

Charity cards help brighten holidays, 1C



Playoffs kickoff, 1B

Officials eye potential area for wetlands, 3A

Farmington Observer

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ATTENTION young readers of the Farmington area: Children's Book Week is Nov. 11-17, and many are the preparations being made by the Farmington Community Library.

Activities include:
 • A Pow-Wow with Poetry Contest. This writing contest, which runs through Nov. 18, is open to young poets in grades 1-6 in Farmington-area schools. Prizes will be awarded to winners. Entry forms are available at the libraries on Liberty in downtown Farmington and on 12 Mile Road in Farmington Hills.
 • Storytimes for preschool- and kindergarten-age youngsters at both libraries. At the 12 Mile Road Library, the event will be held from 11-11:30 a.m. on Monday, Nov. 11. At the Farmington branch, it will be held 10:30-11 a.m. on Wednesday, Nov. 13.
 • "Living Images." This program group will entertain children 4 and up at both libraries. At the Farmington branch, the show will be held 7-8 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 14. Entitled "Soaring With The Sultans," the program will feature book characters from around the world and a sing-along. At the Hills Library, the show — "Magician's Stories" — will be held 2-3 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 16. No registration is required for these programs.
 For more information, call the Children's Department of the library at 553-0300.

JANE MENDOLSOHN of Botsford Hospital will speak on "Coping With Holiday Stress" at the Interagency Council of Farmington/Farmington Hills breakfast 7:30-9 a.m. Thursday, Nov. 14, at The Community Center, 24705 Farmington Road.

Anyone who represents a Farmington-area group, club, homeowners' association, etc. is welcome to attend.

DIANE HOLDEN, assistant vice president of Michigan National Bank, will be the main speaker at the Farmington/Farmington Hills Chamber of Commerce's general membership luncheon at 11:30 a.m. on Thursday, Nov. 21, at the On The Tee restaurant, 26524 Halsted Road, Farmington Hills.
 The title of her talk: "I Want to Be A Millionaire by Friday or Reading Between The Lines Of The Wall Street Journal." Cost is \$13 for chamber members and \$15 for non-members.
 Call the chamber at 474-3440 for more information or reservations.

The voters have spoken!

Campbell in; Yoder out in city

By Casey Hans staff writer

It was a bittersweet day in Farmington Tuesday. Veteran councilman Ralph Yoder lost his bid for an eighth term on the Farmington City Council, while former councilman Arnold Campbell and incumbents JoAnne McShane and William Hartsock were successful in their attempts.
 The race was a close one for most of the candidates, with top vote-getter McShane carrying 1,275 votes and a four-year term.
 Hartsock, an 18-year council veteran, came in a close second with 1,210 votes and also won a four-year term. With 1,096 votes, Campbell won back the seat he lost in 1989, earning a two-year term.
 Challenger John Kenney, 45, finished last with 503 votes; it was his second try at a council seat.
 A total of 1,966 ballots were cast, amounting to a 25-percent turnout. Vote counts are unofficial until approved by the city's board of canvassers.

THE WINNERS were elated at their victories, but all said they were sad about Yoder's defeat after 26 years on the council. He came in fourth place, just 88 votes behind Campbell.
 "My wife is going to be very relieved. And I'm relieved, too," said Yoder, 65, a retired trucking executive who admittedly campaigned lightly this time around. "I probably shouldn't have run."
 "I'm disappointed only for those people who felt I should have been re-elected."
 Yoder said he would likely spend more time with his wife in Florida and plans to go back to watching the council from the other side of the table.

MCSHANE SPENT election evening at her home with friends, family and supporters, who were ecstatic

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ELECTION RESULTS	
91 Farmington City Council	
Top two finishers win four-year terms, next highest finisher wins a two-year term.	
JoAnne McShane Incumbent	1,275
William Hartsock Incumbent	1,210
Arnold Campbell	1,096
Ralph Yoder Incumbent	1,008
John Kenney	503



JoAnne McShane (right), re-elected to the Farmington City Council, gets a congratulatory hug from friend Bonnie Suder at McShane's home Tuesday evening.

Courthouse proposal fails in Hills

By Casey Hans staff writer

Although a proposal to expand the 47th District Court was passed handily by Farmington voters Tuesday, those in Farmington Hills rejected the \$1.8 million project.
 And without the approval of both cities, the issue fell to defeat.
 "I'm just disheartened and discouraged at this point," Chief District Judge Margaret Schaeffer said Wednesday. "I know it was close. I just feel badly the voters didn't realize how badly we needed the addition."
 Schaeffer said she was unsure if they would approach voters again and said she did not know what effect the loss would have on the addition of a third judge to the court.
 In Farmington, the vote was 1,042 to 839 in favor of the project, but in

Farmington Hills, the vote was 4,956 to 5,668 against, according to unofficial vote counts obtained from city officials.
 The bond issues had to pass individually in each city for the project to be approved.
THE PROPOSAL would have expanded the current courthouse by 9,500 square feet and renovated other court areas to make way for a third judge. Additional parking was also part of the plan. According to court records, the 47th District Court caseload grew from 22,399 in 1983 to 37,240 in 1990. Judges said it is the third busiest district court in Oakland County.
 City officials say they will meet with the judges to discuss the future of the court, and the effect of the bond issue loss. Farmington Hills City Manager William Costick said

he would like to see the issue taken back to voters as quickly as possible, likely in an election next August.
 "CERTAINLY I'M disappointed in the results," Costick said Wednesday. "The court truly has a space problem. We've got to put this back on the ballot. And, obviously, we've got to do a better job educating the public."
 Costick said the third judgeship is also an important issue but that it would have to be addressed by the judges and elected officials from Farmington and Farmington Hills.
THE 47TH District Court serves both cities, but, because of its size and population, the city of Farmington Hills would have paid the largest portion of the expansion cost. The average resident of a \$100,000 house in either city would have paid be-

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Smears help Hills winners

By Joanne Maliszewski staff writer

Farmington Hills planning commission chairwoman Joanne Smith says smear tactics in the final hours of the campaign helped push her into the city council victory circle Tuesday along with three incumbents.
 "I really think it helped," Smith said. "There are wonderful people in this city. They saw through this dirty, vicious campaign."
 Smith wasn't the only brunt of last-minute dirty politics. Incumbents Terry Sever, the top vote-getter, and fourth-place finisher Larry Lichtman also were targeted.
 In the last few days of the campaign, Sever was threatened with sexual harassment charges if he didn't do as he was told, he said. Lichtman arrived home Tuesday evening to find a bag of excrement in his driveway.
 While watching the votes come in at city hall Tuesday night, council watchers, candidates and supporters spoke disparagingly of the dirty tricks that marred the campaign.
 Two-year councilwoman Nancy Bates took second place with Smith and Lichtman in third and fourth places respectively. Sever, Bates and Smith, a former councilwoman, earned four-year terms and Lichtman, a two-year term.

MORE THAN 600 votes separated Lichtman from Paul Sowerby, who placed fifth in the field of seven candidates. Sowerby, a former appointed councilman, lost to Bates in 1989. Challenger Ronald Oliverio —

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ELECTION RESULTS	
91 Ballot Proposal	
Voters in Farmington and Farmington Hills are asked to approve a bond issue that would expand the 47th District Court to allow for the addition of a third judge. The measure must pass in both cities to be approved.	
Farmington Hills	YES 4,956
NO	5,668
Farmington	YES 1,042
NO	839

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In the bag?

County set to proceed cautiously with trash plan

By Pat Murphy staff writer

Environmentalists clouded the political skies over Oakland by challenging the county's proposed solid waste plan with its controversial incinerator in Auburn Hills.
 Some wanted a recount. Others said the results should be discounted because the 223-vote margin in favor of the solid waste plan "was certainly no mandate."
 But a victory is a victory, said county commissioner Roy Rewold, chairman of the Oakland County Board of Commissioners and a staunch proponent of the plan.
 "We're going to proceed cautiously," he said. "But I want to get the MRF (the recycling facility)

ty) on line as soon as possible and go ahead with the incinerator."
 Financing the \$500 million solid waste program was approved in the countywide election 70,908 to 70,585 — or by 223 votes — according to uncertified results released early Wednesday by the Election Division of the Oakland County Clerk's Office.
 The percent of voters who favored the controversial program was 50.09, compared with 49.92 who opposed it. Slightly more than 50 percent of Oakland's 728,220 registered voters went to the polls.
 "THAT WAS NO overwhelming endorsement of the solid waste program," said Michael A. Schwartz, chairman of the Oakland Environmen-

tal Protection Council, one of a dozen or more organizations opposing the proposal. "That's certainly no mandate."
 Rewold admitted the margin of victory was smaller than he expected. "But any bond issue is a tough sell in these uncertain times. This one was a winner."
 One indicator of the tough sell is Rewold's home district. In his 16th Council Commission District — Auburn Hills and Oakland and Orion townships — the solid waste program was rejected, 2,387 to 5,368, according to uncertified results.
 The chairman of HOPE (Help Oakland Preserve the Environment) said she definitely wants a recount.

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