

Community Corner

This week's question:

What do you expect to be doing 10 years from now?

We asked this question of Fantastic Sam's hair salon in the Farmington Crossroads shopping center.



"In 10 years I hope to be on Union Lake in my own boat."
— Maria Pascua
Farmington Hills



"I hope to be doing exactly what I'm doing now. I'm a hairdresser."
— Liz Horn
Union Lake



"I'll still be here. This is my hometown."
— Barbara Monsour
Farmington Hills



"I want to retire to a warm climate and do whatever I want to do."
— Kathy Hollowell
Novi



"I just got out of the Navy after six years. I'd like to be designing computers in 10 years."
— Mark Koehn
Farmington Hills



"I'm manager here now. I expect to have a shop of my own in 10 years."
— Vickie Smith
Farmington Hills

Parents organize against aid cuts

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Bennett and Lukasiak. A similar statewide effort is coordinated by West Bloomfield resident Jan Purman.

By Oct. 26, the three women hope to have plenty of signatures to take — after the Nov. 6 general election — to Lansing. Each legislator will get a copy of each petition, Lukasiak said.

"We're not trying to tell them how to change things. But it's evident things need to change," Kelly said.

THE WOMEN have been successful gathering signatures, some from taxpayers in in-formula districts, such as Westland. Each school in the Farmington district has petitions to be signed. They also are getting their message across to representatives of the School/Community Forum, a

district-wide parent advisory group, and by walking door to door.

"Ninety percent of the people we ask are signing. The minute we talk about it, they say, 'Absolutely. Where do we sign?'" Lukasiak said. Kelly, Lukasiak and Bennett — like many in the Farmington school district — were shocked when the state Legislature passed the School Aid package in July.

"A lot of people don't know what happened or didn't understand why it happened," Lukasiak said.

Bennett, Lukasiak and Kelly believe quality — not mediocrity — for all is the answer. The three — plus parents from other districts, such as Livonia and West Bloomfield — don't believe poorer districts should be raised to adequate funding levels at the expense of the better locally financed districts. "It won't make for equity. The

money they took was spread out but it's not enough to help the other districts and it certainly won't help our schools," Bennett said.

ADMITTEDLY, THE three say Gill Elementary would be one of the district's hardest hit schools if the state Legislature continues to cut categorical financing. Planned building improvements and an addition, as well as landscaping and new windows are now, possibly, in jeopardy. "We were all very frustrated. We didn't know what to do about it," Bennett said.

The parents expect state Legislators to do a better job next year. They believe there are more options to improve financing — and quality — of poorer districts. A sales tax increase is a possibility. And the women want to know where revenues from the Lincoln Lott are going. "For them to do their homework a

little better is what we want," Lukasiak said. "There are ways to solve this problem, to be more fair across the board."

Meanwhile, Farmington and other out-of-formula school districts have filed suit against the state to halt implementation of the section of the 1990-91 school aid act that covers the "recapture" of aid.

The state aid cut took money not only from Social Security, but also from items such as special education, transportation and other specialized programs. Farmington is "vulnerable for up to \$10 million," O'Malley said. At that point, the district, with a reserve of less than \$10 million, is expected to be overextended.

Anyone interested in signing a petition can visit their home school, contact Gill Elementary at 489-3890, or call the district's School/Community Relations Office at 489-3345.

police/fire calls

Listed below are some of the Farmington area police incidents, fire calls and court cases reported during the past week:

● **ARMED ROBBERY**
A Farmington Hills man was held at gunpoint by an unidentified hitchhiker who stole his \$15,000 Jeep pickup on Haggerty Saturday.

The resident picked up the man, whom at first he believed he knew, while traveling westbound on 12 Mile. While driving, the hitchhiker pulled out what appeared to be a blue steel revolver with a six-inch barrel.

The hitchhiker told the resident that he would not be hurt but wanted the Jeep.

The resident was told to drive onto Haggerty, where the hitchhiker ordered him out of the pickup, according to a Farmington Hills police report.

● **THEFTS REPORTED**
A telephone and small radios valued at \$550 were reported stolen from Shilawasee Center, 30415 Shilawasee, Oct. 4 or Oct. 5.

A computer and equipment valued at \$19,210 were reported stolen from an office on Northwestern Highway, Oct. 4 or Oct. 5.

A stereo valued at \$550 was reported stolen from a car on Halsted Oct. 4 or Oct. 5.

A CD, cassette radio and equalizer valued at \$375 were reported stolen from a car parked at Show & Go,

30630 Grand River, Oct. 4 or Oct. 5. A telephone valued at \$1,200 was reported stolen Saturday from a car parked at Franklin Hills Country Club, 31675 Inkster.

A television, videocassette recorder, Nintendo set, stereo, phone and answering machine, with a total value of \$4,689, were reported stolen Saturday or Sunday from a unit at Windemere Apartments, 24922 Independence.

A radar detector and watch valued at \$350 were reported stolen Sunday from a car at Motel 6, 38300 Grand River.

Saws, torches and other construction equipment with a total value of \$2,350 were reported stolen from construction trailers on Enterprise Ct., Oct. 5-8.

A radio and tape player valued at \$300 were reported stolen from a car parked at Diamond Forest Apartments, 23290 Halsted, Sunday or Monday.

Taillight and headlight covers valued at \$350 were reported stolen from a car parked at Diamond Forest Apartments, 23290 Halsted, Sunday or Monday.

Drills, sewer cleaner and saws valued at \$1,700 were reported stolen from a car parked at Orthopedic Surgeons, 28700 Eight Mile, Oct. 5.

A video camera and clothes valued at \$2,500 were reported stolen Saturday or Sunday from a unit at Diamond Forest Apartments, 30300 Halsted.

Libertarian aims for state Senate

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pollute, he said. He calls the issue of government funding of the arts "a joke."

"It's all a side issue," he said. "We shouldn't fund the arts at all. That's a side issue where both sides are wrong."

He faces Democratic incumbent Jack Paxon of Farmington Hills and Republican challenger Denise Alexander of Southfield Nov. 6 in the 15th District seat.

In the current economic and politi-

cal climate, Silver said, people are looking for the solutions his Libertarian philosophy offers. "I think as the government spends more and more money they don't have, there will be painful economic contractions," he said.

"I'm not sure if Democratic or Republican parties are going to change, or whether people will get fed up and go for a third party. I think Baby Boomers are Libertarian without realizing it. They favor fiscal conservatism with personal freedom."

Ironically, it was the conservative

Republican Ronald Reagan who first drew Silver to the Libertarian way of thinking. "His (Reagan's) inaugural speech was Libertarian, nearly word for word," he said, adding that he does not believe Reagan adhered to that philosophy very well while in the White House.

SILVER HAS since become involved in several groups devoted to spreading the word about his party, and was put up by the party to run this November, he said.

A Southfield native, Silver's back-

ground is in computer science, and he worked for both EDS and General Motors Corp. Before going into business with his brother with The Oil Dispatch in 1984. Today, they operate seven of the quick oil change businesses.

District 15 includes the cities of Farmington, Farmington Hills, Southfield, Novi, Westland, Oak Park, Ferndale, Huntington Woods, Pleasant Ridge, Royal Oak Township, Novi Township and a portion of Northville.

The Council of Homeowners Associations of Farmington Hills will host 15th state Senate District candidates in a debate at 7:15 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 24, in the Farmington Hills City Hall, 31555 11 Mile. The meeting will be in the council chambers.

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