Former mayor to give speech on first ladies

Jean Fox, local historian and former meyor of Farmington Hills, will deliver an address entitled "From First Ladies to Ladies First" at a dinner at the Visitor's Center in Heritage Park at 6 p.m. Monday, March I. The dinner, hosted by the Farmington Chapter of the Older Women's League (OVL) in honor of Women's History Month, will be catered by gourmet chef Judy Antibility of the Comment of Figure 11 and reservations may be made by sending a check in that amount to Farmington OVL, Jean McAllister, 7163 Brookridge, West Bloomfield 48322, Deadline is Feb. 21.

of first ladies began when she attended a conference in Washington on "The White House — Two Hundred Years" to commonrate the 200th anniversary of the laying of the White House cornerations.

The only Michiganian among 450 history buffs invited to the four-day conference, Fox was greeted by President and Mrs. Bush, drank tea with Barbara Bush in the Rose Garden, and viewed the White House at and antiques while listening to a lecture by a representative from the renowned art house, Satheby's.

The October representative from the renowned art house, Satheby's.

The October the White House Historical Association and the



National Park Service, and attracted dignitaries from all over the United States and abroad. For bubbles with enthusiasm as she discusses her four-day Washington experience, and the March I dinner promises to be an exciting even as it kicks off the annual celebration of Women's History Month.

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For further information about the OWL function or membership in the Older Women's League, call 474-3094 or 626-5324.

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Some of his biggest battles were later fought on the homefront. Whear settled in the Detroit area, working as a job setter at the Ford Rouge Plant.

Parts of two fingers are missing off his left hand, the result of an industrial accident.

Whear was sent to the doctor and docked half a day's pay. Unions hadn't arrived yet, he said.

"Before the union, you couldn's peak to your partner." Whear soid. "If you laughed, they would want to know why you were laughing."

want to know why you were laughing."
The workers went on an eightweek strike in 1930, during the
onset of the Depression. They
wanted to better their \$3-a-day
pay. They relented and went back
to work. Their wage was cut to \$4
a day, Whear said.
Whear was a Ford employee for
\$5 years, working later in Sterling
Heights. He's been retired as long
as he's worked.
His favorite story, though, is
how he met his wife of 69 years.

■ 'Before the union, you couldn't speak to your partner...if you laughed, they would want to know why you were laughing.' William Whear

Whear was on vacation in Cornwall when he ran into Florie at a Sunday school pienie. It was love at first sight. "I told her, 'Can I take you home?"
They raised one daughter, Joyce Jones, and have two grand-children and four great-grandchildren. Whear visite his wife, who is 97, regularly at White Hall Nursing Home in Novi.
Only today Whear needs a lift. He quit driving when he was 95, "My wife was nervous," he said.
Whear's a hospice patient, treated regularly by a visiting nurse at Baptist Manor, where he's lived since 1976.

"Ho's a delightful gentleman," said Elaine Englehart, a regis-tered nurse with the Hospice of Southeastern Michigan.

Soveni friends and family turned out for a party honoring Whear at Nardin Park United Methodist Church. (He's a proud United Methodist). He received a Tigers jorsey with the number 100 on the back.

Whear also has letters of congratulations from Gov. John Engler as well as from Harold Poling, chairman of Ford Motor Co.

Boy, could he tell them a story or two.

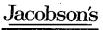
Diversity

from page 1A



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although language is the main obstacle for many groups, there are cultural differences regarding marriage, religious practice and political philosophy that must be understood.

understood.

"For example, there are people in the Islamle community who really don't understand the (U.S.) presidency," Karoub said.

And if Americane with roots in the Middle East have problems adapting to western culture, the bias in some school texts, the political process, and social attitudes also present problems, "We are insular," he said. Wifigure the Pacific is on the left and the Atlantic is on our right. We don't have much understanding of other cultures." Those are issues the committee is trying to address, Costick said.

🗃 'In the mid-80s there were problems in some of the area schools...Parent groups and mul-ticultural groups were formed. The problem waned and that was the end of the meetings. We now want to address these issues before they become problems.

Bill Costick Farmington Hills City Manager

"In the mld-80s there were problems in some of the area schools," he said. "Parent groups and multicultural groups were formed. The problem waned and that was the end of the meetings. We now want to address these issues before they become problems."

Mayors and city managers from both cities joined with educators and clergy to form the committee

and clergy to form the commentary
four years ago.

White said that while many
people work and live apart from
other cultural groups, their children cannot remain isolated.

"We teach our females that

they can do anything," White said. "But in different cultures there are other expectations. So we know that for many students there's a conflict. White said the idea is to avoid value judgments while encouraging students to excel in any endeavor. And part of the committee's charge is to prepare for a community that reflects a global society.

community that reflects a global society.

"If you're naive enough to think that you live in a little white, middle-class community, then yeu've made a mistake," she said.
"It's not."

The workshop is scheduled from 1-4 p.m. Feb. 24 at the Botsford Inn, 28000 Grand River. Anyone interested may call the Farmington Hills City Manager's office at 473-9501.

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\$45 per person at the door

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For more information, contact Southfield Community Relations Department, (313) 354-4854.