

Farmington Observer & Eccentric

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Candidates speak on non-local issues

FARMINGTON—Candidates for the Farmington school board branched into wider-ranging subjects at an appearance last week.

The five candidates, campaigning for a four-year term on the board, spoke at the West Bloomfield-Farmington area League of Women Voters. The school district includes part of West Bloomfield.

Most questions at previous candidate's night concerned local issues, but the campaigners talked about such subjects as teacher negotiations and school financing before the LWV audience.

Candidates differed on attitudes toward teacher negotiations.

In answer to a question about whether the candidates would support firing teachers who strike, two seemed to support disciplinary action.

Mrs. Jacqueline Hill said teachers should be released if their demands are unreasonable.

"I think it's a real crime if any child misses one day because of a teacher strike,"

Howard Schwartz, the only West Bloomfield resident running for the board, said he is opposed to strikes by any public employees. He said compulsory arbitration should be required.

al Motors by economic pressure. It's another to close the school districts."

The public most hated that both parties bargain in good faith. A deadline by which bargaining must be completed, after which compulsory arbitration begins, would insure good faith, he said.

"Bills which allow the teacher a little strike rather than a big strike is no solution," Schwartz said.

If the law continues to prohibit strikes as it does now, "they have no license to make it," Schwartz added.

George Bowman said teachers strike because of "the way they are dealt with." As long as the board and unions negotiate in good faith, there won't be trouble.

"The teachers union has a right to request or even demand certain conditions, certain salaries," Bowman said.

Mike Schpiece said that the real issue is whether the board will negotiate with teachers "like they were persons and not enemies."

IT'S ONE thing to close down Gener-

THE LAST TEACHERS' strike, he said, was over a six per cent salary increase and an upper limit to class size.

"I don't see what's so unreasonable," Schpiece said.

Mrs. Margaret Wright said negotiations won't be a problem as long as both sides are fair. The union has a right to make salary demands and the board has a right to say there is no money available, she said.

Mrs. Wright said the 180 days of school required by state law was set arbitrarily.

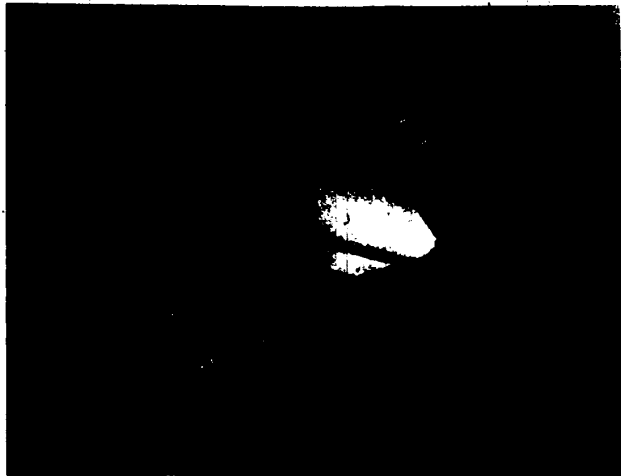
"Ten days less wouldn't be too hideous."

The fifth candidate, incumbent Mrs. Ann Rodewig, said the legislature will act on a new negotiation law, implying that teachers will not have to face firing teachers.

The candidates also differed on how schools should be financed in the future.

Schwartz and Schpiece supported asking for more money from state and federal sources while the other candidates favored local property tax.

Mrs. Rodewig said a constitutional



A final love pat is given to the blue frog by the Moore brothers, Ted (left) and Travis. The boys, who live in the Nine Mile and Cass area, caught their unusual find in the woods behind their home. (Staff photo by Harry Maute)

One in 5,000 chance

2 blue frogs pop up

By CORINNE ABATT

FARMINGTON—Frogs are green. Right?

Wrong.

Most frogs are green. About one in 5,000 is blue. Sapphires. As blue as the June sky.

Two blue frogs who just happened to pop up in Farmington were caught by local youngsters and turned over, alive and kicking, to Power Junior High science teacher, Joe Jordan. He called the zoological research department at the University of Michigan, and at their request delivered the frogs there late last week.

TWO BROTHERS, Ted and Travis Moore came in with the first one, a fe-

male who looked as though she had dusted her three-inch body with iridescent blue eye shadow. Her only touch of yellow green was on her rather well shaped legs.

Ted, 11, had spotted her while tramping through the woods behind his home looking for snails and rabbits. He went home, told Travis, 13, he had seen a blue frog. The two set out with nets to catch their specimen.

University of Michigan zoologists were particularly pleased with the sex. They have a blue male frog ready for courting and are anxious to see what color children two blues will produce.

"The blue frog," said Jordan, "is a genetic mutation which is unexplai-

nable now because there has been very little attempt to breed them."

IN THE MEANTIME, two Farmington Hills girls heard of the blue frog and remembered they had seen one in a pond near their homes. Beth Hammond, 20825 Westmeath and Kris Williams, 26778 Lamara put on their bathing suits and went blue frog hunting.

They were successful and took their blue male with the green nose and yellow underbody to Jordan.

The Ann Arbor researchers, Jordan said, declared the female "beautiful" and told him it was the first time they had seen one completely blue. More frequently, as in the male's case, the blue and green are mixed.

Seniors end high school

FARMINGTON—More than 1,400 students will be graduated from four area high schools this June.

Public high schools will graduate 1,377 seniors in ceremonies at Ford Auditorium on three consecutive nights.

Mercy High School graduated 382 at commencement exercises Sunday, June 1. The Rev. Paul Deach of Dana Scott College addressed the seniors.

Graduation exercises for the public schools are:

- Harrison High School—8 p.m. Monday, June 2.
- Farmington High School—8 p.m. Tuesday, June 3.
- North Farmington High School—8 p.m. Wednesday, June 4.

Mrs. Martha W. Griffiths will speak at Harrison's commencement.

MARRIED TO Farmington Hills attorney Hicks O. Griffiths, Mrs. Griffiths was born in Pierce City, Mo. She received her B.A. from the University of Missouri and her J.D. from the University of Michigan.

She was admitted to the Michigan bar in 1941 and was admitted to practice before the United States Supreme Court in 1955.

After serving in the Michigan State Legislature from 1969 to 1982, she became the first woman judge and recorder of the Detroit Recorder's Court in 1963. She was a member of the Detroit Election Commission.

From 1965 to 1973, Mrs. Griffiths represented Michigan's 17th Congressional District. She also sponsored the Equal Rights Amendment to the Constitution.

She is a member of the board of trustees of the (and of Henry Ford Hospital) and serves on the board of directors of National Detroit Corp., Chrysler Corp., Burroughs Corp., Consumers Power and the American Automobile Club.

Farmington resident Lloyd B. Livingston will speak to Farmington High School's graduating class.

Chaplain of the Detroit Lions Football team, Livingston is a minister of

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'Reluctant' counselor ends 30 years at FHS

By SUSAN AVERILL

FARMINGTON—After 30 years in

the school district, Virginia Carley is retiring, and she's happy about it. Make no mistake, however, she is

content with her job as counselor at Farmington High School, but there are times in your life—and this is one of them—that you have to move on.

"It's a celebration, actually. It's not looking forward to leaving. It's looking forward to new things," she explained with a smile.

MISS CARLEY has worked at Farmington High since 1948, when she was hired as an English teacher. At the time, the high school was in the building which now houses Farmington Junior High students.

Counselors were an unfamiliar dimension to the education process, and she originally had no desire to become one.

"There were no counselors when I started teaching. And when I was in high school, I didn't know what one was," she said.

English was her first choice in college, mainly because reading was her favorite pastime.

"I had always enjoyed English in high school and college. I just kind of fell into teaching it."

"When I was in college, we were just coming out of the depression. You were lucky to be able to do anything."

As a woman, relatively few fields were open to her.

"You could be a teacher, a secretary, a nurse or get married—these were the usual choices."

After graduating from Albion College, Miss Carley taught for nine years in Martin and Park Rock. During that time, she earned her masters degree from the University of Michigan.

It was there that she unwittingly began preparation for her career as a counselor. Although English education was her main course of study, she specialized in psychology and human growth.

CLOSE TO the end of one school year, her principal came worriedly to her. One counselor was leaving, and no replacement was forthcoming. Did she want the job?

"I had no intention of being a counselor. When the principal asked, I said, 'I don't really feel qualified.'"

She discovered the next September that she was part-time counselor, part-time English teacher. Hesitant at first, she began to enjoy the job, finally becoming a full time counselor.

Throughout the years, her job changed from being just a channel for college applications to being a real friend and confidant for many students, a person to turn to when trouble hit.

Students have changed, too, although their basic needs and desires are the same, she said.

"It's a confusing time for many. With the changing attitudes, there is a variety of values and they have more freedom of choice. It's not like it was when I was in school."

"Then, you know that was right, this was wrong." It was a time when black was black and white was white.

Such a spectrum allows students more experience. But they are not necessarily more mature or more of themselves than were students in years past.

"Some have a lot of problems, and

some solve them very well. Students have a wider choice of careers, too."

ALTHOUGH DRESS code restrictions are no longer an issue, Miss Carley said they were a relatively recent innovation and having them made little difference in student dress.

"There weren't any dress codes when I first came to Farmington. Everyone dressed as the other kids did. I think they look just as well now as they did when there was a dress code. Whether it's by style or choice, I don't know."

Rather than use retirement as an excuse to slow down, Miss Carley said she plans to travel and pursue the domestic hobbies of gardening, sewing and settling down to a good book.

She will spend summers in a cottage in western Michigan, while Lakeland, Fla., will be her winter home for nine months of each year.

The lifestyle change will force her to leave some of her most cherished interests behind.

She will miss her activity with the foreign exchange students, for whom she was counselor.

And she will leave her bridge group, as one of five members who have played together for 28 years.

Farmington looks for beauty queen

FARMINGTON—If your secret desire is to be Miss America, you have the perfect chance to take the first step in the journey right here.

As part of the festivities, the Farmington Founder's Festival will include a Miss Farmington Pageant. The winner will participate in the Miss Michigan Contest. If she's successful, of course, she'll be eligible for the Miss America Pageant.

Farmington's pageant is open to all females between 17 and 22, who have lived in Farmington or Farmington Hills since Jan. 1, 1975, and have never been married.

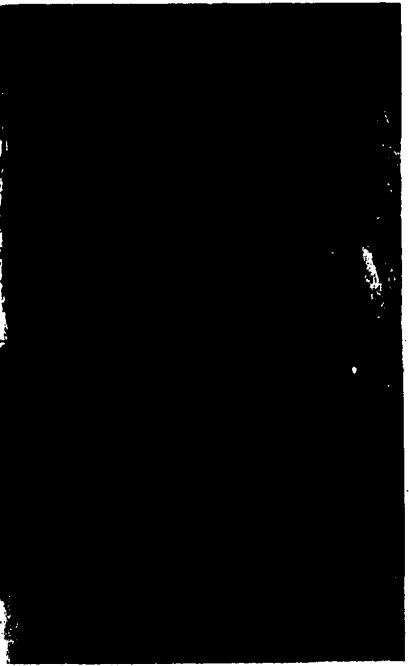
ENTRY BLANKS are at the Farmington Chamber of Commerce, 32715 Farmington Road, and must be submitted by July 8, 1975. The winner will be crowned Wednesday, July 23.

Miss Farmington will be selected on the basis of poise, personality, scholastic achievement and talent competition. As winner, she will also be crowned queen of the Farmington Founder's Festival.

The pageant schedule begins Sunday, July 20, with orientation interviews at the Botzford Inn for contestants, judges and committee members. Luncheon is included.

A talent competition will be held Monday, July 21, at the Holiday Inn with preliminary judging and the announcement of 19 finalists. The pageant opens to the public at 6 p.m. that day.

Wednesday, July 23, Miss Farmington will be crowned and her runners-up announced at Vladimir's. There will be a motorcade to downtown Farmington.



VIRGINIA CARLEY

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Farmington's reserve police officers are seeking new recruits. The group carries on the tradition of militia in a highly technical field. Turn to Page 3A for more information.

The Farmington Jaycees Auxiliary has listed 100 service projects, and has even more on the drawing boards. To find out what it's doing for the community, turn to Page 1B.