

Polishing up a rough diamond



STAFF PHOTO BY BRADON LEBEZE

Shoveling along: Dave Brubaker, North Farmington softball coach, puts in some work on the school's field. Some players and their parents have been active recently repairing the facilities. Several area companies have donated cash and materials. "It's been a huge project — a great contribution to the schools and the community," said Toby Gosselin, a parent involved in the activity.

House, Hills Council candidates practice what they preach: Vote!

BY WILLIAM COUTANT STAFF WRITER

Candidates in Tuesday's election have a pretty good record on going to the polls themselves.

Councilwoman Massie Kurzeja voted in the May 13 special election, senate primary and special June 4 election, the March 19 presidential preference primary, the Nov. 7, 1995 general election and most elections since 1989, when records were put on computer disc.

Her city council opponent, Jerry Ellis, voted in the May special primary, but did not vote in the March presidential primary or the June 4 special senate general election. He did vote in the June 10 school election, which Kurzeja did not. He voted in the November general elections in 1995 and 1994 and voted in most elections before that.

The six candidates running for the 37th District House seat have also voted in most elections.

Terry Sever had voted in all elections this year and only missed voting in the special Oakland County public transportation election in June 1995.

Cathleen Webb has not missed an election of the last 24 in which records were available on disc.

Andrew Raczkowski had not voted in the June 10 school bond election and the O.C.C. millage election of March 16, 1995. But he did vote in the special public transportation election and the most elections since returning in 1989 to Farmington Hills from Ypsilanti, where he attended Eastern Michigan University.

Carl Christoph voted in the

June school bond election and the June 4 special senate election. He did not vote in the special senate primary where fellow Democrat Barry Bricker had no opposition, nor in the March County public transportation election in June 1995. He has voted in most other local elections. He has missed few other votes.

Linda Jolicoeur has voted in most elections since returning to her home town of Farmington Hills in 1994. Jolicoeur did not vote in the June 4 special senate election, but voted the others this year and all but the school and OCC trustees election in June of 1994.

Democrat Stephen Dibert registered in January after moving to Farmington and has voted in all except the March presidential preference primary.

Hills Council spending is close

BY WILLIAM COUTANT STAFF WRITER

If campaign finances are any indication, Farmington Hills City Council candidates Massie Kurzeja and Jerry Ellis are in a close race.

The two face each other Tuesday to determine who will complete the final 15 months of the term of Aldo Vagnozzi, who stepped down to become mayor. Kurzeja was appointed in December of 1995 to the seat until the August primary as per the city charter.

Kurzeja raised \$4,465 in contributions and received \$710 in in-kind contributions while spending \$3,736.70 as of the

July 26 filing deadline. Ellis raised \$4,670 and received \$100 in in-kind contributions. He spent \$4,360.57 as of the deadline.

Carol Reinken of Farmington Hills was Kurzeja's largest contributor. The homemaker gave \$1,000 to the campaign.

Most of Kurzeja's other contributors donated \$50 or less. Her husband, Walter, gave \$163.30, Robert Dudley of Farm-

ington Hills, Creon Smith of Farmington Hills each gave \$100, Mary Buha of Farmington Hills of Farmington Hills gave \$200. Former Mayor Jean Fox, who now lives in Washington, D.C., contributed \$50 to the campaign.

Ellis gave \$200 to his campaign, Patricia Baer of Farmington Hills gave \$200, Stuart Wish of Farmington Hills gave \$300. The rest were \$100 donations or less.

Advertisement for Bob's Farmington Carpet. Features: 'BIG, BIG Inventory of Quality Carpet \$3.95 to \$12.95 per yard', '1/2" Rebound Pad...\$1.95 Yd.', 'COUPON FOR \$50.00 OFF TOWARD ANY CARPET OR VINYL PURCHASE', '24225 Orchard Lake Road, Farmington Hills (810) 615-8297'.

Discover marvelous merchandise, read Malls & Main Streets every Monday in your hometown newspaper.

Advertisement for 'The Merchant of VINO'. Features: 'COMING SOON!', 'The Merchant of VINO', 'Courses of Reservations by 11 FREE Home Preparation HELPS', '(810) 473-7600'.

About the AVs

Although most absentee voters had turned in their ballots by Friday, city clerks in Farmington and Farmington Hills were hoping to avoid a last-minute rush.

In Farmington Hills, 6,901 absentee ballots were sent out and 4,892 had been returned as of Friday at noon.

In Farmington Hills, about two-thirds of the 512 absentee ballots mailed out had been returned.

In both cities, absentee ballots can be brought in as late as election day during voting hours to the respective city halls.

A happy 'page' in his life



Finishes service as a page: Farmington resident Matt Patton (left) just completed a semester as a House of Representatives page on Capitol Hill. U.S. Rep. Joe Knollenberg (right), R-Mich., sponsored Patton. As a page, Patton worked with members of Congress every day. He had complete access to the House Floor, Cloakroom and all areas of the Capitol. "We are very proud of Matt," Knollenberg said. "This is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to be involved with the everyday workings of our government."

Advertisement titled 'Reaching Us...'. Includes sections: 'HOW TO CALL US' (Call the newsroom, use the newsroom fax, call sports, use our reader comment line, after hours classifieds, fax line, contact display advertising, call circulation, contact cable TV), 'HOW TO FIND US' (Map showing Farmington Observer location), 'HOW TO USE OUR READER SERVICES' (HomeLine, after hours classifieds, fax line, O&E online).

Advertisement for 'Dentistry in the 90s'. Features: 'COLLEGE BOUND AND CAVITY-PRONE?', 'LIVONIA VILLAGE DENTAL 19171 MERRIMAN • LIVONIA (810) 478-2110'.

Advertisement for Farmington Observer. Includes: 'Published every Monday and Thursday by Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 805 E. Maple, Birmingham, AL 35209-0910', 'Subscription rates: One year \$42.00, Home delivery service \$47.00'.

Advertisement for 'The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers'. Includes: 'Grand Opening of SHANGRI-LA GOURMET CHINESE RESTAURANT', 'SPECTACULAR Summer 1/2 OFF SALE', '4 DAYS ONLY FRI • SAT • SUN • MON AUGUST 9 • 10 • 11 • 12'.

Advertisement for 'SHANGRI-LA GOURMET CHINESE RESTAURANT'. Features: 'GRAND OPENING of SHANGRI-LA', 'GOURMET CHINESE RESTAURANT FEATURING AUTHENTIC HONG KONG STYLE COOKING', 'Orchard Lake Road North of Maple In The Orchard Mall (810) 626-8585'.

Advertisement for 'Pepperidge Farm Thrift Store'. Features: 'SPECTACULAR Summer 1/2 OFF SALE', '4 DAYS ONLY FRI • SAT • SUN • MON AUGUST 9 • 10 • 11 • 12', 'LIVONIA 29115 Eighth Mall (810) 477-2644', 'BIRMINGHAM 1950 Southfield Rd. (810) 642-4242'.