

the farmington

enterprise & observer

Wednesday, August 25, 1971

YOUR HOMETOWN NEWSPAPER

15¢ a Copy

School Tax Defeated; Cuts Will Be Enacted

By MARTHA MAHAN
 Refuted in a second try for increased millage, the Farmington Board of Education Tuesday levied 21.5 mills in voter-approved taxes and six mills for debt retirement for the coming school year.
 The levy plus county allocated millage will bring school taxation to 35.83 mills

for residents of the City of Farmington and Farmington Township and 35.83 mills for West Bloomfield residents.
 Monday's millage defeat locked the board into an austerity budget which eliminates sports and all other extra-curricular activities and cuts other school services.
 Responding to pleas of an overflow audience Tuesday night, the board agreed to meet Wednesday at 8 a.m. at the board offices with all interested parties willing to work for financial support for all extra-curricular activities at all schools.

Opposition to two controversial programs — sex education and minority understanding — coupled with taxpayer unrest were blamed for the defeat.
 A SURPRISING summer turnout of 9,292 voters, 38 per cent of the 24,000 plus qualified to cast ballots, defeated the requested 3.5 mills for one year by a margin of 878 votes. There were 843 absentee ballots.
 The decision actually was

made by only 21 per cent of the registered electorate. The "no" vote was 5,085 against 4,207 in favor, in unofficial returns.
 The vote total topped by 1,925 the previous high of 7,367 set June 14 when a requested 4.5 mills for four years lost by 1,335 votes.
 Board of Education President Richard H. Peters, describing himself as "extremely disappointed," said: "Perhaps the only statement that should be made is that the board accepts the decision of the community and will unanimously try to provide the best educational program it can with the resources it has to work with. It's all we can do."

He called the results "easier to receive than accept."
 BRUCE DUKE, a leading millage opponent, called the results "great."
 "They've been saying (anti-millage forces) were a handful of extremists," remarked Duke, an avowed member of the John Birch Society. "Well, it looks like there are a lot of extremists in the community."
 Trustee Betty Brennan, who campaigned on an anti-millage platform, declined immediate comment. Although she had appeared at the polls earlier in the day, Mrs. Brennan did not show up for the formal board meeting to accept the election returns. She made her appearance at the board offices after the meeting had adjourned.
 Mrs. Brennan said she would make her reaction to the vote known later in the week — after publication of today's edition.
 YOUNG PEOPLE in the group gathered to wait for returns at the school administration offices were downcast.
 One 17-year-old coed from North Farmington High said she was "very sad" at the results, then added: "I thought the people of Farmington thought more about their students."



ANTI-MILLAGE — The anti-millage forces had a U-Haul truck at Precinct 4, Middlebelt Elementary School, during Monday's balloting.

The "No Sports, No Accreditation" claim was one disputed in literature distributed by the Farmington Recall Committee. (Evert photo)

THE AUSTERITY budget, put into effect July 1, will continue, he emphasized.
 Even if the 3.5 mills had been approved, the district would have remained \$300,000 shy, schoolmen had said, of the amount needed to keep the educational system at last year's level.
 Peters said he was surprised by the results, not so much that the millage bid lost but that it lost by so wide a margin.
 "I had expected the results to be closer," he commented privately following the official board meeting to "receive and accept" the returns.

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today's hot line

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what's inside

The New Faces

All summer young persons at the Farmington Community Center have been rehearsing for the production of "New Faces Of '71" and their ability will be tested this weekend in North Farmington High School.

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Promotes Justice

A township merchant, Joel Hepner, has organized a committee to come to the aid of Aldo Vagnozzi and any individual in the future who might become the victim of what he sees as an erroneous attack. Explanation of the committee and why he's become involved are inside.

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Voluntary Now...

The City of Farmington is about to embark upon a new program of mandatory vehicle inspections as another effort to reduce traffic accidents. A trial run — on a voluntary basis — will be held this weekend.

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\$500,000 Lawsuit

A Farmington Township widow has filed suit against Farmington Township and a police officer seeking to collect \$500,000 in damages for the August 1970 fatal shooting of her husband.

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Another Laurel

Anthony Abowd of Farmington has added another laurel to his wreath of honors. This time he has been named national president-of-the-year by Junior Achievement.

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PRO MILLAGE — One of the "pro" millage workers passing out literature Monday was Gordon Inslay, who worked outside Precinct 4 at Middlebelt Elementary School. But the "Support Our Schools" message on his hat was a loser on Monday. (Evert photo)

Holko To Direct Township Safety

By EMORY DANIELS
 Ronald N. Holko, chief police inspector for the City of Westland, was appointed director of public safety for Farmington Township Monday night.

Holko was the unanimous recommendation of the township's police and fire committee, and his appointment was confirmed by a 5-0 vote with two trustees absent.

HOLKO, 42, will report for duty as soon as he clears away his duties for Westland and at least by Oct. 1.
 The position of public safety was officially created Monday night by passage of an ordinance amendment minutes before Holko was appointed. As director, Holko will administer both the police and

fire departments in the township. The current police chief, Irving Yakes, will be given a change in position once Holko takes command. Earlier, township trustees had indicated Yakes would be made a police captain, but indications Monday night were that Yakes would be named as an administrative assistant to Holko.

Holko's connection with Westland began in 1966 when he was hired as a police consultant to help establish a police department when Nankin Township incorporated into the City of Westland.

He drafted the plans to organize Westland's first police force and so impressed then Mayor Thomas H. Brown that Brown hired Holko as chief inspector, second in

command to Chief Garrison Clayton.
 Holko is a graduate of the FBI National Academy and has two years of college at the Oakland branch of Michigan State University and Wayne State University majoring in police administration.

FOR TWO years, from 1964-66, Holko worked as a police consultant and advisor with the Agency for International Development (AID) of the U.S. State Department.

In this post, he developed a national records and identification system and helped organize public safety departments in Thailand, South Vietnam, Korea, Laos, the Philippines and Montevideo and Uruguay in South America.



RONALD HOLKO

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LOSES SHADE — Richard Bezesky of Haggerty Rd., Farmington Township, takes a forlorn look at the shade tree he lost from wind damages Sunday night. The wind destroyed four trees at his residence where he has lived for the past eight years. (Evert photo)



WIND DAMAGE — The Sunday night storm destroyed four shade trees at the residence of Richard Bezesky. One tree fell across his garage and an uprooted tree tore down a nearby fence. Bezesky has lived in Farmington for some 30 years.

Observer employees will celebrate the Labor Day holiday with their families.

The Observer central offices and switchboard will close the evening of Friday, September 3. We will resume business as usual Tuesday, September 7, at 8:30 a.m. Due to the shortened business week, your Wednesday Observer will be published Thursday, September 9. Deadlines for this post holiday edition are:

CLASSIFIED WANT ADS	11:30 a.m. Wednesday
CLASSIFIED DISPLAY ADS	5 p.m. Tuesday
DISPLAY ADVERTISING	5 p.m. Tuesday
CHURCH-WOMEN'S NEWS	12 noon Tuesday
ALL OTHER NEWS	8 p.m. Tuesday

The Observer circulation staff will be available for calls concerning delivery of your hometown newspaper from 9 a.m. until 5 p.m. Saturday, September 4

LABOR DAY

261-3800