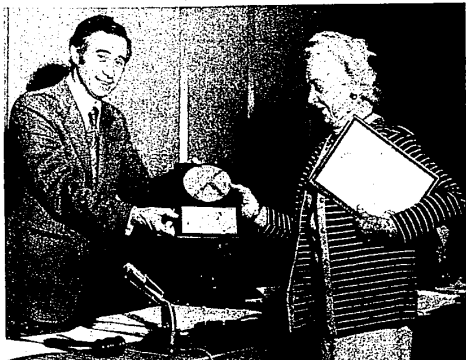


# the farmington enterprise & observer

YOUR HOMETOWN NEWSPAPER

Wednesday, October 31, 1973 • 15¢ a Copy

Volume 85 Number 6 • Five News Sections



MRS. MARY ALLISON was honored recently by Farmington Hills for her years of service as a member of the Farmington Area Library Board. Mayor Robert McConnell presented her a plaque. (Evert photo)

## Goodfellows Reorganize; Looking For Volunteers

By DAN MCCOSH

The Farmington Goodfellow drive, long coordinated as an annual service project by the Exchange Club, is going independent this year.

Chairman Richard Tupper announced the formation of a non-profit corporation to handle the annual paper sale and distribution of goodies to needy families, as much a part of Christmas in Farmington as the lighting of the downtown tree.

"We aren't discouraging

the aid the service clubs have been giving us in the past," he said, "but we hope to make it more open to the whole community."

Volunteers for all phases of the Goodfellow drive are being actively solicited.

The new organization will handle the paper sale, dress drive, collection of canned goods and distribution to needy families, as much a part of Christmas in Farmington as the lighting of the downtown tree.

**"We hope to make it more open to the whole community."**

**-Richard Tupper**

The new organization has many of the same names active in Goodfellow work in the past.

Executive director is Fred Menke; Bruce Habermehl is handling the paper sale; Joan Barbrick is working on

the doll project, and Shirley Richardson is heading the dress and shirt drive.

William Prisk is in charge of canned goods, and Chuck Schulkins is in charge of packing.

Others working on the drive will be: Chuck Bridges, Lee Stevens, Jerry Grace, Jim Stevens, Frank Clappison, John Chapman, John Miller, Bill O'Connor, Joseph Heyman, Lester Moss and Ron Spjeldet.

Tupper hopes the new organization will encourage more active citizens to participate. People interested in participating are asked to contact the Chamber of Commerce office in Farmington.

## Exemption Procedure Changes

### Tax Forms Worry Seniors

By DAN MCCOSH

A new state law will put a much larger property tax rebate in the hands of most senior citizens, but a hearing recently at Farmington High on the issue indicates many were more worried about the new forms than happy about the money.

The City of Farmington sponsored the session, attended by more than 500 of Farmington's aging homeowners.

In the past, senior citizens and some others, mainly blind and veterans, qualified for a reduced assessment on their property.

If senior citizens qualified under the income limitations, they could get a break of about \$2,500 off their assessments, which would reduce their tax bills by about \$125 in Farmington, according to City Assessor Dorothy Poston.

Under the new law, a direct cash refund of property

taxes goes back to senior citizens, as well as other categories. Even many ordinary homeowners of low income will qualify.

The limitation on the refund is \$500.

If a senior's income does not exceed \$3,000, he is eligible for the whole amount.

A graduated income scale reduces the amount of the property tax rebate until, at \$8,000 income, a maximum of \$300 could be returned. The amount of the refund

didn't seem to concern many of the seniors at the meeting. As one man said, "There won't be 50 people who will fill out the forms."

Mrs. Poston, who drew grateful applause for her past work with the senior citizen tax exemptions, will no longer handle the paperwork.

Instead, it becomes a function of the state Treasury Department.

Forms similar to federal income tax forms must now

be filed each year to get the refund. In the past, a visit in person to the assessor's office put the exemption on the tax rolls.

The two nearest treasury offices are in Detroit, at 1837 W. McNichols, and in Pontiac, at 2233 S. Telegraph.

State treasury officials stressed the simplicity of filling out the forms.

Total income - including pension, social security, or any other source - is entered on one line.

Referring to a table, a figure which is the amount not refundable under the plan is determined for the individual's income.

The total property tax paid during the year minus the amount not refundable is the amount of the refund.

The money is then received in the form of a refund on state income tax.

Refers are also eligible, with the "tax paid" determined as a percentage of their rent.

## Editorial

### 4 Are Well Qualified For Council

Voters in the city of Farmington have a large choice of well-qualified candidates for the three city council seats to be filled.

Incumbents JOHN RICHARDSON and RICHARD TUPPER, currently serving an appointed term, stand out as deserving to retain their seats.

Dr. Richardson, currently mayor pro-tem, has a demonstrated record as a well-informed, articulate member of the council, as well as an outstanding record of involvement in his community.

Tupper has demonstrated a good grasp of city government during the term of his appointment, and was formerly a capable member of the planning commission. He has used his expertise in this field to good effect in his term in office.

Of the remaining candidates, two - AUGUST BARBRICK and WILLIAM HARTSOCK - stand out.

Barbrick, currently working on the city planning commission, has both the background and a proven interest in the community, evidenced by his work with the Jaycees and in local politics.

Hartsock appears both level-headed and innovative. As one of the younger candidates, he does not have the record of community service Barbrick has, but he has the potential of bringing a fresh approach to the council.

Of the remaining candidates, Wilbur Purdy appears to be running on a platform of completely unfounded allegations of incompetence at City Hall, spicing up the issues by complaints of having his signs torn down in the dead of night.

While vandalism may be a serious matter, Purdy's campaign isn't.

FARMINGTON ENTERPRISE & OBSERVER



FARMINGTON HIGH SCHOOL tag days, Nov. 2 and 3, get an official kick-off from Mrs. Betty Tucker, a member of the Farmington Vivians and the FHS music patrons. Ready with the canister are Ed Trueman (left), wearing one of the relic uniforms bought 20 years ago, and Greg Surwit, in the windbreaker band members have worn the last couple of years. (Evert photo).

### How School Seat Will Be Filled

By DAN MCCOSH

The Farmington School Board has 20 days to determine a replacement for Ron Emmitt, the board member who resigned last week during the last year of his term.

On the surface, the resignation tips the balance on the board still further in favor of the so-called "liberal" faction, which gained a numerical superiority for the first time during the last election.

Emmitt, who often quietly voted with Kathryn Sterling and Elizabeth Brennan to

man out in the most recent election, and if the board chooses to appoint in the same fashion as they named Dr. Ross, he would be the choice.

Another name which keeps cropping up, despite his announced withdrawal from school board politics, is Aldo Vagnozzi, who declined to run for re-election during the last race.

In the unlikely event the school board cannot agree on a new member within 20 days, the decision goes to the intermediate board of education.

A deadlock there could put it before the governor.

However, the board is almost certain to make the appointment at the first meeting in November.

Ross was then the runner-up in the election. Hugh Stewart was the last

### Murder Suspect Trial Is Set

A preliminary examination will be held at 11 a.m. Friday in 47th District Court for Charles Portus, 17, charged with the murder of seven-year-old Keith Minelli, son of Mr. and Mrs. William Minelli.

Keith was found slain in a field behind his home last July 21. Police arrested Portus, who lived with his father at 2226 Clairview.

Both the defense and prosecuting attorneys requested a mental competency hearing for Portus during his July 22 arraignment before Judge Michael Hand in 47th District Court.

Portus was turned over to Oakland County Circuit Court, which has jurisdiction over such hearings, according to Judge Hand.

Judge Farrel E. Roberts remanded Portus back to the district court with an order that he was competent to stand trial.

Judge Hand will conduct the preliminary examination which will be held to determine if a crime has been committed and if there is sufficient evidence to try Portus in circuit court.

Handling the defense will be Thomas Plunkett, former prosecuting attorney for Oakland County and former superior of the prosecuting attorney for this case, Donald Covault.

Judge Hand said he expects Det. Sgt. George Mair of the Farmington Hills Police Department to call six or seven witnesses. The examination is expected to last at least a full court day.

### Tag Day Sale Planned For New Band Uniforms

Close to its goal of providing new marching band uniforms, the Farmington High School music department will stage tag days Nov. 2 and 3 so the community can help put the project over the top.

Band and orchestra members and volunteer parents will be in the major shopping centers of Farmington and Farmington Hills both Friday and Saturday to raise the \$2,000 still needed.

The student musicians of

the community's original high school last were outfitted with blue and white uniforms more than 20 years ago.

Last year, the band decided to give up on the faded, yellowed and

shrunken-out-of-shape uniforms and members provided their own white pants and blue windbreaker outfits for a couple of seasons of marching.

Meanwhile, the students and parents who are members of the Music Patrons of Farmington High School began a drive a year ago to

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### Candidates Are Invited To Sorrows

The Christian Service Commission of Our Lady of Sorrows Catholic Church, Powers at Grand River, is holding a candidates night Nov. 2 at 8 p.m. in the parish hall. All candidates for the Farmington City Council are invited to the meeting.



NANCY DOMMER, 17, reigned over Clarenceville High's homecoming Friday after being chosen queen from a field of seven contestants, five of whom were cheerleaders. Miss Dommer has been a cheerleader for four years. Despite a beautiful queen and fair autumn weather, Clarenceville lost its homecoming game to Bloomfield Hills Andover, 21-12. (Photo by Craig Gaffield)