



## Award winners

Farmington Education Association members Margaret Culver (left) and Jim Minor accepted a Michigan Education Association award for outstanding public relations programs by the FEA, which represents teachers in the Farmington school district. Culver is public relations chair for the local; Minor is FEA president. The E. Dale Kennedy Award was given in February to several MEA locals, including the FEA and the Farmington Educational Support, Personnel unit.

# Chief's charge draws rebuttal

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THAT WARNING angers Jacques. "If these things are true, why haven't there been criminal charges pressed and sworn complaints taken?"

As of Friday, Dwyer said he received at least six complaints from residents about telephone soliciting. But Jacques said those complaints are only inquiries to the police to determine "whether Midwest is a legitimate organization."

Burkart said he asked Dwyer for the residents' names and the date and time of the solicitation calls. "All the calls are taped. I would pull the tape and see if there was a problem," Burkart said, adding that Dwyer did not provide him with the requested names.

The state Attorney General's Office has no record of consumer complaints against Midwest. "I can't really say Midwest has been the subject of complaint," said Martin Gorton of the attorney general's office.

The attorney general's office licenses professional fund-raising companies and requests annual statements on the amount of money raised and how it is spent. "The concern is often that the dollars spent on the primary cause (of the fund-raising) is minimal," Gorton said.

The professional fund-raising company's alleged intimidating phone calls to residents is what bothers Dwyer. "I am angry that any organization would go with a boiler-room operation that intimidates residents in a high sales pitch," he said.

Jacques denies the use of intimidation to solicit money, which he says is requested specifically for the police union. Other companies,

Jacques said, may use intimidating tactics and say they represent a particular organization when they, in fact, do not. He said he supports Dwyer's complaints against those companies.

"TO SAY THAT we are muscling people, that is unfair. I challenge him (Dwyer) to produce that evidence," Jacques said.

When solicitors call, Jacques said, they ask residents or businesses to support the union by buying a \$16 bumper sticker. For a much larger amount — \$100 by one businessman's recollection — residents can get a copy of the drug education manual that will be published by Midwest, Jacques said.

"I got a typical boiler-room call," said Richard Levinson of Farmington Hills. He said he felt the caller was trying to intimidate him into

buying the \$16 bumper sticker that says: "I love Farmington Hills police."

The caller told Levinson that buying the bumper sticker "lets the Farmington Hills police know you're on their side, and that can come in handy, if you know what I mean," Levinson said.

When another call followed, asking him if he placed an order for merchandise, Levinson declined.

"I'm glad to make a contribution to the Farmington Hills police officers without them having to settle for a 15 percent commission," Levinson said. "I support the Farmington Hills police."

Burkart confirmed that of each dollar collected, the police officers union receives only 15 cents.

"The cost of conducting a fund-raising campaign is extremely expensive," Jacques said.

## Farmington Hills cops, chief clash on fund-raising

Continued from Page 1

als. "They are not anything we want. We certainly won't use them," said Pam O'Malley, school/community relations director. "We are not at all pleased with this."

Burkart said a letter was sent to the school district explaining the program but he has not received a response.

The PAC will "get involved in city government," including endorsing city council candidates, judicial candidates for the 47th District Court in Farmington, as well as state office candidates, Burkart said.

"The city has been very difficult to deal with in the last negotiations

(three years ago). They dragged us through lengthy negotiations and arbitration," Burkart said. "The guys aren't happy with the way they've been treated."

Union members are particularly unhappy about their pension fund, as well as some working conditions, Burkart said.

CITY MANAGER William Costick said he is "bewildered" about the union's complaints. "I guess the record will show the city has been very fair. We attempt to deal with our people fairly."

Dwyer said he sympathizes with

the union's complaints about the admittedly poor pension fund and lengthy negotiations and binding arbitration. "When the arbitrator ruled, that wasn't the city's fault."

But Dwyer still considers the PAC a mistake. "I don't think the PAC is necessary. If they're going to get involved in politics, they better be very careful," Dwyer said.

Endorsing city council candidates can backfire on the union, Dwyer said. A successful candidate who has not been union-endorsed "may hold animosity for the police association, the command officers (who have their own union) and the police department," Dwyer said.

In 1988, the police union endorsed former Oakland County commissioner Jack McDonald in his unsuccessful bid in the Oakland County prosecutor's race. In the 1989 Farmington Hills City Council race, one candidate also approached the union for endorsement, Burkart said.

"This city is so conservative. They have made it difficult to negotiate," Burkart added.

But Dwyer said while he doesn't believe the union is using "pressure tactics" for negotiations, the PAC and the solicitation program set "a very negative tone to initiate negotiations."

## Dog license deadline May 31

1990 dog licenses are available through May 31 at the Farmington City Hall, 31555 W. 11 Mile, Farmington Hills. Oakland County fees are \$5.50 for unsexed animal license, \$8.50 for male or female, \$20 for delinquent licenses, as of June 1, 1990.

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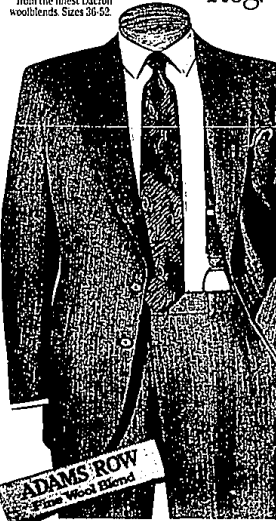
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