

# Farmington Observer & Centric

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## Parks millage favored

# Ford, Udall sweep Farmington voters



Some area watch repairmen believe that the craft will change within the next five years and that its practitioners will be replacing batteries and modules instead of working on a delicate set of interlocking gears. (Staff photo by Harry Mauthe)

By RON GARDNER

Farmington area voters gave Arlene R. Morris Udall an almost 2:1 triumph over Jimmy Carter and President Gerald Ford defeated Ronald Reagan by a 3:1 margin in one of the best voter turnout presidential primaries in the history of the two cities.

Udall polled 1,998 votes in Farmington and Farmington Hills on his way to victory in the state's presidential primary.

Carter followed with 1,172 votes, placing second in both cities.

Ford was supported by 829 residents in the Hills and 1,483 Farmington voters. He also swept the state with a 3:1 margin over Reagan.

Reagan trailed with 2,601 in the Hills and 788 votes in Farmington.

George Wallace, who carried both Farmington and Farmington Hills in the 1972 presidential primary, received only 345 votes in the area, placing third in the Democratic race overall.

"We were quite pleased with the voter turnout. It was a lot better than most primaries here in Farmington Hills," City Clerk Floyd Cairns said after he staff finished tallying the ballots Tuesday night.

"This proves that people are voting. It was one of the best turnouts, which makes it one of our best primaries."

"I think Udall was so successful in our community because he had campaigned quite heavily around the state prior to the election," the Hills city clerk explained.

IN THE HILLS, 67 per cent (11,761) of the city's 27,830 registered voters went to the polls.

In Farmington the turnout was greater, at 69.3 per cent of that city's 10,000 voters cast their ballots. There were 3,313 votes tallied in Farmington, including 172 absentee ballots.

"The turnout came out about the way we figured it," said Nedra Vane, city clerk for Farmington. "The results ran almost 80 per cent. What surprised me was Udall's victory in the city over Jimmy Carter."

"The Ford vote was expected mainly because the city is heavily Republican," she continued.

Also on Tuesday's ballot was a county question dealing with the renewal of one-quarter mill for acquiring, developing and maintaining parks and recreation areas in Oakland County.

There was little controversy over that issue in either city as 1,628 yes votes were cast in Farmington against 589 no.

In the Hills, the proposal was supported by 4,816 residents as 2,380 voters opposed the permanent assessment.

Concurrently, the parks proposal was approved overwhelmingly as 18,778 voters favored the motion and only 7,327 opposed the county park package.

"THE HILLS is primarily Republican. That was the largest voting bloc in primary and I'm not too surprised that Ford

won in our community," Cairns said.

What was surprising was the number of votes Udall pulled. I thought Carter would get a lot more than he did.

"If Udall hadn't run as strong as he did in Michigan and not have campaigned so heavily, there probably would have been more of a race between Ford and Reagan," Cairns continued.

The vote-changer from Udall to Reagan would have made a whole new ball game for Ford," he said.

Reagan defeated Ford in only one Farmington Hills precinct and that was only by 13 votes. His next closest precinct vote came when he trailed Ford by only 29 votes, but that was nearest he came to upsetting Ford in the Hills.

In Farmington, 2,198 voters backed Republican while 7,429 Hills residents supported either Ford or Reagan.

On the Democratic side, 888 voted Democratic in Farmington and 3,702 in the Hills.

"Usually, Republicans don't get out and vote in primaries," Cairns explained. "But they came out better than expected Tuesday."

There was only one close contest between Carter and Udall in Farmington Hills as Carter pulled within five votes of the winner.

All of the other precincts were wide victories for Udall in the Hills.

ONE REVERSAL in this year's primary was the Wallace vote.

In the 1972 presidential primary, 545 Hills voters and 1,238 Farmington residents supported Wallace.

But in this year's race, only 383 Hills votes and 61 Farmington votes went Wallace's way.

Oakland County voters also favored Ford 2:1 over Reagan and generally, Udall won by the same margin.

The only variance came in Southfield where voters backed Udall almost 6:1. Ford received 45,781 votes while Reagan managed 42,258.

Udall lead with 49,812 Oakland County votes with Carter taking 25,125 and Wallace 4,688.

There was only one Republican delegate race in the Hills' six precinct. In that contest, Raye Jane Wallen edged out D.A. Luchman by 25 votes, 80-55.

All other Republican delegates went unopposed. Those supporting Ford are Catherine Jones, Tom McMillan, Judith Gaurin, Wallen, Donnie Blair, Ann Radewig, Joseph Mikula, Shirley Stader, Glenn Snel, Milton Luchterman, Norma Henderson and Mary Beattie.

Reagan received two Hills precinct delegates—Douglas Collins and Haina Pritsker.

Frank Smith, Henry Gray and Stanley Zajdel were unopposed in the Hills.

In Farmington, all the delegates were unopposed.

Louise Doyle went unopposed and Roger Walker Jr., State Rep. Walter Brotherton (R-Farmington), Richard Duncan and Mary Lou Barth all were for Ford.

Delegates for the Democratic party will be chosen in the Aug. 3 primary.

## Senior housing snagged by foes of rezoning bid

By STEVE BARNABY  
Community editor

A Farmington Hills Methodist minister will face resident opposition in his crusade to build senior citizen housing in the city.

Residents of the Country Corners Subdivision have presented a petition to the Farmington Hills Planning Commission protesting a plan by the Rev. Meredith Mosbauer of Nardin Park Methodist Church to construct a 150-unit complex on 18 acres located south of the church and north of the subdivision.

Residents say they fear rezoning 10 acres from single-family to multiple-family dwelling will set a precedent of spot zoning throughout the city and will lower property taxes.

The church is located on Eleven Mile west of Middle Belt.

"We would like it known that no one is against the church, motherhood or old folks homes," said a letter authored by Alex Terzian and addressed to the planning commission. Terzian says he is a spokesman for protesting residents in Country Corners.

The planning commission will consider the rezoning change at tonight's meeting.

"ALTHOUGH CERTAINLY debatable, the rezoning is a necessary step to meet the needs for old folks homes in the City of Farmington Hills and other cities. However, this use should be permitted and done only in an area already zoned for multiple dwelling use in accordance with the total plan for the city," Terzian continued.

Residents fear that another church located south of the Country Corners Subdivision also would make a request for a zoning change if the Mosbauer request was allowed, according to Terzian.

"The city runs the risk of another property owner or more likely, a developer purchasing from one of the present owners

seeking rezoning for the same purpose and if that rezoning is refused, claiming in court that the city is guilty of discrimination and favoritism," said Terzian.

Introduction of multiple dwelling will decrease the residential value of the surrounding property, especially the property abutting the area proposed to be rezoned Terzian said.

Terzian said it is the community's "moral obligation" to fight the rezoning request. The planning commission's recommendation would go to the city council for consideration after tonight's meeting.

Protesting homeowners would like to see all area churches band together, purchase property and build at one site, instead of having senior citizen housing scattered throughout the city, according to Terzian.

Mosbauer denies Terzian's allegation that Nardin Park already owns 300 acres in Clarkston, where senior citizen housing could be built.

"It is true we have been looking at various pieces of property all over Oakland County and that we investigated the possibilities in Clarkston, but we don't own any property," he said.

Our developer has control of property in Clarkston that he is currently trying to develop for single-family residences," he continued.

Nardin Park's 16-acre site is inadequate to handle the city's needs, said Terzian.

Mosbauer said there are 1,300 persons 65 years or older in Farmington and Farmington Hills at present. By 1985, the estimate is 18,300.

Proposed rent for the complex would range from \$118 to \$208 a month, said Mosbauer.

Mosbauer objects to residents who say construction will ruin the residential flavor of the area.

"The units will be two stories with elevators"

(Continued on page 2A)

## Time running out for watchmaker

A revolution may rock the delicate business of watch repair within the next five years, some area craftsmen say.

"In four to five years, 95 per cent of the watches will be quartz watches," Allen R. Duquet, owner of Kramar Jewelers, 3180 Grand River in Farmington, says. "That

will be the end of watchmaking. It will be turned over to changing modules in watches."

Duquet concedes that the watch repair business is still thriving, even though there are fewer watchmakers.

"The few who are left do a good business," he said.

There's a big demand for watch repair. There's plenty of overtime business would be good if the quartz watches weren't coming in.

"There are still a few gray hairs left, but in five years, automatic watches will be antiquated," he said.

The watch industry has changed dramatically in the last two years," he said.

The introduction of the electronic and quartz watches has given watch users more accurate ways of telling time, he says.

Chromatich says: "A diamond dress watch isn't worn everyday. Hand-wound watches are smarter than the bulky automatics and will continue to be used in making dress watches."

"An automatic watch won't do you any good. If you wear a dress watch only on the weekend, you have to set it anyway."

Chromatich, a certified master watchmaker, had to pass an examination given by the U.S. Bureau of Standards and was an area before becoming accredited by the Watchmakers of America.

"There are very few in the business with the degree. Most of them find work in research labs or industry," he said.

He sees a decrease in the number of watchmakers.

"It's a beautiful trade," he says, "but today's young people don't have the patience. They want to earn a living right away and I can't blame them. It takes five to six years to become a qualified watch repairman."

For the last six or seven years, the state has issued licenses to all watch repairmen, he explains. There is a grandfather clause which exempted working watch repairmen.

"After World War II, there were watchmaking schools all over the U.S.," Duquet says.

"There is a shortage of good watch makers," Whelan says. "More than half of them repair delicate instruments."

## Creative writing contest sponsored

"Amateur writers can win cash awards in the fourth annual creative writing contest sponsored by the English Department of Oakland Community College's Orchard Ridge Campus."

The contest has been expanded to include a script category in addition to the traditional short story, poetry, essay or article and drama categories.

The contest is open to all Oakland County residents and students excluding professional writers and members of the OOC faculty and staff.

Deadlines for submitting manuscripts is June 1. Ten cash awards, five for high school students and five for all others, will be awarded on June 25.

Manuscripts will be judged by the Orchard Ridge English faculty.

"The contest is fun and a chance to get recognition," said English teacher and contest coordinator Ted Rancort.

"But more important, it is a chance to get professional criticism. Every writer, new or old, needs a sympathetic but objective evaluation of his work. The creative writing contest provides that perspective."

Rancort said the new script category recognizes the growing importance of creative writing in the non-traditional forms.

"This category includes writing for motion pictures, slides and videotapes plus hybrid mixed-media forms."

Manuscripts must be accompanied by a \$1 entrance fee and prospective applicants may contact the Orchard Ridge English Department at 478-9400, or write Creative Writing, English Department, Orchard Ridge Campus, Oakland Community College, 2766 Orchard Lake, Farmington 48301.

Monica Bednarczyk placed second in short story and transcription with an accuracy score of 98.5 per cent and a transcription rate of 60 words per minute. Her prize was a standard portable typewriter.

## Business students erase competition

Farmington High business students scored some big victories in recent competition in shorthand and typing. They competed with students from 75 private, public and parochial schools.

Mina Orensberg took first in typing with a net score of 81 and a gross score of 90. She won a trophy and an electric typewriter.

Monica Bednarczyk placed second in shorthand and transcription with an accuracy score of 98.5 per cent and a transcription rate of 60 words per minute. Her prize was a standard portable typewriter.

## Memorial floats sought for parade

Everybody loves a parade and sponsors of the annual Farmington area Memorial Day parade would love to have your float in this parade.

Scheduled for 10 p.m. May 31, the parade is being sponsored by the American Legion Post 308 and the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 120.

Those interested in entering a float should contact Bill Tolhurst at 883-4266.

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### HOT PLATES

Barbara Langenberg told us that she got a great response when this ad appeared in our classified section:

NORTHERN CHINA, 12 place set, new, serving pieces, Crystal, West Asia, silver and gold leaf.

"I could have sold many more sets of China," she said. "I was still getting calls the next Monday."

Join the people in your town who are turning their unused items into usable cash. Call our classified department today.

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