

Farmington Observer

Volume 88 Number 88 Monday, August 22, 1977 Farmington, Michigan 28 Pages Twenty-Five Cents

Richardson quits council race

In an election year which was predicted by many to be dull, the second surprise of the season has come with the announcement by City of Farmington Mayor John Richardson that he will withdraw as a candidate for reelection to the council.

Richardson, who has served on the council for eight years, announced his intentions in a letter addressed to the city council and City Mgr. Robert Deadman dated August 17. Richardson had filed by the August 12 deadline to run.

In a similar action earlier this year, Farmington Hills Mayor Joan Dudley filed for reelection and then announced she would withdraw.

Richardson's withdrawal from contention leaves five candidates vying for three seats. Those remaining in the race are incumbents Alton Bennett, seeking a second term, and Richard Tupper. Newcomers in contention are Allen Silverman, JoAnne MeShane and Warren Buckler. The top two vote-getters will receive four-year terms, while the candidate re-

ceiving the third highest number of votes will be elected to a two year term.

IN HIS LETTER Richardson lauded increasing demands on his time caused by his recent election as president of the Michigan Veterinary Medical Association coupled with his desire to spend more time with his family.

"After much soul searching, it is with regret but with considerable relief, that I have decided not to seek another term as a Farmington City councilman," said Richardson.

"My decision not to seek reelection at this time should in no way be construed to mean that I am no longer available for service to my community."

Although withdrawing Richardson let it be known that he is still interested in the local political scene and would possibly consider running for political office in the future.

"I will continue to follow closely the activities of municipal government and leave the door open to future participation should the right opportunity present itself."

Political observers believe that Richardson was hoping for an uncontested race but all those involved in running for the council this year are serious contenders. Many persons see Mrs. MeShane, an active member of the Farmington Beautification Commission, as having a good chance for election. Silverman attended council sessions for many years and Buckler is being backed by the Democratic party.



JOHN RICHARDSON



Try, try, try again

Too intent to notice anyone else, Frank Patrello makes a valiant effort to reacquaint himself with the childhood art of blowing bubble gum during the Gathering Place's picnic at Shawwassee Park, Farmington, last week. Patrello made a fine showing in

other activities at the picnic. He helped his softball team with a home run. For further glimpses of summertime fun, turn to page 3A. (Staff photo by Harry Maute)

Public opinion sought on parks expansion plan

Farmington Hills residents will have a chance to speak out on development of a parks and recreation system in their community at tonight's council session beginning at 7 p.m. in council chambers, Eleven Mile and Orchard Lake roads.

The proposed master plan study was made by Bills and Childs Associates, a planning consultant firm.

The firm was hired earlier this year to study the city's recreational needs after political debate divided the community on what kind of parks to develop—small neighborhood parks or a large regional facility.

The study recommends a combination of both concepts, utilizing school properties, subdivision commons areas and an 80-100 acre parcel for a major park.

The study emphasizes that land purchases must be made now in order to serve a population which is estimated to double by the year 2000.

Presently, Farmington Hills has only eight acres of publicly owned parkland serving a population of 38,000, according to the study results.

Immediate land acquisition is a priority in the study because of the high cost of commercial property in Farmington Hills. The study shows that undeveloped commercial land ranges anywhere from \$20,000 to \$80,000 an acre in the city.

Areas of deficiencies in the Hills, according to the NRPA are the lack of a recreation center, lack of a major park, a deficiency of eight neighborhood parks. Other deficiencies listed were the lack of city-owned baseball diamonds, playfields, indoor swimming pools, tennis courts, golf courses, natural skating rinks, trails and bikeways, outdoor theaters and environmental areas.

When initially presented to the council, some councilmembers were disturbed that more mention wasn't made of other facilities in the community such as the indoor swimming pools at the city's schools.

But meetings between the parks commission, city councilmembers and parks and recreation personnel alleviated apprehension over those parts of the study.

One of the vital sections of the study is where to locate the major park. The plan has cited three areas—Eleven Mile and Halsted, which currently is vacant property zoned for commercial use; the second is at Farmington Road between Ten and Eleven Mile, the present site of the Farmington Community Center; and property located north of Mercy Center, at Twelve Mile and Middlebelt.

Hills council agenda set for Monday's meet

Farmington Hills City Council will conduct a public hearing to consider the adoption of a master parks plan for the city at 7 p.m. Monday in council chambers at Eleven Mile and Orchard Lake Road.

At 8 p.m., the council will conduct its regular meeting beginning with a cost hearing for Woodcreek Road improvements.

warding employee's retirement system. Introduced August 8, 1977.

The following items of new business will be considered:

- Consideration of awarding bids for the ownership of 1977 class C license and SDM licensed business for business at 29134 Grand River, from the Louis Waack estate to O. J. Enterprises.
- Consideration of resolution to amend the sewage disposal rates.
- Consideration of awarding bids for 1977 pavement ordinances for the following rezoning requests:

- The following items are on the agenda:
- Request by Victor Cassis to rezone the west side of Halsted between Grand River and Eleven Mile from single family (RA-2) to light industry (LI-1).
- Request by the Farmington Hills Planning Commission to rezone the west side of Halsted between Grand River and Eleven Mile from single family (RA-2) to light industrial (LI-1).
- Request to rezone Haegerty and Halsted from Thirteen and a half Mile to Fourteen Mile from single family residential use (RA-1) to planned residential use (PR-2) about 187 acres owned by A.J. Mackeay Co. are involved.
- Request to rezone the southeast corner of Nine Mile and Haegerty near I-275 from single family residential (RA-1) to office service (OS-1).
- Consideration of the following amendments:
 - Consideration of enactment of amendment C-177 to municipal code 4.1280 enforcement of specific tank violations. Introduced on July 25, 1977.
 - Consideration of enactment of an amendment C-277 to municipal code 4.130, 4.140 and 4.170 of Article 1 re-

Bunny keeps in shape by teaching

By BETTY MASSON

There seems to be a difference of opinion between the men in the Observer office and Denise Mifsud of Livonia.

She doesn't consider herself a sex symbol, but there was a notable swiveling of heads and straightening of ties when she walked in the other day—even among those who didn't know Miss Mifsud is a Playboy Bunny. And even among those who weren't wearing ties.

"I'm sure I'm not a sex symbol," Miss Mifsud said.

"But what about all these men falling all over themselves to look at you?" she was asked.

"I just don't pay any attention," she answered. "It's not important to me."

WHAT IS IMPORTANT to Miss Mifsud is gymnastics, but to answer any possible queries, she likes men who are understanding, patient, not jealous, tall, dark and most impor-

tant, "as ambitious as I am." Note, not necessarily rich and handsome, although "he should make as much money or more than I do. I think it's better for a man's ego to make more money than a girl."

Miss Mifsud became a Playboy Bunny this past June because she likes working nights and because the pay is good.

She needs both the money and the days so she can fulfill her ambition of getting a degree in physical education to teach gymnastics. She should do wonders for the old-fashioned stereo-

type of a girls' gym teacher.

Miss Mifsud attends Schoolcraft College on a part-time basis, and spends her Saturdays teaching gymnastics to some 140 students at the Farmington Hills YMCA in Kenbrook Elementary school, where a new series of classes will begin in early September.

This past summer she participated in a National Gymnastics Clinic at Michigan State University, and also took courses in judging and coaching.

"I LOVE IT!" she says with enthusiasm.

(Continued on page 4A)

District names woman as special ed. chief

Farmington School District has increased its number of women administrators to three with the appointment of Mary Lou Ankele as supervisor of special education.

One of four special education supervisors, Mrs. Ankele joins Highmeadow Elementary principal Carolyn Plesek and Longacre Elementary Principal Mildred Bennett at the top ranks of central administration. Her appointment was announced last week.

A learning disabilities teacher at Wooddale Elementary for the past four years, Mrs. Ankele completes eight years of uninterrupted teaching.

Mrs. Ankele will supervise the learning disabilities program and resource rooms throughout the school district.

"I'm really delighted to have an opportunity to work in the area," she says about her promotion. "I've worn a permanent smile all week."

Thirty applicants, both within and without the district were originally considered for the job. Six were chosen for in-depth interviewing, and the selection committee unanimously recommended Mrs. Ankele for the position.

SHE RECEIVED a BS from Eastern Michigan University, an MA with (Continued on page 4A)



MARY LOU ANKELE



DENISE MIFSUD

inside

THE GRASS IS ALWAYS GREENER

If you've ever wondered why know matter how hard you try you can never get your lawn to look as green as the golf course turn turn to page 4A.

Letters	12A
Obituaries	2A
Suburban Life	7.5-9A