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Fifteen Cents

Millage to be decided by voters Monday



Best kissing beard

Dr. John Richardson won in the "best kissing" category at the beard growing contest at the Farmington sesquicentennial. The grimace on the face of Queen Susan Reed indicates even the best might not be so hot. (Photo by Ralph Evert)

By DIANE HUBEL

FARMINGTON 8 voters in the Farmington school district will be going to the polls tomorrow to determine whether or not the school district will get the four mill increase in voted operational taxes that it has requested.

The polls will be open from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Voting will be in the regular precinct areas — Farmington Jr. High, precinct one, Dunkel Jr. High, precinct two, Eagle Elementary, precinct three, and Middle Belt School, precinct four.

The original request by the board for the four mill increase was denied by the voters in the June 10 school election.

Following that election the school board decided to hold a special election July 30, asking voters to reconsider the issue.

WHEN DETERMINING the need for additional millage, prior to the June 10 election, the board decided that three mills would be needed to maintain the present level of education in the district.

They said the additional mill was needed for repairs and improvements to programs within the district.

"For a long time the kids in this dis-

trict have done without some things that they really need," board president Gary Lichtman said.

"That is what that additional mill is for. It's the opinion of the board — seven people who care about education and are very involved with it — that the children in Farmington deserve that which four mills can give them."

The 1974-75 tentative budget calls for expenditures of \$21,633,543, a 12.7 percent increase over last year's budget.

According to school business manager William Frisk the district needs \$20,840,641, an 8.5 percent increase over last year's budget, merely to hold the line and maintain the present level of education in the district.

Should the millage fail the district will be \$700,000 short of what it needs to maintain that present level.

PRIOR TO the June 10 election the board voted to reduce the debt retirement levy by one mill and the variable millage by 1.4.

As a result of these cuts the actual increase to voters in Farmington and Farmington Hills will be 1.6 mills.

The actual increase to voters in West Bloomfield will be three mills, since they have been paying a lower variable millage.

"IN TERMS of dollar increase that

means that a person with a \$60,000 home which is assessed at \$30,000 will be paying \$48 more a year, that is only four \$4 more a month, \$1 more a week," Lichtman said.

"West Bloomfield, of course gets hit a little harder, but even there the increase will only be \$30 a year."

In contrast to their previous "low key" campaign board members have been actively attempting to meet with the new residents of the community and explain the needs of the district.

Last week a letter was sent out to all the residents urging them to vote and explaining the millage to them.

Board members were also at two booths during the Farmington Founders Festival answering any questions residents might have.

"People get a much better understanding of the whole thing when we explain it to them on a one-on-one basis," Lichtman said.

"Once we get away from dollars and cents and start talking about kids, our kids, they can understand the needs of the district much better."

SINCE THE June 10 election a citizens group, The Citizens Committee For the Millage has been actively

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Local busing reaction enthusiastic response

By DIANE HUBEL

FARMINGTON—The reaction of Farmington residents and school officials to the Supreme Court cross-district busing decision has been favorable for the most part.

A few people, like board trustee William Corliss, while pleased with the decision cautioned that the problem still exists in Detroit and must be solved somehow.

Most, however, were simply relieved that the matter had finally been settled and happy that the Supreme Court decided the way it did.

School Supt. Marinus Van Arneyde said, "Needless to say I personally am delighted.

"As a school administrator, I am

cautiously optimistic because I am sure that some of my colleagues in our neighboring districts will be called upon at some time to defend themselves against charges concerning the placement of schools, the location of sites or the drawing of boundaries.

"OUR WHOLE history in Farmington will show that at no time was a site selected or a school built to segregate anyone from anything.

"I see no way anyone can even make an allegation that we were attempting to do that.

"At no time have we been involved with other districts in any attempt to segregate our schools and there is no

evidence of such action by any of the previous boards or administrators."

School board vice-president William Corliss said he, too, was pleased with the decision but cautioned suburbanites that a problem still exists, and that it is the responsibility of all people living in the metropolitan Detroit area to help alleviate that problem.

"I am very pleased with the outcome, but I certainly hope that people in the community, not only Farmington but the entire metropolitan community do not say, 'Good, now we can go our own way,' the problem is still there.

"THE PROBLEMS of Detroit are the problems of the suburbs. We can not sit behind our Eight Mile fence and say that what goes on in Detroit is of no concern to us.

"The problem of the Detroit school system must still be solved. We have a definite responsibility as part of the metropolitan community to help solve that problem."

Corliss also said that he thought cross-district busing would have created havoc in the educational system, adding that it would have been almost impossible to implement the program.

RESIDENTS in the community also expressed opinions favorable to the decision.

Many of them indicated that they would have taken their children out of the public school system before they would have let them be bused.

Mrs. Douglas Miller, of Linden, in Farmington said, "I am very pleased, I guess that is selfish but I am. If my children were going to be bused into the inner city I would probably have enrolled them in a private school.

"I can understand the problem of the inner city and realize something should be done about it, but I hope my children are not a part of it."

Mrs. Miller has two school age children, a second grader and a kindergarten.

Mr. Robert Hutchinson, Middlebelt, in Farmington Hills said, "I am in favor of the ruling. I think it is a fair and just decision."

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Share senior honors

Mrs. Long and Mrs. Spicer senior queens

By LORRAINE McCLISH
Eleanor Goodenough Spicer and Marie Long were chosen to reign as co-queens for the Farmington Sesquicentennial celebration when the crowning took place in ceremonies held in the Downtown Shopping Center last week.

Mrs. Spicer and Mrs. Long are both well-known figures in the city. Mrs. Spicer's childhood home has since become the Farmington Community Center. Mrs. Long is author of the column "Local News" that ran for 18 years in the Farmington Enterprise and then the Farmington Enterprise & Observer.

One of the judges, Lee Coppock, commented, "It was tough to get it down to two" referring to the fact that the judges were asked originally to choose one out of eight nominees, named by friends and relatives through letters to John Wesley College, sponsor of the Senior Queen contest.

Another judge, Clare Orians, said, "All of the letters were just beautiful — especially the ones from grandchildren."

Several of the candidates received more than one letter of nomination.

THE WINNING letter nominating Mrs. Spicer was signed by Ann B. Stoberg. It read:
"Eleanor Goodenough Spicer of 24915 Farmington Rd., Farmington Hills, is my nomination for this year's Farmington Senior Queen contest. When I heard of the intentions of finding a Senior Queen, this remarkable woman came to mind.
"Most of her life has been devoted to the growth and development of this community. Every spring she invites elementary school children to her farm, so they can experience and learn about the animals, how sheep are sheared, and most of all the chil-

dren see how the preservation of land will later affect their lives.
"Mrs. Spicer believes that a well balanced community environment, with its ever growing buildings, condominiums, and huge super-stores, must maintain its open spaces so that the youth of the community will grow into healthy citizens. It is with this thought in mind that she donated her childhood home and five acres to the city, which is known as the Farmington Community Center.
"I think it is time now to honor Mrs. Spicer in our appreciation for all she has done for our city."

THE WINNING LETTER — for Mrs. Long was signed Margaret E. Schreiber. It read:
"For the past 18 years and until just recently, Mrs. Long provided a very vital service to the city and to its inhabitants by writing a weekly column of local news. The contents of this column provided the citizens of this city with a helpful, up-to-date account of events concerning people. This chatty and homey column gave all of us a chance to keep up with the doings of all our friends, new and old, and in many cases was the only source of news about local people that shut-ins and elderly people had.
"In our sometimes impersonal world of rapidly moving events, this column stood out as a strong reminder that people as individuals are as important to us all as any moonwalk or Mid-East peace settlement. The steady knowledge that no matter what global events may occur, there is still that important fact of human existence that the personal touch is the most effective in capturing and holding one's interest.
"When the pace becomes too fast or the events so large in extent and effect, then the calming influence of the personal becomes a necessity — a re-

torative of our equilibrium — to our balanced and sane view of things as a whole.

"Mrs. Long contributed in no small manner toward giving us all a calm area from which to reflect by her emphasis of the personal."

OTHER JUDGES who served with Mrs. Orians and Coppock were Dr.

Don Nicholas, Dr. Harold Ellens and Annie Lynch.

Each queen will receive a scholarship in the Continuing Education College of John Wesley College and a stay in the Wesley Center in Ososno. Each will be guests for dinner in Bot-stord Inn.

Duplicate gifts have come from Bel-

laire-Drugs, Trend Gift Shop, Joan of England and Golden Corn beauty salons. Flowers for the queens were gifts from the Farmington Chamber, of Commerce.

All eight nominees were guests at a reception, prior to the crowning ceremonies, given by the administrator's office of John Wesley College.



MARIE LONG



ELEANOR SPICER

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