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"I knew the minute he was contacted that he'd be the one they'd select... If he wanted the job," Webb said. "He's an excellent superintendent."

"It's our loss, but we all know we wouldn't benefit from his leadership forever. He's just too good."

Flanagan's five-year tenure has been marked by innovation and change.

Assistant superintendent of Finance Bruce Barrett was brought in during his tenure as well as three new high school principals.

More minorities, women

A plan, endorsed by Flanagan, called for the hiring of more women and minorities. That's evidenced by the arrival of the district's first woman high school principal and the first African-American principal during his five years.

Also, compared to other districts, Farmington schools are in relatively stable condition financially.

A \$16-million fund balance has been established, which might help offset expected losses in revenue after the state eliminated property taxes for schools. Such foresight has come as the district has endured cuts due to "Robin Hood" and state-aid restraints.

Flanagan also helped mend fractured relations with both Farmington and Farmington Hills city governments as an ambassador for Farmington

schools.

He's a member of the Farmington/Farmington Hills Chamber of Commerce. He initiated the cost-saving move of the chamber's offices to the newly renovated Farmington Training Center.

He's 'grown old' in job

Such visibility helped bring more awareness to education issues in an area where only 20 percent of residents have children going to public schools. Such a high profile exacted a toll, though.

"I enjoyed meeting parents and going to student activities. I enjoyed chamber type meetings," Flanagan said. "In a community this large, it's a lot. I don't want to sound like I didn't enjoy it. It's a downside when you are a guy who has one kid in elementary school, one in middle school and one in high school."

"I've grown old. I feel a lot older," Flanagan added later. "It's been invigorating, but it's an all-consuming job."

Controversy during his tenure has largely been limited to isolated issues such as the Wooddale parking lot and Beechview overcrowding.

The district bounced back from the failure of a millage increase request in 1991 to have one combined renewal approved this year.

Board members have been among his staunchest supporters. Trustee Joe Svoike went as



Headed for Wayne County: Michael Flanagan: "It's been invigorating, but it's an all-consuming job."

far as to read a student's poem in tribute to Flanagan at the Sept. 7 board meeting.

Flanagan received a contract extension from the board in June.

"They are so underrated in terms of their dedication," Flanagan said, "and the garbage they take out of the spirit of service. All of us can make mistakes here and there, but they fret about it. They do their homework. That's why I get defensive once in awhile when someone comes in and just brutally attacks them."

Flanagan said he is looking forward to the challenges ahead.

RESA provides consulting, technical assistance and training of 37,500 school employees in the county. The agency, one

of the largest in the state, operates special education and Head Start programs.

He'll be working with a wide variety of districts from Grosse Pointe to Inkster. RESA headquarters are in Wayne.

"The RESA board believes that Mike Flanagan has the experience, ability and character to lead Wayne RESA into the next century," said RESA Board president Mary Blackmon in a written statement.

"Mike is a man of great vision who will complement the organization while helping us stretch."

Said Building and Student Services director Don Cowan: "Who knows what worlds he'll conquer. He's a very bright man."

Bank shelters homeless again

For the fourth straight year, Michigan National Bank has opened its Farmington Hills headquarters to 30 homeless individuals and families for one week, through Sunday, said chairman and chief executive officer Robert J. Mylod.

During these "Days of Caring," more than 250 Michigan National employees are volunteering their time to assist 30 guests — homeless men, women and children from the South Oakland Shelter in Royal Oak.

Besides offering overnight shelter, the volunteers will prepare and serve breakfast, distribute bagged lunches; drive their temporary guests to places of employment, social services offices, on job searches or to the SOS office; drive them back to the bank each night; launder their bedding and personal clothing; prepare and serve dinner; provide activities; and offer a sympathetic ear.

"Without these caring volunteers, there is no SOS," said Lillian Melville, director of the 8-year-old South Oakland Shelter.

"We are really a homeless shelter for homeless people, because we must rely on the generosity and goodwill of community volunteers to provide the food and actual overnight sleeping space for over 700 clients annually."

"Shelter for each week is covered on a rotating basis by a different group, mainly Oakland County churches. Michigan National Bank is the first and only corporation to be involved in our unique shelter program."

One of the Michigan National's objectives in the "Days of Caring" project is to motivate the private business sector to join the food and shelter program effort, according to Mylod.

"This has been an amazing experience for all of us who are involved," he said. "Not only have we been able to assist 30 homeless individuals in their basic needs, but our 250 team volunteers have been deeply moved by

'Not only have we been able to assist 30 homeless individuals in their basic needs, but our 250 team volunteers have been deeply moved by the lives they have touched.'

Robert Mylod

the lives they have touched."

"We have each learned that the homeless are real people with real names and faces and problems."

"It has changed our own lives and perceptions of the homeless situation. Our awareness has been heightened as we realize that an unfortunate incident out of our control can place us very close to homelessness."

Last year's homeless guests included some welfare mothers and their children, senior citizens on fixed incomes, and working people who found it difficult to make ends meet.

Although SOS cannot predict ahead of time who will be staying at Michigan National, it is expected that this year's guests will be similar to those of the last three years.

More women and children are part of the summer shelter weeks organized by SOS than are part of the winter ones.

Michigan National became involved in the SOS program four years ago after an employee heard a presentation by Melville at a local church and persuaded other team members to become involved.

After all team members were surveyed regarding their interest and participation, Michigan National offered its headquarters as a shelter site to SOS.

The Farmington Hills Zoning Board has supported the bank's petition for use of its facility as a temporary shelter.

ON THE AGENDA

Below are highlights from the agendas of meetings this week. All meetings are open to the public.

Farmington Hills City Council
7:30 p.m. Monday, Sept. 20
Public hearing

Agenda items include:

- Consideration of a planned unit development for Metrobank at the northeast corner of 12 Mile and New Market.
- Consideration of show cause hearing for demolition of 21702 Wheeler Street, section 35.

Farmington City Council
8 p.m. Monday, Sept. 20

Agenda items include:

- Request from Larry Gauthier regarding permission to install gate in city fence on city right-of-way.
- Request for proclamation on the dedication of the Botsford Hospital East Pavilion.

- Request from city manager on a resolution for cable television rate regulation.
- Report from city manager on downtown management.
- Request for property split on 32425 Grand River.
- Update on Oakland County Gypsy Moth problem.

Farmington Board of Education
Special session
8 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 21

Agenda items include:

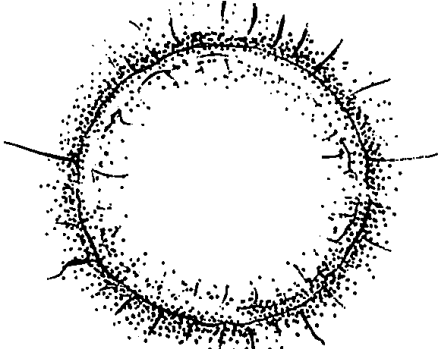
- Planning issues in the wake of the Senate Bill No. 1 tax cut with speakers State Rep. Jan Dolan, R-Farmington; Superintendent Michael Flanagan; assistant superintendent of finance Bruce Barrett; and members of the Board of Education.

Lewis Schulman Center
489-3300

Farmington City Hall
474-8115

Farmington City Hall
477-5450

U.F.O. LANDS AT FARMINGTON AREA YMCA



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FARMINGTON YMCA
28100 Farmington Rd.
553-4020

Remember when the family doctor was like part of the family?



Going to the doctor was a warm, friendly experience. The doctor greeted you by name and knew your whole family.

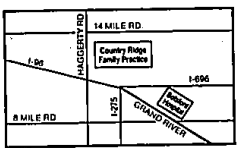
You were surrounded by a feeling of caring concern. Your doctor took the time to listen to your thoughts, feelings and questions before discussing treatment options with you.

But medicine has changed with improvements in science and technology, sometimes resulting in more streamlined, less personal care. At a medical clinic, you may not see the same doctor every time. And you'll probably be shuffled from one end of the building to the other for tests.

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Open 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday and 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Tuesday. A board-certified family practitioner, Dr. Kavieff received a bachelor of science degree with distinction in 1977 from the University of Michigan, where he also completed graduate study in medical research. He received his D.O. degree from the Michigan State University College of Osteopathic Medicine in 1984, and completed his internship at Riverside Osteopathic Hospital, Tremont, in 1985 and his family practice residency at ASU in 1988.

