

# Farmington Observer

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## Board candidate objects to union query

By MARY GNIEWEK  
Farmington school board candidate William Gravius doesn't expect an AFL-CIO endorsement. One of four hopefuls running for a one-year term in the June 11 election, Gravius refused to answer a questionnaire or attend an interview session last week in Southfield sponsored by the Metropolitan Detroit Council of the American Federation of Labor.

"I don't believe they need to be involved with local politicians in a race like this," Gravius said.

"This race is not of national interest. It's strictly for the local community."

Gravius had no beef with the nature of the questions, some of which sought labor-related opinions. One asked what should be the terminal point of collective bargaining if the parties cannot agree. Another asked if the candidate felt labor history was adequately covered in the textbooks currently used in the schools.

The questionnaire was signed by AFL-CIO President Tom Turner, Secretary-Treasurer Henry J. Mueller and Oakland County Representative Paul Nielsen.

MUeller, an OFFICER in the Metropolitan Council, defended the AFL-CIO's interest in the election. He said the union interviews candidates before every election, but admitted this was the first time Oakland County school board candidates were included

in the process. "We think the questionnaire is very important," he said. "We have a lot of members in Farmington. They're affected by the election."

"More and more, school boards have an effect on taxes. The interviews show up a lot of things."

The five-member Oakland County screening committee will hold a final endorsement meeting today.

Candidates James McGilincy and Michael Breckenridge are vying for the union nod.

"I feel that anyone who wants to ask is entitled," Breckenridge said about the questionnaire.

"The AFL-CIO is slanted on the union viewpoint, but it doesn't bother me. I'll respond to any group," he said.

McGilincy said he is not actively seeking aid from the AFL-CIO "because it might be considered a conflict of interest."

"I deal with their representatives across the table in my job," he said.

He is labor relations director at Wayne County General Hospital. Nevertheless, McGilincy responded to the questionnaire.

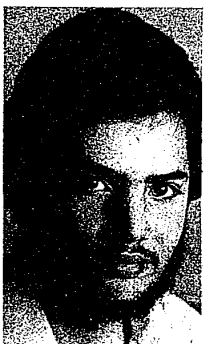
"I welcome support from any group," he said.

Miss Saunders did not complete the survey or answer the questionnaire because of a conflicting work schedule. She was not available for comment.

Board Vice President Michael Shpiece, who is running unopposed for another four-year term on the board, did not receive a questionnaire from the AFL-CIO.

"The AFL has over 1,000 members in the district," Shpiece said. "It seems to me they're entitled to ask questions. I think they have a right."

## Young writer urges savings in energy book



"I READ QUITE a bit about ways to conserve energy," he said. "I researched at the library to supplement what I already knew."

His idea for the book came from his past work and the energy crisis that is foremost on everybody's mind.

"The average cost of utility bills in this area have gone up 84-155 percent in the past few years," he explained.

But still, there are all those other books on the market, written by so-called experts. What makes his so different?

"My book is simple to read, it gives you what you want in a shorter span," Selling said. "You don't have to sit down and read a novel for three days to find what you want."

"And most of the solutions are really simple. Except for insulating, nothing in it would cost more than \$50. Basically, everything can be done with simple materials. . . all it involves is simple adjustments."

Despite the small amount of pages, the booklet covers a variety of subjects. "I wrote it and I don't know everything I put in it," Selling claims.

Some of the methods he discusses range from what faucet to use ("You can save 900 gallons of water a month if, when getting hot water, you use a faucet closer to the water heater") to wrapping the water heater with an insulated wrapping.

OF COURSE, writing a book and getting people to buy it are two different things. Luckily, Selling has a publisher who is well-known to him — himself.

"I published it at my home and sell it through the mail and ads," he said. "The advertising is where the expense comes in."

"Mistrust of people is the hardest thing to overcome. . ."

But Selling is a firm believer in the old adage, "If at first you don't succeed, try, try again." He already has completed another booklet, "Wholesale Buying Sources," and is working on several others.

"I'm working on a booklet covering the gas problem," Selling said. "That'll be my next booklet."

He's not lacking for topics. Others on his list include an expanded version of his "Utility Bills" and an upcoming work on insurance.

So, it appears Selling will be busy for awhile. And his mini-book on "Utility Bills" should keep homeowners busy cutting costs.

By the way, did you know that one-fifteenth of an inch of soot on the inside of your furnace can cut down on its efficiency by 50 percent?

"We notified everyone formally by letter. But there may be a couple of other places in violation. We're checking into it."

Cole said merchants must obtain a permit from the city clerk's office to sell fireworks. The city's ordinance allows sale of some types of fireworks and bans the sale of others.

Abdelnour's brother and business partner, Albert Abdelnour, said the drugstore is "going to stay out of any legal battle that might ensue."

"If anyone's going to fight it, it's the fireworks manufacturers. They're the ones who should be responsible."

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Getting in shape for the 30 kilometer walk are Troy students (foreground, from left) Steve Kelly, 12, Shawn Teagan, 12, and Cindy Encinas, 14, as as (background, left) Dawn Yeaton, 13, and Dawn Dyer, 14. (Staff photo by Charlie Kidd)

## Kids hoof it for a cause

With a good cause as their inspiration, youths from all over Oakland County will be hiking through Troy Saturday on a 30-kilometer journey to help others.

As many as 1,000 youths are expected to join in the Walk for Mankind June 2 to raise money for Project Concern, an international health care organization which helps underprivileged children throughout the world.

The fund-raiser, one of 12 similar walks planned in southeast Michigan, provides the main support for Project Concern. It is being sponsored by Troy Jaycees along with WRIF radio station in Southfield and Dr. Pepper.

Youths who register in advance for the Troy walk will receive colorful iron-on decals for T-shirts. Walkers are asked to obtain pledges for each mile that they walk. The donations will be collected later by computer billings, not by the walkers.

The journey will start at 9:30 a.m. at Troy High School, 2175 Livermore. Those who tire out during the 18.6 mile-walk will be chauffeured back to the starting point in well-marked Weary Walker Wagons.

Troy Jaycees have arranged for local organizations to man 15 checkpoints along the route where refreshments and first aid supplies will be ready for hikers.

Register in advance by sending name and address to Troy Jaycees, 1325 Keywest, Troy 48064.

## Preparedness at question

# Draft talk spawns diverse opinions

By KARRE SLAFKIN

Reinstating the draft arouses diverse and diametrically opposed answers when talking with a Farmington Army recruiter, a U.S. Representative and Farmington residents.

Army Sgt. 1st Class George Lucardie said the draft's reinstatement is necessary.

"The draft will help beef up and reinforce the nation's ready-reserves," he said.

Lucardie prefaced his opinions by saying that his view was personal and not an official U.S. Army or Defense Department position.

Yet, he did say that the Chief of Staff for the Department of the Army, General Bernard C. Rogers, feels the need for the draft's reinstatement.

Lucardie said that Rogers views the modern volunteer army as adequate to encounter an armed conflict, yet within 90 days, due to combat deaths and wounded, a "critical" shortage would occur.

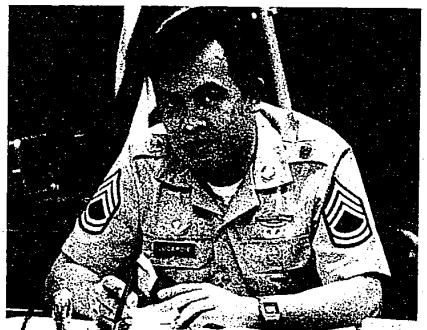
President Jimmy Carter is considering reinstatement of the draft due to urging from his military advisors. The draft was abolished shortly after the end of the Vietnam War.

"The army's peace time force is 750,000 strong, and the entire U.S. armed forces is 2.5 million. The number of troops needed in a crisis is contingent upon the seriousness of the conflict," said Lucardie.

Lucardie believes women would be excluded from a draft system.

"I cannot foresee when women will ever be drafted," he said, adding that women presently in the army would be excluded from combat duty if a war were to occur.

But U.S. Rep. William Brodhead, D-Detroit, doesn't want to see men or women face the draft.



Sgt. 1st Class George Lucardie, Farmington U.S. Army recruiter, said a draft system is a real possibility in the coming year. (Staff photo by Harry Mauthe)

The draft, he said, would only be necessary in an emergency situation.

"There is no crisis facing us now, which eliminates the need for a draft," he added.

The potential for this country to be pulled into a conflict because of the draft's existence is possible, according to Brodhead.

"The draft makes another Vietnam possible. If the President had had to de-

pend on a volunteer army, perhaps there would have been different attitudes about getting involved in Vietnam," he said.

"You would think that we learned our lesson in Vietnam."

Brodhead has joined 40 other House members in urging Carter to oppose the draft's reinstatement.

A vote on the House floor will be taken within the next month concerning draft registration. Brodhead said if the registration bill is defeated, the possibility of a draft will follow suit.

The public, too, has diverse reactions to draft reinstatement.

Some agree with Brodhead and support a draft only in times of emergency, while others worry about the U.S. military being strong enough to offer them security against enemy forces.

Mrs. Nancy Dean, of Farmington, said she doesn't feel it is necessary to draft men during peacetime.

"As long as we have the forces to keep us safe, the draft shouldn't begin again," she said.

"I wouldn't like to be drafted," said Joey Sierotowicz, 16, of Farmington. "I believe in the volunteer Army. The draft is needed only in an emergency situation," he added.

Bill Harper, 20, of Farmington, feels that it is fair to draft men for a six month stint of basic training.

"But three to four years of service in peace time isn't necessary," he said. "I want to finish school."

## Fireworks flap sputters away

The sale of fireworks may become a hot issue in Farmington Hills.

Last week, city police cited Basim Abdelnour, co-owner of Meadow Drugstore, 2409 Farmington Rd., for selling firecrackers and bottle rockets, a violation of a city ordinance.

The misdemeanor carries a maximum penalty of 90 days in jail and a \$100 fine.

Abdelnour pleaded not guilty in Farmington District Court. No trial date has been set. Farmington Hills police detective John Cole said there might be more action against merchants selling fireworks.

(Continued on page 6A)

## Botsford chairman is named

Norman Wachler has been elected chairman of the board of trustees at Botsford General Hospital in Farmington Hills. A longtime civic activist, Wachler has been a board trustee for the past four years. His most recent position was that of chairman of the professional affairs committee. He is a graduate of Oakland University and is employed by Casmun's mens stores. Married and the father of two, Wachler and his family reside in Huntington Woods.

### inside

Candidates profiled  
Five people are running in the June 11 election for two seats on the Farmington School Board. To see what they have to say about the issues, turn to Page 3A.

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