

District girds for cuts as millage fails

By STEVE BARNABY
Farmington editor

Although Farmington School District voters defeated a 2.4-mill increase request, Assistant Superintendent Lew Schulman is optimistic that eventually residents will support a monetary increase.

"Residents have high expectations for good schools. They move to areas like Farmington because of the good schools," said Schulman, who will take over as superintendent on July 1 from the retiring Marvin Van Ameyde.

Schulman predicts it will be another year before the board goes to the public to ask for another increase.

The Tuesday night tally showed that 3,043 voters cast ballots against the request, with 2,320 only 30 votes separated Pickett from the winning Mrs. Prutow.

"I personally regret that programs will suffer and people will lose their jobs. We will distribute the cuts so no one program takes a major beating," said Schulman.

"All ingredients will be effected, but there still will be a full comprehensive program."

Schulman blamed economic conditions for the voter rejection of the millage.

"The inflation rate and the general economic crunch had an effect on the voting but I think we didn't really lose by that much. There is a residual of good feeling among the residents," he said.

Many surrounding communities have had to go to voters at least twice before getting approval of an increase, he said.

"This time there wasn't any mobilization of the community, although there was a citizen committee. We had a strong re-

al campaign. The community is conscious of the need for good schools. There wasn't any need to do it all over again."

FARMINGTON DISTRICT voters did approve a four-mill renewal last April.

Among planned economy moves will be:

- *A class size increase in elementary school classes from 28 to about 30 or 32 students.
- *A reduction in books and supplies.
- *A 30 per cent cut in testing supplies.
- *A reduction in maintenance, resulting in less cleaning in the buildings.

*Reduction of the number of music teachers.

*A cutback of seven teacher aides, which would reduce service in kindergarten and first grades.

*The layoff of 11 reading specialist aides.

*An increase in class size in junior and senior high schools because 17.5 teachers will be laid off at the secondary level.

*No replacement of worn or damaged equipment.

*The layoff of a librarian.

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Corliss bumped Ross, Prutow win board seats

By STEVE BARNABY
Farmington editor

PTA activist Helen Prutow came away the big winner in this week's Farmington School Board election as she narrowly outdistanced the rest of the field.

Incumbent Trustee Dr. Mervyn Ross came in a close second, to be elected to a second term on the district's legislative body.

Mrs. Prutow received 2,320 votes, while Ross garnered 2,323.

Bud Pickett supporters were disappointed when he placed a strong, but losing, third, with 2,320. Only 30 votes separated Pickett from the winning Mrs. Prutow.

"IT FEELS SUPER to be a winner," said Mrs. Prutow at the school board office after the learning of the results. "Now we can start planning for the coming year. The most important thing is to set priorities."

"I was surprised at the final tally. She walked around all day with the feeling I might lose," said the 35-year-old

mother of two Kenbrook Elementary School boys.

Mrs. Prutow came into the race as a dark horse. Pickett was expected to be the candidate most likely to bump incumbent William Corliss, who presently is board president.

Corliss, who was seeking a second-four year term, placed fourth in the balloting with 1,866 votes. Taking the last spot was 1976 Harrison High School graduate Larry Lichtman, who tallied 1,400 votes.

The race was so close that all precincts had to be tallied before the board hopefuls

knew the outcome. A group of 30 residents came to the board office to watch the results being posted by school district business manager Bill Prus.

The final precinct to be counted was O.E. Danchel, the area in which Lichtman, Prutow and Ross live. Before that precinct's votes were counted, Mrs. Prutow was trailing Pickett by 17 votes.

But Mrs. Prutow proved to have the strongest backing in her home precinct, tallying 891 votes. Ross received 829 and Pickett, 823.

ALTHOUGH THE vote was close, a trend was set early when the absentee ballots were posted. Mrs. Prutow was high vote-getter with 71 votes. Ross second with 59 and Pickett third with 54 votes.

Mrs. Prutow carried one other precinct, besides Danchel, and that was Middle Belt, precinct 4, with 577 votes.

Cornell was unable to carry any of the precincts, including his own, precinct 1, Farmington Junior High School. Ross carried that precinct with 368 votes. Corliss placed fourth with 371 votes.

Pickett was safe on his home ground in precinct 2, Eagle Elementary, where he led the field with 389 votes.



To the victor go congratulations as Asst. Supt. Lewis Schulman congratulates top vote-getter Helen Prutow. Schulman had less to be happy about later in the evening when he learned voters rejected a 2.4-mill increase proposal. (Staff photo by Harry Mauthe)

Hills opts for volunteers in emergency care battle

By LOUISE ORLUTSKY

Farmington Hills has chosen the volunteer firefighters as the sole group to provide the city with human rescue service.

The Farmington Hills Ambulance Company was dropped from next year's city budget.

The private ambulance service, which would have cost the city \$2,000 a month was cut from the budget because the two rescue groups were offering duplicate services which the city can't afford to subsidize next year. City Manager George Majors explained.

"Our records show that the response by the volunteers was better than expected. We will be receiving adequate service without the duplication," he said.

AN AMBULANCE will be called to transport patients to hospitals, but the volunteers will give emergency treatment, he said.

"It's not how fast an ambulance gets there, it's how fast the patient's condition is stabilized," he said.

The Hills Ambulance Company's contract was discontinued on Majors' recommendation in the council.

"I'm sorry the board didn't listen a little stronger when we were fighting against the ambulance company," said volunteer firefighter Benet Brogren. "I'm speaking tonight as a private citizen and not as a fireman," he said.

While the private service will be used to transport patients to the hospital after the volunteers have treated them, other private ambulance companies may be called, Majors said.

If the ambulance company moves out of town, it may delay response," Majors said. "We may have to call an ambulance company from out of town—from Livonia, Redford or Novi."

The agreement to use the private ambulance service was made in January after the city learned the service was considering moving out of town because it was losing money.

In January, the service had been in the area for six months and its owner, Barney Slobin, told the council that he was losing \$2,000 a month in Farmington.

"We could provide a better service for the city if we entered some sort of contract," Slobin said at the time.

The contract with the Hills Ambulance Company expires June 30.

The city's decision to use both services came after the volunteer firefighters protested that their service was being "infringed" by the decision.

"This is really a slap in the face to the volunteers," said Frank Smith, a two-year veteran of the volunteer force.

"This just goes to show Farmington Hills will get by the cheapest way it can," Smith said.

Slobin told the council that all of his employees would qualify as Emergency Medical Technicians by July 1. He protested that the June termination date of the contract was not fair to his service because not all of his employees would have undergone EMT training by then.

He asked for an 18-month contract.

The volunteers spent their own money to become qualified as EMTs, Smith said.

IN A STATEMENT which was read to the Hills council during its Feb. 9 meeting, the chiefs and assistants said that many of the firemen had advanced first aid training and were prepared to meet medical emergencies.

"It's not that we aren't equipped. We have the first aid supplies and a lot of it has not been used for months," they said.

The city decided to use both companies while attempting to close one of them.

"The council isn't taking an irreversible

step. We will be going to the public and talking to members of the voting community," Councilwoman Joan Dudley said at a Feb. 17 city council meeting.

By rec commission

Summer program launched

The Farmington Area Recreation Commission has a brochure of summer activities for children, teens and adults available. There will be camps and a wide variety of activities throughout both cities all summer long.

NATURE'S DAY CAMP is for youngsters eight to 12 who enjoy nature. Camping and other nature-oriented skills will be taught along with nature crafts, plant and wildlife identification and archery.

There will be three one-week sessions of nature camp. Campers will attend from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday. Thursday will include regular afternoon activities plus a family picnic.

PLAYCAMP for children aged 5-7 who have completed kindergarten will have a program of nature love, art, crafts and physical activities. Camp hours will be 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday. Thursday will include regular afternoon activities plus a family picnic.

9:30 to noon Monday, Tuesday and Thursday and 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Wednesday, to allow time for a field trip. The first day-long session starts June 28.

THE SUMMER PLAYGROUND program at 12 locations will open June 21. Those supervised activities for boys and girls aged 6-13, will include sports, games, arts and crafts and special events.

These programs will be held at Bond, Edgewood, Forest, Gill, Kenwood, Larchmore, Langacre, Middlebelt, Shawanaw, Ten Mile, William Grace and Wood Creek elementary schools.

There will be two mobile recreation units visiting the playgrounds—the sports mobile which has football, trampolines, air hockey, volleyball and badminton. The stamobile, with skates provided, is another special treat.

Buses will pick the children up at the

playgrounds for regular swimming lessons at one of the high school pools. Playground leaders will have information on transportation, schedules and costs for swimming.

CARNIVAL DAY at the city park July 18 is a get-together which combines competition and fun in ball games, exhibitions, bands and special events.

YOUTH OLYMPICS will be held July 20. Those who excel will compete in the Metro Olympics at Wayne State University July 29.

All participants in the playground programs are invited to spend the day at Bob-Lo July 30.

The swimming program at Farmington and North Farmington high schools will consist of three sessions of two weeks each. Classes will meet five days each week, Monday through Friday.

Classes for beginners through novices are held in the mornings. Each class runs 50 minutes. Those for more advanced swimmers are scheduled for noon.

Registration is at the schools. The first registration will be June 12 from 9 a.m. to noon for the June 21 through July 2 session. Registration for the second session July 6-16 will be July 2, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Registration for the third session July 19-30 is set for July 16, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

There will be a lifesaving class, adult beginner lessons, and recreation open water. Tennis lessons will be given at Farmington High School and Harrowe High School. The first session starts June 21 and the second session July 19. There will be lessons for children, teens and adults.

Golf lessons at Sijger's Driving Range for both children and teens start June 21. Another golf session opens July 19.

The recreation commission's program for senior citizens at the American Legion Hall, 31773 Grand River, continues to grow. Activities include trips, Sunday dinners, crafts, health and social services and a five-day national hot lunch program. Tickets proceed under the normal rate for Bob-Lo, Cedar Point, Sea World and Greenfield Village and Henry Ford Museum are available at the finance departments of Farmington and Farmington Hills in the city halls.

Registration for all summer programs is taken on a mail-in or in person basis at the recreation commission office, 31555 Eleven Mile Rd., Farmington Hills. The phone is 6244115.

Art classes begin at city library

Seventh and eighth graders can take art classes at the Farmington Branch Library, 25500 Liberty, from 1:30 p.m. June 23-August 11.

Instruction includes work in pencil, watercolor, charcoal, pen and ink. The course will cover still life, landscapes, portraits and perspective.

There is a \$5 materials fee which must be paid at the time of registration.

Registration will begin at 9 a.m. June 14.

There will be no phone or letter registration. Farmington and Hills patrons will be given first preference.

Mrs. Nancy Edwards, a member of the Farmington Artist Club, will be the instructor. She taught private art classes, did commercial art work and owned a gallery in Houston, Texas.



A stream of water is poured over a burned out abandoned structure by the Farmington Hills fire department, which fought the blaze on Sunday on Eldred near Tuck. (Staff photo by Harry Mauthe)

Mercy swim classes start

Registration for the 1976 summer swimming program at Our Lady of Mercy High School in Farmington Hills will be conducted June 19, from 9 a.m. until noon.

There will be five 10-day sessions. Each session costs \$25 with no refunds given after the 2nd lesson.

The sessions are as follows: June 21 to July 2, July 5-16, July 19-30, Aug. 2-13, Aug. 16-27.

The lessons run from 9:45 a.m. for beginners (age 2 and up), then intermediate from 10:10-11:45 a.m., with advanced from 11:45 a.m. and finally drying and water ballet from noon to 12:45 p.m.

Mercy, which is located at 11 Mile and Middlebelt, also offers open swimming Monday through Friday from 1:30 p.m. There is a 75 cent charge for children but accompanying parents are admitted free.

All children under 6 must be accompanied by an adult. Bathing harness their own suits and towels.

For more information contact Mrs. Debra Yager, 478-8029, ext. 38.

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