

# Town Hall meetings priority with Faxon

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"We're looking to put into place communitywide conferences on key issues and invite in people who are experts in government, business and other areas," said Faxon, former president pro tempore of the Senate who for 18 years represented Detroit in Lansing.

Topics of discussion will be decided upon by participants, the Southfield resident added.

"I'm sure we'll address the business climate and the automotive industry, but I don't want to dictate. I'll be open to people's suggestions and respond to them."

"Establishing this type of forum was very difficult in Detroit. Just from campaigning I've seen there's a great deal more interest in involvement in this district," he said.

"This community is one of the keystones of the state in terms of the wealth of people experienced and knowledgeable about a variety of areas affecting our future."

Though Faxon intends to "remain a strong advocate of quality-of-life issues," such as education and the arts, he now sees the attraction of jobs to Michigan and stimulation of business as priorities for the upcoming legislative session.

It's his hope that the area's labor market and supplier network will sway firms such as the American Motors Corp. to re-establish manufacturing operations locally.

"The key to our future is trying to recognize the importance of maintaining our position with regard to the automotive industry. People have been writing it off. What they ought to recognize is we have the potential to become more concentrated in terms of auto production," Faxon said.

"Suddenly we're aware of what happens when a strike occurs somewhere else, or that what made sense at one time, for instance moving parts from Ohio to Michigan, may now be less profitable."

Because the state's executive office and legislature are in a state of transition, Faxon said he's not yet able to specify particular bills he'll introduce or specific personnel changes he'll

make on his staff.

Marilyn Masala, president of the Oak Park Board of Education, however, has been appointed district coordinator. Persons with concerns who are interested in contacting Faxon may call him at 642-1178 or 642-6113.

A 1958 graduate of Wayne State University, Faxon received his master's degree in education from Wayne in 1959 and a master's in history from the University of Michigan. From 1956 to 1984, the Detroit native taught for Detroit Public Schools.

Faxon isn't known for authoring a large quantity of bills, but "in just the last few weeks I've seen a few of my ideas (amendments to others' bills) translated into law," he said.

One amendment allows board members of intermediate school districts to sit as school board members on the state tenure commission. Another involves student yearbook photographs. Schools may no longer require students to have their pictures taken only by the photographer selected by the administration. As long as a student-chosen photographer meets yearbook standards, the picture must be accepted for yearbook publication.

"OFTEN, BEING a good legislator involves stopping bad bills as much as promoting good bills," Faxon said.

"A lot of times you have to be prepared to prevent bad legislation where it could be injurious. It may be that's one of the faults (of legislators). They're too anxious to promote too many things without recognizing some of the consequences."

"I'm not interested in pride of authorship," he added.

"Many of the things I proposed got into other bills as amendments, and many people know that I do this. I'm more concerned with effecting change than getting credit."

Faxon has served as co-chairman of the Joint Legislative Committee on Detroit School Finance and as a member of the Health and Social Services and Agriculture and Consumer Affairs committees, the Joint Legislative Committee on Ethics, and the Joint Legislative Committee on Libraries.

## Improved jails ahead

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• 15 square feet of floor area per cell occupant, excluding benches

• seating space of not less than 24 linear inches per occupant.

Jeff Eubank, administrator in the office of facility services of the Michigan Department of Corrections, said 33 of Michigan's 83 counties have lawsuits pending against them for alleged improper care of prisoners. Ten cases are being heard in federal court while the rest are in circuit court or appeals court, he said.

"WITH DAMAGES and attorney fees, claimants are seeking a total of \$40 million," Eubank said. "This is big stuff."

Farmington Hills police officials have submitted a budget request to city council which seeks funding for an ad-

dition to the police station or a separate building on the city hall site or another location.

One idea "will be in the talking stage," according to Nichols, is sharing detention space with Farmington and West Bloomfield Police in a new facility.

Problems such as interviewing suspects by handcuffing them to chairs would be solved by building a fully-staffed holding facility, he said. Female prisoners could be detained in separate quarters and monitored by female guards, he said. Currently, he said, the department is sometimes unable to process female prisoners because no female officers are on duty that day on that shift.

In Farmington, female officers monitor both male and female prisoners after they are processed, which is permissible by law.

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## YMCA highlights

The Farmington Area YMCA provides a variety of services for youth and adults in the community. Further information may be obtained by calling 353-4020 between 9 a.m. and 10:30 p.m. daily.

**YOUTH BASKETBALL (YBA)** — YBA (Youth Basketball Association) was started by the YMCA and the NBA players association in 1975. Since that time, over one million players, coaches and parents have been involved throughout the U.S. and Canada. As a special partnership of professional and youth basketball, the YBA program is unique.

Registration begins Jan. 10. Practices begin the week of Jan. 31 at area grade schools. Two divisions are as follows: Junior division (grades 1-5) — played on rims that are extended to eight feet and smaller basketballs that provide kids with the opportunity to have a fun game with a lot of scoring. Senior division (grades 6-8) — the program involves fast action, fair play, quality instruction and helps each player develop their own skills.

**35-AND-OVER MEN'S BASKETBALL LEAGUE, JAN. 16** — 6:30, Spartans vs. Elites; 6:30, Pepp-Cola vs. Buddys Titans; 7:30 St. Johns vs. Lakers; 7:30 Old Homestead vs. Celtics; 8:30 Bulls Guys vs. Lakers.

**FARMINGTON YMCA PRESIDENTS RACQUETBALL TOURNAMENT** — For Farmington YMCA members only. A tournament to honor the country's presidential birthdays. The tournament features Mens Class A, B, Novice, 40 and Over, 50 and Over along with Womens Class B, C and Novice. Each participant will receive a souvenir T-shirt. Games are played after 4:30 on Friday, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday and on Sunday after 11 a.m. Dates: Feb. 18, 19 and 20. Fee is \$8. Special Valentine Racquetball — any husband and wife entrants will receive special two-for-one entry fee.

**JOIN THE 1983 FARMINGTON FLYERS, JOGGING AND RUNNING CLUB** — For fun, fitness and fellowship, 1983 will be the Jogging Club's third year. Your membership fee will provide you with Flyers Running Club Newsletter, area running information, charts for mileage, along with running tips and a T-shirt award that will be presented when your goal is completed. Sign up at the front desk. Annual dues: \$5.

**DAYTIME WOMENS RACQUETBALL TOURNAMENT** — A racquetball tournament for the YMCA member who desires to play during the day. All matches will be played Jan. 24-26 between 10 a.m. and 12 noon. Fee, members only \$3.

**YOUTH FLOOR HOCKEY SCHEDULE** — Jan. 18 — North PP 9 a.m. Wooddale Irish vs. Kenbrook/Forest Wildcats; South JR 9 a.m. Eagle Rangers vs. Woodcreek Blues; North PP 10 a.m. Larkshire Wolverines vs. Woodcreek Hot Rods; South JR 10 a.m. Beechview Islanders vs. Larkshire North Stars; North PP 11 a.m. Beechview Hawks vs. Larkshire Wolverines; South JR 11 a.m. Forest Flyers vs. Longacre Black Hawks; North JR 12 noon Kenbrook Capitals vs. Wooddale Red Wings; South JR 12 noon Wooddale Maple Leafs vs. Beechview Bombers; North 1 p.m. Kenbrook Kings vs. Woodcreek Whalers; South SR 1 p.m. Longacre Jets vs. Forest Flames; North SR 2 p.m. Eagle Oilers vs. Wooddale Canucks.

**SLEEP OVER** — Jan. 29 is the date set for this first-time event. Youth must be in middle school (grades 6-8) to attend. The event will feature all the favorites such as gym games, late night swim, pizza, along with two special activities, a Facilian and Donkey Kong Tournament and a midnight showing of the Disney film, "The Black Hole." All youth should bring a towel, swim suit, sleeping bag and toilet articles. Time, 8 p.m. until 9 a.m. Fee for members is \$8 and non-members \$14.

**EXPANDED BABYSITTING HOURS** — The Farmington YMCA has the best in babysitting services for all members with a cost of \$1.25 per child, per hour (each additional child is 75 cents per hour). Monday-Friday 8:45-1:15; Monday-Thursday, 6-9 p.m.

**FATHER/TOY FUNTIME** — A special program designed for the 3-year-old child and his/her father. Activities include short stories and nursery rhymes, finger plays and songs which will encourage verbal development and exercises. Papa will learn various activities that you can do with your child at home. Wear play clothes and have fun. Saturdays 8:45-10:30 a.m. and 12:00-1:15 p.m. Fee for members is \$14 and non-members \$21.

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