

# He's a fanatic when it comes to quality

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make sure your pizza's hot and your milk's cold," Howard said. "He understood that."

IN HIS position with Farmington Public Schools, which he held since 1980, Howard supervised and coordinated all of the district's food service activities.

This included planning and supervising the preparation and serving of food, setting up programs to recruit and train food service employees and visiting regularly with staff and teachers at schools.

"I solicit parents' comments," said Howard, a Farmington Hills resident. "I meet on a regular basis with the PTA/PTO in Farmington. I meet at high schools and middle schools with student officers. We have, in the last couple years, involved some meetings with elementary school students."

"Two found especially in school lunches you're able to impact on the future of our country," he said. "Feeding quality (meals) to quality kids — that's what I attempt to do."

"What I liked the most (about the job) is there really is no such thing as a typical day. As we learn new ideas, we try to incorporate new ideas into our philosophy."

HOWARD, 46, has been working in school buildings since he was 14. He has worked in restaurants and country clubs.

"I started washing dishes," he said. "That's where everybody starts."

"Two always enjoyed the food business, all phases of the food business."

Howard was born in Detroit and raised in Royal Oak. He earned a bachelor of science degree in social studies and business administration from Eastern Michigan University and an associate's degree in food service supervision from Ferris State College.

The recipient of a scholarship from the Food Service Executive Association, Howard's grade point average was 4.0 in food service classes and 3.7 overall.

Howard turned his attention to school food service when he visited his old football coach at his Royal Oak high school. When he told the coach that he was interested in the food service business, the coach suggested working with school lunches.

TO HEAR Howard talk about the job today, you get the feeling he sincerely enjoys it.

"School lunch people are the nearest people in schools. They're just great people," he said. "In school lunches, you don't tell the kids, 'Come back tomorrow and lunch will be ready.' You have to have lunch ready for them."

"It's challenging. We always have challenges and that leads to opportunities. One person can't do it. It's a total effort. I strongly believe that it's the individual person working with the individual students that makes a program successful."

The new supervisor previously worked as food service manager for EMU, food service supervisor for Farmington Schools, sales representative for Knott and McKinley food service manager for Harper Hospital, frozen food buyer for the S & G Grocer Co. and production supervisor for Elias Brothers Wholesale.

HOWARD HAS noticed trends in school lunches. For example, macaroni and cheese is making a comeback, he said. Salad bars were popular.

lar at a high school where a coach encouraged players to eat salads, but weren't much of a hit at other schools.

The new supervisor will miss Farmington but is looking forward to coming to Livonia.

"I believe Farmington is one of

the best school districts in Oakland County as Livonia is one of the best in Wayne County," he said.

Howard said he's always looking for ways to improve service.

"That's a daily, ongoing situation," he said. "Any time you're in a position, you're always looking for new

ideas to do it better.

"I'm a fanatic on quality. You want to give the best quality service you can."

HOWARD'S HOBBIES are coaching hockey and baseball and playing hockey and golf. He is a member of the Farmington YMCA and the food-

raising committee for the new Farmington YMCA addition, among other organizations, and is on the board of directors of the Farmington Amateur (Hockey) Association.

"I'm more kids-students-children-minded," Howard said. "I enjoy working with them."

## Carvings draw speculation

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the photos) to say whether it's worth investigating."

A PETROGLYPH is a rock carving done by aboriginal American Indians usually for a religious purpose. Wolford admits the rock, which bears the carved profile of a human face, could have been done by natural forces — ice, wind, water.

But he suspects there are enough characteristics about the rock that demand expert attention. If the rock indeed is a petrogliph — it would be Michigan's only third or fourth such find — there's too much to lose by ignoring it, Wolford said.

"There's just a few things that don't look like nature did it," Wolford said. "There's obviously some-

thing here. The rock, measuring about 78-by-8 feet in diameter, has carvings that could represent a tongue, nostrils, lips and an eye. "Anatomical-

ly, it's quite correct," Wolford said. But there's more than just the facial features that lead Wolford to believe the rock is a piece of primitive art. The rock bears chip marks of equal size and at equal distances. A chipped semicircle at the top of the rock — representing the head of the human face — is matched by another semicircle of the same size at the side of the carved face.

"THE CHIP marks are really what set me off. The chip marks are equal in width. That doesn't occur in nature too often," Wolford said.

His suspicion that the rock might be an archaeological find wasn't formed overnight. Wolford has been hiking the former Eleanor Spicer estate, west of Farmington Road, between 10 and 11 Mile, since he was a youngster. Though he walked passed the area hundreds of times, Wolford discovered the rock only a short time ago.

Sitting in the marshy area of the

park's 219 acres, the rock was almost thoroughly covered by vines and grass. After removing the covering piece by piece, Wolford studied the rock. It also sits near another smaller piece of rock that looks like it had either fallen off or been carved off the mother rock.

"I had to be objective without my imagination running free. It took me almost three months to come to the conclusion that I had better talk to someone about it," Wolford said. "It warranted me contacting the city."

The rock's location is yet another factor that prompts Wolford to suspect the rock was carved by some primitive Indian tribe long ago. It sits in what he believes at one time could have been a river — after the glacial fields that covered the area began receding.

"THIS COULD have been a big river, and this could have been an exposed rock," Wolford said, pointing to the current of the water

trickling around the rock. "It has the primary ingredient of being near water. All rock art is near water."

The rock also is within a mile of where two old Indian trails — the Old Orchard and Shawanese — meet, Wolford said.

Armed with his knowledge of Indian culture and mythology, Wolford said the rock could have had religious significance for the tribe and shamans — medicine men — who might have carved it.

Aboriginal Americans were very religious, believing in the Great Flood and one almighty being as well as lesser gods. "Indians used to combine the real with the unreal," Wolford said.

"They could have fasted and come here for wisdom. The rock could have just represented a spirit. It (the rock) might have been a diverse number of mystical monsters. You need to think in a primitive way. Everything they did was religious."

## Country club plans move

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done, club manager. "We've been trying to get this passed for a long time."

The 32-year-old country club is moving to Goshwin Glen Country Club in Lyon Township, west of Novi. "There's a good chance we'll change the name," Cardone said.

Whether the 134-acre golf course — used industrial/offices research — will be sold to one or more purchasers is still undetermined. But more than likely, the property will be developed for small offices, Cardone said.

Authorization to sell comes after a failed land swap that would have moved the club to the north side of 12 Mile. The swap would have made room for what was to have been a larger office and industrial research park on the current club site on the southeast corner of 12 Mile and Haggerty.

THE REASONS for the sale are varied. Plans to widen one road — 12 Mile and Haggerty — plus increased development in that area of the city has squeezed and landlocked the golf course.

"Another reason is that the property is valued at a real good rate now," Cardone said.

Club officials' attempts to sell the property have been no secret. At a Farmington Hills City Council meeting last December, a club official announced that purchase offers were pending.

"We make no bones that we have been actively looking to sell Farmington Hills Country Club since May of this year," past president and club member James Culbertson said at a council meeting in December.

At that meeting, the city council granted the club non-profit tax status through a 10-year contractual agreement with the city.

BECAUSE OF the club's RTO zone — removed from single-family residential when the land swap was a possibility — the club was forced to pay higher property taxes.

Under the Farmland and Open Space Preservation Act of 1974, the club is allowed to pay a residential tax rate.

The country club remains responsible for the difference between the RTO and single-family residential tax rates if the club sells the property within the life of the agreement.

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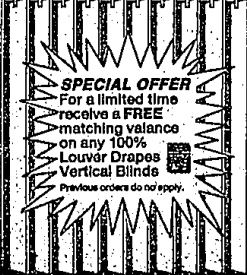
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