

# Brotherton backs Milliken tax relief plan

Political lines are being drawn as the state Legislature prepares itself to consider Gov. William Milliken's \$1.1 billion property tax relief plan.

While state Rep. Sandy Brotherton, R-Farmington, has launched a campaign in support, tax crusader Robert Tisch is countering with an opposition campaign.

"I think this proposal is a clear-cut, straightforward plan that will provide

substantial reductions in an individual's property tax in exchange for a one cent increase in the sales tax," said Brotherton, who represents Farmington, Farmington Hills and parts of Southfield.

Under the plan all property taxes for operating millage on homesteads would be reduced by 35 percent. A \$1,400 ceiling would be enforced on the reduction any taxpayer could receive.

Senior citizens would be exempted from paying the first \$1,400 of all property taxes on their homes.

"That means that more than 90 percent of Michigan's elderly citizens wouldn't have to pay any property tax at all if this plan is enacted," said Brotherton.

But Tisch is far from enthusiastic about the proposal.

"It is really the same old shell game

that has been played by politicians in Lansing for years," said Tisch.

TISCH CLAIMS Milliken's new proposal is basically the same as Proposal C offered up by a legislative coalition during the last election.

"Its adoption in 1981 without a new majority vote of the people in Michigan would be illegal under the 1978 tax limitation amendment, which limits the in-

crease of all forms of taxation in Michigan to the annual increase in the consumer price index," said Tisch.

Brotherton lauds the plan, saying it would "take a big bite out of government spending."

State and local spending, he said, would be cut by \$559 million. Local governments would be required to conduct public hearings and vote on any inflationary increases in property tax bills.

"A one-cent increase in the sales tax would partially offset the property tax reductions and guarantee that the most important governmental services would not be eliminated," said Brotherton.

The sales tax increase would raise about \$535 million each year to fund half the programs. Local governments would be reimbursed about 89 percent of their lost revenues, but they would have to absorb about \$125 million through local budget reductions.

"This plan is clearly a tax cut, not a shift," said Brotherton. "In order for it to have an effect on the July tax bills, however, it will need swift legislative approval."

"Then the people could vote at a special election on the sales tax increase," he said.

## obituaries

### HARRY R. FARMER

Mr. Harry Farmer, 79, formerly of Farmington Hills, died Jan. 15 in Florida.

He was formerly a Justice of Peace in Farmington Hills Township. He was a member of Kiwanis, Michigan Bar Association, Farmington Players and Jay Cees.

Survivors include: daughters, Carolyn Hall and Kathleen Miles; three grandchildren.

Services were Jan. 21 in Thayer-Rock Funeral Home, Farmington, with the Rev. Carl Schultz officiating. He was cremated in Anceia Park, Fla.

### MR. FRED KOWALSKI

Mr. Kowalski, 81, died Jan. 18 in the Oakhill Nursing Home, Farmington.

He was a retired Ford Motor Co. employee.

Survivors include: daughter, Loretta Agar; sons, Charles and Arthur; 10 grandchildren and 13 great-grandchildren.

Services were Jan. 21 in Thayer-Rock Funeral Home, Farmington, with the Rev. J. Kenneth Hoffmaster officiating. Burial was in Parkview Memorial Cemetery.

### MARY M. LOCKWOOD

Mrs. Lockwood, 73, of Farmington died Jan. 17 in Sinai Hospital, Detroit.

She was a member of the Catholic Women Study Club of St. Gerald Roman Catholic Church, Farmington.

Survivors include: husband, Kenneth; mother, Catherine Kozma; sons, James and Thomas; four grandchildren.

Services were Jan. 20 in Thayer-Rock Funeral Home, Farmington, and St. Gerald Roman Catholic Church.

Farmington, with the Rev. Maurice Decker officiating. Burial was in Holy Sepulchre Cemetery.

### ADAM JOSEPH KEVRA

Mr. Kevra, 71, of Farmington Hills died Jan. 18 in the Oak Hill Nursing Home, Farmington.

He was a supervisor for the U.S. Post Office for 40 years. He retired in 1984.

He was a World War II veteran.

Survivors include: wife, Marie; sons, James and William; daughter, Barbara.

Services were Jan. 20 in Ted C. Sullivan Funeral Home, Farmington, and Our Lady of Sorrows Roman Catholic Church, Farmington. Burial was in Holy Sepulchre Cemetery, Southfield.

### ESTHER NELSON

Mrs. Nelson, 85, of Farmington Hills died Jan. 15 in her home.

She was a member of the Finnish Cultural Center of Farmington Hills.

Survivors include: daughters, Ingrid Nagy and Britta Mather; two grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Services were Jan. 17 at the Thayer-Rock Funeral Home, Farmington, with the Rev. Charles Beyon officiating.

Burial was in White Chapel in Troy. Memorials may be sent to the Finnish Center, Eight Mile Road, Farmington Hills 48018.

### CURT HENRY STARKE

Mr. Starke, 67, of Farmington died Jan. 18 in Botsford Hospital, Farmington Hills.

He was a sales engineer with Greenlee Brothers Co.

Survivors include: wife, Jessie; son, Herbert; daughter, Sandra; mother, Mrs. Anita Starke; two grandchildren.

Services were Jan. 21 at Heeneys-Sundquist Funeral Home, Farmington, with the Rev. R. Scott Krejci of St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, Levee, officiating. He was cremated in Grand Lawn Crematory in Detroit.

## Hills posts city agenda

FARMINGTON HILLS CITY COUNCIL  
7:30 P.M. tonight

Public Hearing

- Consideration of introduction of proposed amendment to the text of the city of Farmington Hills Zoning Ordinance, Zoning Amendment CZ-2A (2), by amending the text of Article XV A - Industrial Research Office District, Section 1500A Preamble, to delete certain references to the area of the city which is intended to be used for Industrial Research Office District classification. (Postponed from meeting of 1-19-81).

Unfinished Business:

- Consideration of setting date for cost hearing for Special Assessment District for Sanitary Sewer on Hathaway Street from lot 31 to Sup. Plat No. 11 of northern terminus of Hathaway. (Resolution 4).

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City Managers Report:

- Recommends award of bids through county for the purchase of 10 police cars.

- Recommends award of bids for towing services required by police department.

- Recommends approval of the hiring of a CETA employee for special crime prevention project who is related to a Farmington Hills patrol officer.

- Recommends approval of price for sale of aerial topographical maps.

- Recommends council's approval of agreement with MDOT for surface drainage facility on Northwestern Highway.

- Recommends traffic control order for the intersection of Lujon Tralee Trail and Woodfarm Drive with Rhoads Drive.

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