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SHARON LESNIEUX/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Keeping his hand in: Vincent Lorelli, attorney and Hills council candidate, puts the finishing touches on a pizza at Milo's Restaurant.

Lorelli keeps cooking in eatery business

Like a lot of people, Vincent Lorelli began his work career in a McDonald's while attending St. Alphonsus High School in Dearborn.

Now, even though Lorelli, 26, has his own law practice, he still likes to spend time in the restaurant business.

"I work two or three times a week," he said. "I want to make

sure I know what's going on there."

Lorelli and longtime friend Tom Milosevich bought Mario's, a take out and delivery concern in Livonia, two years ago.

"I've waited tables, cooked, washed dishes, everything," Lorelli said of his years in restaurant work. "The people were

retiring and this just seemed to be a good opportunity."

The two men changed the name to Milo's (representing the "M" for Milosevich and the "Lo" from Lorelli).

If elected to the Farmington Hills City Council, Lorelli said he can easily cut back his hours.

"I work there because I choose to," he said.

Although the business is doing well, Lorelli knows the importance of three factors in business success: "location, location, location." Milo's is across from the Plymouth Road Ford plant.

"If it weren't for that plant, I don't think we could make it," he said.

In math and science.

He has a business and marketing degree from Michigan State University; she has a high school diploma and attended college for two years.

Still, they feel their children are getting better one-on-one instruction.

"We're just trying to raise our children with a good value system," said Lita Hoyer, who stays home with Bob and Amy during the day. "We're trying to teach them that morals and values are good."

Religious reasons were a factor in their decision. Both parents were raised Catholic and currently attend a nondenominational church.

They're also concerned over such things as the Michigan Model and the teaching of evolution.

Most of all, though, they worry about whether their children are learning the basics.

Bob is a fifth grader, Amy is in third grade. Both attended private Christian schools until this year.

They figure they've spent \$600 to educate both children at home. That compares with \$7,713 Farmington Public Schools spends per pupil. The Hoyers were paying \$500 a month for private schools.

Of course, Bob and Amy don't get the interaction with other students they would by going to a regular school.

"You miss your friends," said Bob, taking a short break during a science experiment. "I play more with my sister and we do more things together now."

"You learn more than when a teacher is teaching you because there's so many other students."

Both children still play with their friends after school. They take karate lessons for physical fitness.

Also, mom takes them on field trips to the park and grocery store.

Recently, she took them to the market and gave each a dollar. They had to find out how many apples they could buy.

The Hoyer school day usually starts at 8 a.m.

On this day, Mark Hoyer guides the children through a science experiment involving baby powder and construction paper to show them how much dust collects on the moon. Their makeshift classroom with desks sits in the family den.

Their father, who is ready for work, goes back into the kitchen and pores over their math problems with a red felt tip pen.

Both parents admit there's little free time between household tasks with the correcting papers and preparing the next day's lesson. That's offset, though, with the time they're spending with their children.

Noticed a change

Lita Hoyer said she began to notice a change in attitude toward education.

Amy was having difficulty digesting the conflicting teaching methods of reading: whole language and the more phonic-based basal approach.

"My son used to love science," Lita Hoyer said. "He couldn't wait to watch 'Mr. Wizard' on TV and read books on science. In the third grade, he said to us, 'I hate science' . . . so we decided to do something."

The Hoyers are not alone. The estimate of home schoolers has been put at high 30,000 in Michigan alone.

However, several families who home school remain quiet.

The Michigan Supreme Court upheld the parents' rights to educate their children at home for religious reasons. The Hoyers also belong to the State of Michigan Home School Legal Defense Fund.

"There is a stigma attached of being odd," Lita Hoyer said. "But I don't want the kids to think we're breaking the law or doing something wrong."

The Hoyers went to a home schooling conference in Novi. They also went to the Emmanuel Center in Lansing, which provides testing and suggested a curriculum tailored to the individual child's needs.

'It's not easy'

They notice both children seem more calm and relaxed, too.

"Let's face it; it's not easy," Mark Hoyer said. "Her job is much harder than mine, staying at home with the three kids."

"It's a commitment that we feel will have many returns down the road."

"They're taking a wait-and-see attitude toward home schooling. They're not ready to call it a panacea yet."

They're not ruling out sending their kids to private school, or even public schools in the future.

"I'm not saying we'll never send our kids to public schools," Lita Hoyer said. "I think when they get older, we feel they will have stronger values by then."

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spend all the money a city budgets because it won't be prepared for large fiscal emergencies.

The former Dearborn resident said the city has managed to keep services high without much money in increased taxes from new development. He also thinks that even though the city has good parks, it could do more to make them accessible to more citizens.

"Look at some of these small lots that really can't be used for much in the way of a new development," he said. "The city could use those small lots for parks closer to neighborhoods."

The city should look at snow removal, park maintenance and road maintenance as areas where private companies could

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compete for bids and end up saving the city money, Lorelli said.

The city should take another look at how police are trained and hired and how the handicapped parking volunteer program works, he said, adding that money is wasted by the department.

"Market forces are the best way to keep costs down," he said.

Other issues of concern to Lorelli include:

- Being ready to support the public schools in light of a state law eliminating property taxes as the main support for local

districts. Although the city does not have taxing authority for the schools, Lorelli said the city should be prepared to support the schools, which are among the state's best.

- Become more active with the Michigan Public Service Commission concerning service shortcomings of Detroit Edison.
- Encourage competition among cable television companies.
- "Any time you have a monopoly, you're going to have problems," he said. "Congress tried to regulate costs and the rates went up. Competition is the best way to keep rates down."
- Lorelli thinks term limitation is the best way to keep public officials in check. A code of ethics, which a committee is still

formulating, would be difficult to enforce, he said.

"They're not going to punish themselves," he said. "I think you should serve more than one or two terms. And you need to have everyday people with different attributes."

- The city should not spend as many staff hours on zoning enforcement, which is for the most part petty and unnecessary, he said.
- Lorelli said the present council is too likely to endorse more taxes and points to the endorsement of a library millage, which failed, as proof. In fact, he endorses the passage of a tax cut for residents based on how long they've lived in the city. The cut would encourage people to stay and keep property values high.

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CURES FOR ARTHRITIS

The newspapers, radio and television recently announced a new cure for arthritis: grinding up chicken bones and serving this concoction twice a day to people with painful joints.

The story reflects the daily information that the public receives; to think that drinking this "chicken soup" will cure arthritis is absurd. Yet the basis for the public announcement came from research undertaken by experienced investigators working from sound scientific principles.

What the public heard was a simplified version of their results. Individuals interested in getting paid for a good year or taking the first step for a upcoming scam, distorted the story.

The closer truth is that present medicines for arthritis, though limited in their effect, will rarely retain their present importance. Thus the opportunity exists for a sympathetic response by the public to therapies brought forth as cures though these "discoveries" may be hazardous and will without doubt, prove expensive. Today if it is chicken soup, yesterday it was medecines of shark cartilage, tomorrow it will be something equally simple and silly.

What initiates and continues joint inflammation is not fully understood, how to prevent joint wear is as yet unanswered. No research in arthritis at this time deserves the accolade "breakthrough."

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