

Schools: Demand Lansing Action—Katz

This is a statement made by Dr. A. Edward Katz, secretary of the Livonia Board of Education and assigned by Mrs. Strala Schreiber, the president, to plead with Gov. Romney and the Legislature for a reversal of their position and to provide additional funds for the support of public education in Michigan.

"I think it appropriate now that we are passing our millage levy resolutions that we again make very clear to the public why it is that we must continue to increase property taxes while cutting services, and what we must do to reverse this pattern.

"Stated simply, there are four basic reasons for the increase in the total costs of operating this school district:

1. **GROWTH**—we must increase our teaching staff by 100 each year;

2. **YOUTH**—we are a young district with few people at the top levels of the salary schedules;

3. **PROGRAM**—Livonia has tried to incorporate new techniques and technologies into its schools (data processing, for example) and there cost money; and

4. **INFLATION** and the public employees labor laws—all of us are paying more for goods and services, and public employees have been given the tools by which they can keep pace and even improve their relative standing in the labor economy.

"As these factors have affected our school economy during the past few years, the state government, despite sizeable increases in appropriations for public schools, has lagged behind. This year our local property taxes will account for 65% of Livonia's operation expenditures, despite the fact that we are below the state and county averages in property tax base behind each child.

"Despite Gov. Romney's recent statement to the contrary, public education, under the Constitution of the State of Michigan, is the responsibility of the state.

The trend over the past several years has been for the state government to finance smaller and smaller proportions of the costs of our schools. Since schools are re-

Council Votes To Explore Copter Offer

Developed Thomas A. Duke offered the use of his helicopter to the City of Farmington Monday night and the City Council agreed to explore the idea over the objections of Councilman John Allen.

The Council instructed City Manager John Dinan to report back to the Council at its next session about the possible insurance cost to the city if it accepted Duke's offer.

Duke, who has a license as a helicopter pilot, offered the use of his copter to the city for use of the police and fire departments free of charge.

He has made a similar offer to the township which the township board has accepted. The township is currently exploring the insurance costs and other factors before im-

plementing the offer. Dinan told the Council that Director of Public Safety Robert T. Deadman felt that the copter would be a very valuable piece of equipment especially during disaster and emergency periods.

Councilman John Allen objected to the offer and said that he wanted no part of it.

"For the city to consider accepting this offer will put us in a very bad light as to assessments and favors," Allen said and noted that Duke maintains several business establishments in the city.

Duke is the developer of the Brookdale Club and River Glen apartments and is chairman of the board of the Metropolitan National Bank of Farmington which has one

branch in the city and is currently building another branch in the recently annexed portion of the city.

"I don't think that we should accept anything that is valuable from somebody who is as active in the city as Tom Duke," Allen noted.

Dinan said that he thought the offer was made as a "public service gesture" and that "we may go ten years and never need it."

Councilmen Ralph Yoder and Hugo Peterson agreed with Dinan.

Mayor Wilbur V. Brotherton said that while he might agree with Allen's stand on the matter he was not adverse to exploring the idea.

penalized by rising property taxes.

"From the school district point of view, a district with a very large industrial complex may have very low tax rates while their neighbors, in whose districts the children of the workers live, foot the bill for education.

This leads to extreme inequalities of educational opportunities from school system to school system.

"The recalled fiscal reform program which was passed in July postponed disaster, but did not really help our situation.

"The program failed to meet its goals because the Governor asked for too little, the legislators were afraid of the voters and of business and/or labor lobbies, and the public was unconvinced that taxes were really necessary.

Even the stop-gap tax package which passed did less than nothing for Livonia—our share is a net reduction of \$1 per pupil.



WINNERS IN THE annual Singer Sewing Center sewing contest were Susan Burns (left), of Detroit; Susan Gore, 1220 Garfield, Redford, and Carol Lewis, 17303 Cooley, Redford. The girls compete in three age brackets for prizes, and can go on to win national honors and scholarships.

S.C. Vocational Course Draws 100

Nearly 100 apprentices and journeymen from manufacturing firms in northwest Wayne County "got the word" last week at an orientation session at Schoolcraft College as they prepared to start a three-and-a-half to four-year educational program geared to their trades.

The newcomers will join nearly 300 other apprentices and journeymen already enrolled in the fast-growing Schoolcraft program; when school opens on Aug. 31.

Sponsored by about 150 manufacturing firms in the area, the apprentices receive classroom instruction related to one of 23 different manufacturing trades.

From now until he completes the required 11 semesters of study, an apprentice enrolled in the program will spend a recommended minimum of

four hours a week in class, studying just like any other college student.

If he follows the recommended pace, an apprentice can complete his classroom training in about three and one-half years by going to college three semesters a year.

At the orientation session Schoolcraft Apprenticeship Coordinator Ronald J. Monette told the newcomers:

"The courses you will be taking are designed to permit you to succeed in your trade. Each program is tailor-made to your needs. Your employer, in many cases with the active cooperation of your union, has agreed to take part in the program by sponsoring you for this training.

"But your success is up to you, and will depend on how well you apply yourself. Good luck."

The apprentices also heard welcoming remarks from Dean of Technical-Vocational Instruction Jon P. Adams, and Fred Stefanski, director of the college evening program.

Following the session during which procedures used in the program were explained, Monette and Joseph Yuhaz, one of the 17 instructors assigned to the program, assisted enrollees in scheduling classes.

The Schoolcraft apprentice program has grown in one year from an initial enrollment last fall of 135 to an anticipated enrollment of about 400 this fall. A total of 38 classes have been scheduled for the fall term, most of them during the evening.

The program provides related instruction in 23 manufacturing trades in four main areas: design, electrical, machine trades, and manufacturing trades. A sampling of trades involved includes tool and die designer, machinist, A.A. tool and die maker, millwright, and metal wood model maker.

Gompert Wins Livonia City Tennis Titles

Frank Gompert is the kind of tennis courts in Livonia as he best Jerry Cataglias 9-7, 6-3 and Marvin LaVasseur 8-2 and 6-0 to capture the men's singles and teamed with Mike Kowal to defeat Bill Morris and Jim Greenich for the doubles title. He resides at 28817 Dover.

Gary Sivick won the boy's singles crown, and joined with Gary Moss to take the boy's doubles. Moss paired with Darlene Gaymer to win the mixed doubles event.

Christine Mack beat Janice Temple for the girl's singles title and doubled with Gary Patton to win the women's event. Erica Gans defeated Mary Hoffer for the women's singles.

There will be bands, folk singing, fashion shows, career information, judo demonstrations and other activities at the Teen Scene at this year's Michigan State Fair, Aug. 25-Sept. 4.

Madonna Schedule Set For Afternoon, Night

Madonna College will register students for later afternoon and evening classes August 25 from 3:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. Classes are set to begin Sept. 6. Tuition per semester hour runs at \$20.

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