

Computer system aims to end dusty law books

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attorneys with just a simple listing of legal decisions and cases, it can also provide attorneys with the entire text of a decision.

Because using the computer system right now costs attorneys \$1.20 per minute with an increase to \$1.50 per minute expected in July, it could be pretty expensive to spend time reading a case off the computer.

BUT WITH A memory of all cases and legal decisions dating back to 1958, Westlaw can provide attorneys with a library they most likely couldn't afford to purchase, Lewis said.

"I just can't afford to keep a library of all 50 states," said Farmington Hills attorney Clarence Gabel, who is taking the \$15 computer training course later this week. Referring to the expense of law books, Gabel said it's impossible to

have all required information on hand in his office. That's where Westlaw could save him some money.

"We're still going to keep our own libraries," said Gabel. "But it's not just because we're creatures of habit. There's times when you want to sit down and research the whole case."

Although Bibeau thinks the day is way off when attorneys will exclusively use a computer system for legal research, he said, "I suppose, in 20 years

we won't have to buy books, I don't know."

But even if the computer system fails to replace books, in the meantime it's expected to save both attorneys and libraries a lot of money that traditionally has been set aside to purchase sets of law books and to keep up with each year's load of recent court decisions, Lewis said.

"It gives you access to a library that's more up-to-date," Gabel said. "I get updates (on a series of law books)

twice a year. On the data base (computer) we can get an update every month."

In other words, Lewis said, an attorney can have the most recent court decisions at the push of a button.

"Westlaw is much faster than print," he said, pointing to six-day old court decisions on the computer compared to the time needed to publish the same decision in a law book.

And that's when a computerized legal research system can save libraries money instead of having to purchase volumes of case books, decisions and federal and state regulations, Lewis said. In fact, the computer already has all of Farmington Hills' ordinances.

WHILE IN the long run the system can save money, the library still pays a monthly fee to Westlaw for use of the system, in addition to the by-the-minute fee paid by the attorney.

"It is a vast savings nonetheless," Furi said, who was unsure how much

the library's monthly bills are.

To further cut down costs, Furi said, library officials are hoping to attract as many attorneys as possible to the computer system because charges are billed on a "rated service" — the greater the use, the cheaper the costs. Because only 12-16 attorneys have taken the computer training course, it's anybody's guess how the new research system will affect the legal profession other than cutting down on research time, Bibeau and Gabel agreed.

"It's being accepted by more and more attorneys," Gabel said. "But I don't think there will be a terminal on every lawyer's desk."

But Gabel believes more and more attorneys will see the advantage of using the computer, particularly to keep track of documents and recent court decisions.

"Younger attorneys might adapt faster," he said. "It's all going to come very slowly though."

Plan calls for police expansion

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But the \$2.5 million preliminary cost estimates for roomier police headquarters includes the additional 25,000 square feet of new space and 5,000-

10,000 square feet of unfinished space for future use, pay for the architects and money to at least partially furnish the department.

Although the improvement plan still must be approved by City Council

members, Blasell said, plans for the police department are of more immediate concern than improvements in the fire department and public works department.

"Relative to the other (public facility)

projects, that's a very immediate one," he said.

There's little doubt, Nichols said, that police department headquarters are just too small to accommodate all the employees.

Firefighters seek new building

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"Quite obviously because of the age, it needs attention structurally," Karon said. "It will need either refurbishing or relocating."

"We'll have to determine whether it would be more cost-efficient to refurbish or build another one (station) for that area."

As with any aged building, Karon said, part of station Number 3's problem is the loss of energy through its many windows.

"We need to take a harder and closer look at any opportunity to save money

on energy use. So rather than trying to refurbish the building, it might be cheaper in the long run to build a new one," he said.

"But we haven't gotten to that stage yet," Karon said.

Instead, Karon said it will be some time before final plans are developed as population and traffic movement are considered.

But, if approved for the late 1980s, planning commissions said that improvements to station Number 3, as well as construction of a fifth fire station would be paid for with capital improvement and building authority money.

Workshop set for teachers seeking work

Laid-off teachers may attend a job-hunting workshop for half-price on Saturday, May 11, at the Ramada Inn, 28225 Telegraph, Southfield.

Sponsored by the Oakland University Continuum Center, the seminar, which runs from 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., costs \$40, (\$20 for pink-slipped teachers), includes lunch and all materials.

Former teachers and other business professionals will talk about career alternatives, transferring teaching skills to other jobs, market research, resume writing and interviewing techniques.

Pre-registration is being accepted at the center, on the Oakland University campus, Rochester.

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NOTICE OF REGISTRATION OF THE QUALIFIED ELECTORS OF THE CLARENCEVILLE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF OAKLAND AND WAYNE COUNTIES, MICHIGAN

TO THE QUALIFIED ELECTORS

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE, that the Annual Election of Clarenceville School District of Oakland and Wayne Counties, Michigan, will be held in said School District on Monday, June 13, 1983.

TAKE NOTICE, THEREFORE, that any qualified elector of said School District who is not already a registered elector of the said School District may register at the following places on the days and hours indicated:

PLACES: For those persons living within the School District and living within the City of Livonia:
Livonia City Hall
33001 Five Mile Road
Livonia, Michigan 48152

For those persons living within the School District and within the Township of Redford:
Redford Township Hall
15145 Beech Road
Redford Township, Wayne County
Detroit, Michigan 48229

For those persons living within the School District and within the City of Farmington Hills:
Farmington Hills City Hall
31555 Eleven Mile Road
Farmington Hills, Michigan 48034

DAYS AND HOURS:
Each day during office hours until May 16, 1983, until 5:00 o'clock P.M. Local Time. Persons planning to register should determine when the several municipal offices will be open for registration.

LAST DAY OF REGISTRATION:
May 16, 1983, but not after 5:00 o'clock P.M. Local Time on said date.

TAKE NOTICE that those qualified electors who have not heretofore registered with the Clerk of the City or Township in which such elector resides must do so to be eligible to vote in the forthcoming election. Those qualified electors who are duly registered to vote in the area in which they reside within this School District at said Annual Election need not re-register.

TAKE NOTICE FURTHER, that at said election there will be two (2) members elected to the Board of Education for a four (4) year term. The candidates for the four (4) year terms are:

Samuel J. Frisk
Barry M. Sherman

TAKE NOTICE FURTHER, that the Regular Election of Schoolcraft Community College District will be held on June 13, 1983, at which time one (1) Trustee will be elected from the District at large for a two (2) year term ending June 30, 1985. The candidates are:

Wayne L. Berry, Jr.
John C. Burkhardt
J. Christopher Rotta
Sharon L. Sarria
Mark E. Steinhauer

and three (3) Trustees will be elected from the District at large for a six (6) year term ending June 30, 1989. The candidates are:

Mary Breen
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Daryl J. Delabbio
Harvey A. Falter
Byron A. Graham
Harry G. Greenleaf
Myron Kasey
Nelson Raymond

By Order of the Board of Education
/s/ MICHAEL T. MANORIS
Secretary to the Clarenceville School District of Oakland and Wayne Counties, Michigan
Board of Education

Dated: April 19, 1983

Published: May 9 and 10, 1983

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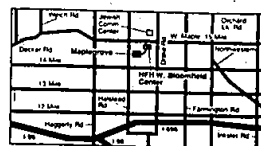


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