

Farmington Observer

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FIFTY CENTS

HOW YOU VOTED

There is one winner from each party unless otherwise noted.

U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, 11TH DISTRICT

Democrat	
Walter O. Briggs IV	14,565
Michael Meyer	8,785
Republican	
Joe Knollenberg	30,018
Dave Honigman	20,642
Alice Gilbert	18,948

47TH DISTRICT COURT

The top two vote-getters will face each other in the November election.

John McDonald	4,194
Marla Parker	4,074
Gerald Surowiec	2,005
Shirley Saltzman	704
Richard Poehlman	564
Kenneth Knoppow	474
Steven Gabel	139

OAKLAND COUNTY EXECUTIVE

Democrat	
Elizabeth Hows	29,474
Philip Marcuse	9,923
Republican	
L. Brooks Patterson	90,024

OAKLAND COUNTY SHERIFF

Democrat	
Seymour Hundley	33,697
Republican	
John Nichols (I)	74,806
Paul Moen	17,512

OAKLAND COUNTY DRAIN COMMISSIONER

Democrat	
M. Kay Brady	33,668
Republican	
George Kuhn (I)	51,298
Rick Patterson	27,874

IN THE PAPER

TODAY

Shooting update: Two Detroit teens shot Friday during a dance at the Mercy Center in Farmington Hills remain hospitalized. The gunman remains at large. The organizers of the ill-fated event are described as "good kids."/6A

Battle of sexes, Part II: Oakland County attorney calls on Judge John O'Brien to fire his court clerk, defeated county executive candidate Philip Marcuse, for remarks made about women./7A

VOTE TOTALS

Election results: For local vote totals, call 953-2024 today and Friday following Tuesday's primary.

SUBURBAN LIFE

They're in tune: Farmington Hills family members find music is a constant in their lives./1C

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Board buys time on Wooddale



Farmington school trustees have a solution for safety problems in the parking lot of Wooddale Elementary School. However, work won't begin until construction drawings are finished and approved by the board.

BY CAREY HARRIS
STAFF WRITER

The Farmington school board Tuesday directed engineering drawings be done for the parking lot and driveway at Wooddale Elementary and approved, in concept only, what has become a controversial solution to safety problems there.

The board voted 6-0 to approve closing the steep driveway that runs south and installing a two-way driveway to the west.

But trustees said they want no work done on the project until construction drawings are done and brought back to the board for approval, which is estimated to take 4-6 weeks.

"We want to buy some time if we can," said trustee Jack Cotton in making the motion. "It's important we feel comfortable."

Cotton said he would like to see more study of traffic problems during winter months when they are apparently at their worst, and trustees Joseph Svoke and Susan Rennels asked school administration to look into the possibility of getting sidewalks installed in the area for additional safety.

Board treasurer Helen Ditzhazy was absent for Tuesday's vote. Problems at Wooddale include the

steep driveway and the current parking lot, which is too small. Also a problem are cars lining up off of school property to the west and south to pick up children. A group of parents sitting on a school safety committee asked for school board help.

On the other side of the issue are the trees, which will have to be taken down with an expansion to the west, concern with property values in the Colony Park West subdivision where there is a dead-end street, and concerns that the

See BOARD, 2A



STEPHEN CASTRELLI/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Media darling: His opponents spent big money, but Joe Knollenberg got plenty of attention from microphones and cameras after his upset victory in 11th District U.S. Congress race.

Low-key approach wins race

BY GREG KOWALSKI
STAFF WRITER

Joe Knollenberg's grass roots work and GOP party support fueled his upset victory over high-spending, embattled candidates Dave Honigman and Alice Gilbert in the 11th U.S. House District, which includes Farmington and Farmington Hills.

While Honigman and Gilbert battled it out on TV and radio ads accusing each other of job incompetency and insensitivity to the voters, Knollenberg generally stood back and stayed out of the fray.

And, with the backing of retiring U.S. Rep. William Broomfield, the Bloomfield Township insurance agency owner and GOP activist quietly won over voters.

Farmington-area voters helped Knollenberg roll to victory.

In Farmington Hills, Knollenberg collected 4,337 votes. Gilbert got 2,399

See RACE, 4A

Oh McDonald, Parker makes it close

BY TOM BARR
STAFF WRITER

JUDICIAL

Many Farmington-area politicians considered John J. (Jack) McDonald to be the heir apparent to replace the retiring Margaret Schaeffer as a judge of the local court.

But after Tuesday's primary, it was apparent that McDonald, longtime attorney and former county commissioner, is going to have to run the race of his life between now and November if he wants to don a black robe and ascend to the bench of the 47th District Court in Farmington.

Marla Parker, who already wears a robe as a magistrate in that court, gave McDonald all he could handle in the seven-candidate judicial primary. And she's sure to run strong again in the November general election.

Yes, McDonald topped the primary field, gathering an unofficial 4,194 votes. That was expected. It was

thought that second place — also a survivor's slot — might go to Parker . . . or someone.

"That 'someone' almost turned out to be Jack McDonald.

At one point during a raucous election-night party at the Honey Tree restaurant in northern Farmington Hills, the personable Parker shouted for quiet, got it, and made an announcement.

"With four of six precincts in Farmington and 21 of 31 in the Hills, we are running first!" exclaimed Parker, 37, holding high the No. 1 finger. Applause rocked the room.

But when the votes had been counted, McDonald finished first — by 120 votes. He actually lost in Farmington Hills, 3,613 votes to 3,453, but took the city of Farmington by 180 votes.

"I don't care if I win by two votes, as long as I win," said the 52-year-old McDonald just before midnight at his home on Appleton in Farmington Hills.

A little later, he took a phone call from Parker. "Yes, it was a close one," he told her.

See JUDGE, 3A



SHARON LEHMEYER/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Happy returns: Jack McDonald, candidate for judge, looks at the returns at about 10 p.m. election night and appears to be happy with what he sees. With him is supporter Carol Bruhn (center) and wife Sharon.

'Mastering' a sport

Things are going well, just swimmingly for Bev Crunell, a Farmington Hills resident who participates in master's swimming events.

Cornell won a silver medal recently in the one-mile open-water competition in the 40-49 age group at Lake Lullau in northern Michigan. She said she was happy with her time of 45 minutes flat.

"I got out of the water and someone said, 'You're not even breathing hard,'" and I said, 'No, I'm having too much fun.' I'm going for the gold next year."

Mom and the kids

The Farmington Area Community Women will sponsor a Mom & Kids Outing from 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. on Thursday, Aug. 13, at Heritage Park on Farmington Road south of 11 Mile.

FARMINGTON FOCUS

A clown will be on hand to amuse the youngsters. There also will be games, activities, prizes and face painting. Participants should bring their lunches. Freeze pops will be provided free.

Call Maryann at 626-9571 for information about the club.

Smile for the camera

Farmington-area senior citizens who are at least 60 years old may receive an Oakland-Livingston Human Service Agency identification card by coming to the Farmington Hills Senior Center, 28600 W. 11 Mile Road, Farmington Hills, from 10:30 a.m. to noon on Friday, Aug. 21.

The ID card — which provides name, address, birthdate, Social Security number and a photo — entitles senior to discounts from some merchants.

For more information, call the Hills Center (473-1822), OLHISA (858-5180), or the toll-free WATS line (1-800-482-9250).

Memory Lane

From the Aug. 7, 1952 edition of the Farmington Enterprise:

From the Around the Block column: "Our first report of 'flying saucers' came in this week. According to Mrs. Claude Bolling, 22805 Brookdale, and Mrs. Dona Turner, 22815 Brookdale, they saw two bright, long, glowing objects race across the sky. They both said they saw the objects and followed them until they faded from view."