

## Crime from page A1

tastic. It refreshed my mind about things I'd forgotten. Plus this is an area where a lot of people are moving into all the time." Elvidge said the seminar also gives managers a heads up on how to spot gangs and other problems before they start. "I would rather be informed and know what to look for ahead of time," she said. "You want to be able to inform people who you work with, the maintenance and leasing staff."

Terri Harriman, the leasing consultant for Botsford Terrace Apartments on Oxford, said presentations on screening tenants and security were especially helpful. The program is aimed at apartment communities of all sizes and risks. "I thought it was an excellent idea," said Gerry Hunt, resident manager of the Park Lane Apartments in Southfield and one of the presenters at the Hills session. "My property has never been high crime. But being part

of this program sets us apart as proactive." Hunt said completing the program allows the apartment complex to display the Multi-Housing logo. That is recognized by tenants as a sign of quality, she said. "The time I spent was well worth it," she said. "Now, anytime the police come to my complex, I get a fax the next day telling me what apartment and what the problem was. It allows me to sleep at night."

She added that residents appreciate knowing the process and having their concerns addressed. "It informs, it doesn't scare," she said. Hills Police Chief Bill Dwyer said he had hoped for even better attendance, but was pleased considering it was the first such session in the city. "I think those who attended saw the benefits of working with the (police) department and sharing information," Dwyer said.

With about 20 percent of the city's population living in apartments, a crime prevention program geared to those residents and landlords is important, he said. "We hoped that when the seminar was over, there would be lots of excitement," he said. "And that's what happened." Unruh said the completion of the second, and for some the most difficult phase, will vary according to how much work the apartment managers must do to meet certification requirements.

## Candidate from page A1

For one, if a school district seeks money from a company or foundation, its house has to be in order. "I think by going to (Microsoft founder) Bill Gates and asking him for money would force us to ask some serious questions, not only of the school system but everybody in the community," Clevey said. "It would force us to ask questions we haven't asked or begun to even think about."

Under corporation or foundation scrutiny, school officials would have to be resilient and innovative. Clevey doesn't believe the district would be beholden to corporate interests, either. "I don't think our students should be walking billboards and neither should our schools," he said. He endorses Total Quality Management, one where test scores would be the quality chart to judge district performance. He'd like to see control charts of the Michigan Education Assessment Program test posted in each hallway of every school.

The problem with the MEAP is only averages are reported to the board, Clevey said. He wants test results broken down by each question. "I don't want to be fed pabulum of average scores as an indication of how we are doing," Clevey said. Quality management has other positive aspects, he said. One is that it fuels continual improvement and higher productivity. So, when the question comes up where would he look to pare the district's \$116 million to meet lower revenue projections,

Clevey turns the query around. "Can we increase productivity and have continuous improvement? I think we can do both," he said. "If you tell me those things will occur if we cut funding, I don't think that is possible."

Preventative maintenance and energy savings are ways to achieve that, Clevey said. He's not sold on privatization. He'd only favor contracting outside if it were for non-instructional services and if union pacts were honored. Also, the savings accrued would have to be more than just personnel costs. "I don't think it's justified on personnel grounds alone," he said. "If you make privatization decisions based on personnel decisions alone, you're sending the wrong message to the people who are left behind."

Clevey's two children attend Forest Elementary. He and his family moved from West Bloomfield to Farmington Hills so they could be involved in the public schools. Clevey's role in this school board race is yet to be defined. He doesn't consider himself an outsider, though unlike his opponents, he's not a member of the board of education or he didn't serve as chairman of the financial strategies committee that drew up the bond proposal. "Do they know more that went on yesterday at the school? Yes," he said. "Does that make them more qualified in terms of what is going to happen tomorrow? I don't think so."



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### Visit DPW May 14

The City of Farmington Hills Division of Public Works will host an open house in its renovated and expanded facility from 4-7 p.m. Wednesday, May 14. The facility is at 27246 Halsted south of 12 Mile Road. "We're hoping this will be a family affair," said Dan Rooney, DPW superintendent, adding that there will be refreshments. The \$3 million project begun in May of 1996 has been completed on time and on budget.

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