhappy with the administration of Supervisor Earl Teeples, and has been one of the board members unhappy with current Supervisor Earl Teeples. "I've lived here, I grew up here," she said in an interview, explaining her concern for the "quality" of the township. Like most of the rest of the board, she is supporting cityhood, as are the challengers for the trustee seats.

Margaret Schaeffer
Margaret Schaeffer, a lawyer serving her first term on the township board, says she is concerned with the "quality of life" in the township. She has made zoning, beautification, drainage, etc., her main concerns as a trustee. "Finding vehicles and ways to enable Farmington to

maintain good zoning, solve problems of storm water drainage, preserve open space, and provide for public health and safety at a reasonable cost are among the challenges that confront the community today," she says. Like her fellow incumbent, Frederick Lichtman, she was a supporter of former Supervisor Curtis Hall, "a good administrator," and has been one of the board members unhappy with current Supervisor Earl Teeples.

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Joe Teeples
Joe Teeples, a student at Oakland Community College, says he wants an "open door policy" at township hall. "I hate to say 'power to the people,' but that is really what

I want," he said in a recent interview. "Government has the duty to go to the individual," he said. This means putting the agenda in the paper early, getting "quicker action" at township hall, according to Teeples.

He got into politics two years ago by acting as spokesman for his father, Earl Teeples, who was then running for supervisor and prohibited by a police department regulation from speaking in public. "Youth has been slighted," he says. "We have hardly anything for people not on drugs," he said, and he wants to "serve youth and senior citizens."

An advocate of incorporation, he wants it "out our own pace," a phrase his father uses often. He says he would like to make "strides in that area," like paving projects. He would like to see more recreation projects, saying "only Rapline" has been provided by the township for the young people.

Steve Davidovich
Steven Davidovich, challenging two incumbents, although he says he is "running against" Frederick Lichtman, got into politics mainly through the Farmington Jaycees. A salesman for Economics Laboratory Inc., he is also director of governmental affairs and leadership training for the Jaycees. He also worked on the "naturalist park" project with Supervisor Earl Teeples and credits Teeples with interesting him in politics.

"The main object of the board should be unity," he says, addressing the question of the split between the board and Teeples. He says he is interested in a strong recreation program for the township, including a community health risk and community swimming pool. A supporter of cityhood, he feels it would encourage development, and provide more revenue to the area. But as far as the township board is concerned, he gets back to "unity," which he interprets as more board members supporting the supervisor.

"They shouldn't get into so many arguments in public,"

he said, suggesting closed meetings before the regular session "to talk things over." In answering the question "What is the most important issue facing the township?" he said "Becoming a city and moving forward as one."

"To do so we must have areas for high rise apartments and a large shopping center and promote our industrial center." He expects the revenue from these projects to lower the taxes for the rest of the residents.

the Farmington Observer
EMORY DANIELS, Editor
36251 Schoolcraft Road
Livonia, Mich. 48150
Phone 261-8600
Published every Wednesday and Weekend
Home Delivery Service
Newstand per copy, 15¢
Carrier monthly, 60¢
Phone 261-3800
Published by Observer Newspapers, Inc.
36251 Schoolcraft Road, Livonia, Michigan 48150
Second class matter at the U.S. Post Office, Plymouth, Michigan
Address all mail subscriptions change of address forms 3579 to P.O. Box 2428, Livonia, Michigan 48151

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FREDERICK LICHTMAN
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5th Junior High Principal Named
Alton Bennett, principal of Farmington Junior High School, Tuesday was named principal of the district's fifth junior high now under construction at Northwestern Highway and 14 Mile Rd. He will begin his duties as principal Jan. 1 working out of the central office on staff assignments and programming, and move into the new school when it opens in September of 1973.
He will be an administrative assistant until January. The school board made four other administrative shifts including:
• Dr. Joseph Chiasson, assistant principal at East Junior High School, was appointed principal of Farmington Junior High School.
• Richard Close, principal of Flanders Elementary School will be principal of Kenbrook Elementary school.
• Carolyn Plsek, an administrative intern, was appointed principal of Highmeadow Elementary School.
• Jean Ralph, who was on sabbatical leave, will be principal of both Flanders and Cloverdale Elementary Schools.

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